



**St. Patrick's R.C. Church**  
Glenfield Road, Fairfield,  
Stockton-on-Tees, TS19 7PJ

**Parish Priest : Fr. John Cooper**  
Tel. 01642 674321


**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

**PENTECOST SUNDAY** . . . Today we are celebrating a feast that was celebrated by many of the Jews who lived at the time of Jesus. Many of his early followers continued to celebrate it after the resurrection, and so it became part of the annual celebrations of all Christians. However, over the first few decades of the church, this feast took on a new meaning: Jesus has risen and ascended to the Father, but he promised us his Spirit. So today we rejoice that the Spirit is moving in each of our hearts, inspiring us to understand the mystery of our faith and strengthening us to follow Jesus the Anointed One. The sacrament of confirmation, which celebrates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in our lives and is the sealing of the graces, given in baptism, is our personal Pentecost experience when we are transformed into witnesses to the teaching and example of Jesus and his Church. We willingly take on the responsibility to share our Catholic faith with others. The Feast of Pentecost is a wonderful celebration of the missionary Church. Let us reflect on our missionary efforts in our homes, schools and workplaces. The Spirit gives us the words to pass on the message to others and open the doors for strangers and outsiders to become welcome members of the Christian community

*Lord, the all revealing light of Your love is shining at this time of Pentecost as we are challenged to make a difference in the name of Jesus. We give you thanks that your love for each of us is revealed to us in so many ways. We thank you for our families, our friends, those we meet at work, at the shops or wherever we find ourselves. Help us to be considerate in our actions, thoughtful in our dealings with people and reflect in our lives your loving concern for all. Help us to be open to see your will, and trust you in the choices we make each day. Amen.*



**This Sunday there would have been a second collection for the Lay Training Fund.** This is a fund to enable and support Catholic laity to grow in maturity and to make an informed contribution both to the world and to the church. Whether we work in the diocese or in the wider world, whether we are involved in parish life in catechesis, liturgy or other ministries, we need to understand our faith and we need to know what the Church teaches, and be able to discern our calling, so that we can live out our vocation and mission and thus witness to the faith we have, in response to the changing needs of the Church within society. The Lay Training Fund is available to support this vision.

<b>Masses with no Congregation</b>			
<b>PENTECOST SUNDAY</b>			
31	Sunday		People of our Parish
1	Monday <b>Mary, Mother of the Church</b>		Eva Jordison
2	Tuesday		
3	Wednesday <b>St Charles Lwanga &amp; Companions</b>		
4	Thursday <b>Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest</b>		
5	Friday <b>St Boniface</b>		
6	Saturday		John Patrick Doran
<b>THE MOST HOLY TRINITY</b>			
7	Sunday		People of our Parish
<b>Anniversaries:</b>		James Greenan, Ann Yale, Theresa John, Lawrence Massey, Mary Rumack, Doreen Fasey, Domenica Crolla,	
		Riska Okninski, Monica McShane, Billy McGuinness, Pat Jackson, Margaret Devlin, Pauline Morton, Mike Rutland, Margaret Kenning, Christopher Brown, Fr. Pat McKenna, Rosie Owens, Andrew Brydon, Mary Talbot, Veronica Connors, Betty Griffiths, Sadie Todd, Audrey Bentley	



*You are the fire that burns inside us,  
The living water from within,  
You are the voice that gently whispers,  
You are the rushing mighty wind*

**THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS . . .**

- **First Reading ~ Acts 2:1-11**
- **Responsorial Psalm ~ Psalm 103:1, 24, 29-31**
- **Second Reading ~ 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13**
- **Gospel ~ John 20:19-23**



**Intercessions for Pentecost Sunday:**

We pray for family and loved ones so that they may be held in God's compassionate care. We pray for other countries who are struggling with the effects of the COVID 19 virus.  
*Lord, in your mercy. Hear my prayer*

For those in authority: may they offer advice with care and integrity, may they seek to protect the poor and vulnerable.  
*Lord, in your mercy. Hear my prayer*

For all who work in healthcare: give strength to all who look after sick so that they may bring comfort and relief to the suffering.  
*Lord, in your mercy. Hear my prayer*

For the Church: may she offer prayers and consolation for all those affected.  
*Lord, in your mercy. Hear my prayer*

For our local community and all for those in need: may those who are isolated know the support and service of their neighbours.  
*Lord, in your mercy. Hear my prayer*

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.

## **PENTECOST 2020 - All Together to ask the Holy Spirit on the World . . .**

At Pentecost 2019, Pope Francis launched the new unique service for the Catholic Charismatic Renewal: CHARIS. Today, one year later, we are in a period of unprecedented global crisis because of a virus that has confined a large part of the world's population to their homes, that has damaged the economies of many countries, that has closed churches, that has terrible consequences for the poor and the most destitute and that prevents us from meeting physically to pray together. But this virus does not prevent us from praying! On the contrary, it has prompted many prayer initiatives, *including ecumenical prayers, around the world. On the occasion of Pentecost 2020:*



**CHARIS proposes to continue this movement of prayer to ask the Lord for this new Pentecost, this new outpouring of the Spirit on the Church and the world for which our Pope prays.** For this, we propose to the Christians of the whole world to pray all together: Whatever their country, Whatever their language, Regardless of time zone. **JOIN US FOR THE PENTECOST VIGIL AT 10:00 PM (ROME TIME – UTC+1) to implore the Holy Spirit together and ask for a new Pentecost over the world.** [www.charis.international](http://www.charis.international).

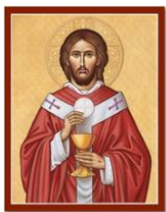
**Also at 5.30pm the Pope will be saying the Rosary in the Vatican Gardens** to pray for Mary's Aid for the world for us in this situation. Please join in these, no matter what time and pray for a new Pentecost for All.

**There is a Nationwide Rosary Rally on THIS SUNDAY, from 9am to 9pm. You are invited to join the National Rosary Rally taking place in Dioceses.** Pope Francis is encouraging Catholics to pray the Rosary in their family homes during the month of May, especially when the pandemic is making us aware of the value of our families and making it possible for us to pray together in lockdown at home. People are encouraged to pray the Rosary individually, in families, as online prayer groups or parish groups, at any time within the specified hour. The Middlesbrough Diocese Rosary hour is at 7pm and you are warmly invited to take part. When the hour is over the next Dioceses take up the Rosary Relay Rally until 9pm when the day will end with a final online Rosary and Blessing from Bishop John Keenan at St. Mirin's Cathedral in Paisley. **The Hexham and Newcastle hour is at 4pm when it will be shared with the Diocese of Wrexham & Ordinariate OLW.** Please visit [Middlesbrough-dioceseorg.uk](http://Middlesbrough-dioceseorg.uk) to access the timetable for the day.

**'Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary pray for us.'**



**Feast of Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest** is celebrated on the first Thursday after Pentecost. Approval for this feast was first granted by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments in 1987. It is a day where we focus on Jesus' priestly office and where we pray especially for our clergy and priests



Lord of the Harvest, bless young people with the gift of courage to respond to your call. Open their hearts to great ideals, to great things. Inspire all of your disciples to mutual love and giving, for vocations blossom in the good soil of faithful people. Instil those in religious life, parish ministries, and families with the confidence and grace to invite others to embrace the bold and noble path of a life consecrated to you. Unite us to Jesus through prayer and sacrament, so that we may cooperate with you in building your reign of mercy and truth, of justice and peace. Amen

**MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH . . .** Pope Francis decreed that "the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church," should be inscribed in the Roman Calendar on the Monday after Pentecost and be celebrated every year in churches throughout the world. She served as the ultimate role model for all Christians in her willingness to cooperate with God's will. So while we rightfully acknowledge her as the Mother of God, we also acknowledge her sanctity and her willingness to do God's will.

***M**other, help our faith! Open our ears to hear God's word and to recognize his voice and call. Help us to be touched by his love, that we may touch him in faith. Help us to entrust ourselves fully to him and to believe in his love, especially at times of trial, beneath the shadow of the cross, when our faith is called to mature. Sow in our faith the joy of the Risen One. Remind us that those who believe are never alone. Teach us to see all things with the eyes of Jesus, that he may be light for our path. And may this light of faith always increase in us, until the dawn of that undying day which is Christ himself, your Son, our Lord!*



**Pentecost, the birthday of the church, is the time when our diocese makes a special effort to welcome back those who no longer come to church.** Let us pray and work to make our parish a welcoming community for everybody.

**PRAYER OF WELCOME . . .** Lord our God, source of all life, you reveal yourself in the depths of our being drawing us to share in Your life and love. Bless each of us as we respond to your Spirit's invitation to open wide the doors to Christ. Make the doors of our hearts, our homes and communities wide enough to receive all who need human love and fellowship, narrow enough to shut out all envy, prejudice and pride. Let us hasten to welcome the stranger and so welcome your Son. We make this prayer in his name, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.





**SPUC CLUB DRAW . . .** The next draw will take place on **Sunday, 14th June**. Please could you drop monies off at Christine's home address of 242 Oxbridge Lane or she will be happy to collect, just give her a call on 01642 653673 or 07980 290432.



**Cardinal Nichols interview for the Bible Society . . .** Scripture is at the centre of everything the Church does. The word of God shapes our prayer and worship. The Bible shows us how to understand the world, how we are called to live and relate to each other. In partnership with Bible Society, the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has dedicated 2020 as The Year of the Word: '**The God Who Speaks**'. You can listen to Cardinal Nichols interview for the Bible Society by visiting the Diocesan website.

[www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) (click on the link for the Year of the Word)

**CAFOD . . . Please pass on this information to anyone you know who might be interested. Are you aged 18-30? CAFOD offers a gap year programme called 'Step into the Gap.'** As part of the ten-month programme you will be based in either a youth retreat centre, university chaplaincy or a secondary school chaplaincy team gaining new skills, developing as a leader and gaining work experience. It also includes an opportunity to learn more about CAFOD's work. Find out more information including how to apply at [cafod.org.uk/gapyear](http://cafod.org.uk/gapyear). **The deadline is 12<sup>th</sup> June.**

**ST PATRICK'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL . . .** If you would like to see the school activities or find out more about what our children are doing please visit the school website and use the Facebook page. It is really worth a visit. [www.stpatricksfairfield.org.uk](http://www.stpatricksfairfield.org.uk)

**THANK YOU** to all St. Patrick's parishioners who are delivering bulletins, providing treats and for all other acts of kindness during these difficult times.

**Please could you pass this newsletter round the parish** by forwarding to your parish contacts. If you do not wish to receive future newsletters please email [stockton.stpatrick@rcdhn.org.uk](mailto:stockton.stpatrick@rcdhn.org.uk) or [stpatricks.fairfield@btinternet.com](mailto:stpatricks.fairfield@btinternet.com) to be removed from the mailing list. If you know of any parishioner who would like to start receiving the bulletin please ask them to e-mail the above. This bulletin can also be accessed through the Parish Family Stockton website: [www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk](http://www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk).

**If you would like to have any prayers, news, anniversaries or any other item included on the newsletter** please e-mail [stpatricks.fairfield@btinternet.com](mailto:stpatricks.fairfield@btinternet.com) or [olwynlyons@hotmail.com](mailto:olwynlyons@hotmail.com). Thank you.