

DIOCESE OF  SALFORD

Corpus Christi Bolton

Feast of Pentecost

31st May 2020

PRAYERS PLEASE

We pray for all the sick and housebound in our parish, and other relatives and friends.

Bernard Holder, Christopher Scott, Jackie Harte, Moya Fau-Goodwin, Anne Hurst, Margaret Padfield, Anne Killeen, Fred Heywood

Lately Dead: Charles Freeman, Ellen Allen, Joan Jenkins, Sr M Catherine Vose (Missionary Sister of Charity) Bishop Vincent Malone (Liverpool)

Anniversaries: Bill Owen

Mass Intentions: Charles Freeman, Ellen Allen, Joan Jenkins, Bill and Eleanor Owen

Let us also pray for the victims of this pandemic, their families and loved ones. Remembering also the key workers who are on the front-line during this current pandemic. We thank them for all they are doing and ask the Lord to keep them safe.

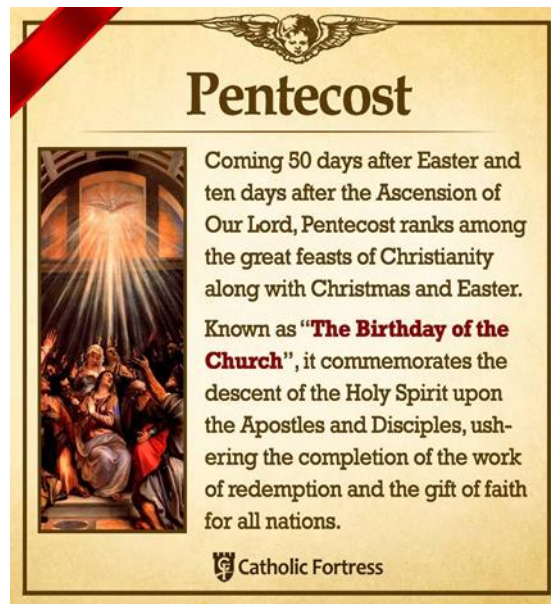
Hope in the future

We pray for the people of the parishes of St. Ann and St. Hugh, Stretford, and for Fr. Gerald Murphy, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary schools, for St. Anthony's Catholic College, and for the Faithful Companions of Jesus.

This Newsletter is sponsored by

HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

Peel House
638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.
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Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2: 1-11 Psalm 103 1
Corinthians 12: 3-7, 12-13 John 20;
19-23

PEACE BE WITH YOU

Today is the day when we celebrate the birth of the Church. Over the last eight weeks we have lived again the sacrifice of Good Friday, when all seemed, to human eyes, as lost, the Resurrection of hope and love on Easter Sunday. the seven weeks of preparation in the Easter season, until finally, today, we experience the culmination of the revelation of God's plan. the foundation of His community, through the receiving of the Holy Spirit.

The Spirit works in our lives in many different ways, often unnoticed, He lives in the spirit of love and forgiveness that dwells in the hearts of all believers. In today's passage from the Book of Acts He comes as a great wind blowing into the lives of those present a joy that will lead them to great works for God. We are caught up in this moment as tongues

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of fire appear above the heads of the apostles and, for them and for all time, everything is changed, the impossible becomes possible.

There is no limit to the power of the Spirit, this is signified by the ability of these men to speak to a vast crowd of foreigners, representatives of all the nations of the world, and be understood. The division of humanity, described as the confusion of language at the Tower of Babel, has been reversed so that all may know God as Father through Jesus Christ His Son.

Down through the centuries the Spirit has shown His influence on the church through the work and sacrifice of believers. Paul speaks to us of the Gifts, the charisms, of the people of God. These gifts are many, sometimes they complement each other so that we may work together for our communities and for those who are our neighbours. At times they enable individuals to stand out as beacons of hope and prophesy in our world. Our church lives when these gifts come together in the great work of love that we are called to accomplish. God's work cannot be done without this marriage, this partnership, in which each gives according to their ability and each is held in respect for the gifts they bring. In God's church no one is excluded for, as Paul explains, "There are all sorts of service.... working in all sorts of different ways in different people", It is the same God who is working in all of them"

In John's Gospel the Spirit arrives, not in a great wind, but in a resurrection appearance of one man, Jesus the Lord. He breathes into them the Holy Spirit and gives them a task, one which is to be handed down from generation to generation until it appears in our day. We are each called to be a spirit of forgiveness in our world which will bring all humanity to the love of God. We cannot

achieve the gift of eternal life through our own efforts, we must use the gifts given to us in the Holy Spirit to work together to achieve God's purpose.

David Frank

Pentecost Sunday - Rosary Rally

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. He encourages simple Rosaries and joining online Rosary initiatives to pray to Our Lady for deliverance from Covid-19 and he has composed two prayers for this intention.

You are invited to join in an initiative that follows on the Pope's request, the Pentecost Sunday National Rosary Rally, from 9.00am to 9.00pm across Scotland England and Wales.

Our Diocese has been asked to pray a Rosary Hour at 1pm and you are invited to take part.

High Sheriff Special Recognition Awards

The High Sheriff of Greater Manchester is calling for nominations of ordinary people doing extraordinary things during the pandemic.

Dr Eamonn O'Neal DL, High Sheriff, has launched The Special Recognition Awards to publicly acknowledge the amazing acts of thoughtfulness and kindness being done by many people during the C-19 pandemic.

Nominations are open now and the nomination forms can be found by emailing

HighSheriffGM@gmail.com

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Further Updates and Resources

The Diocese are regularly updating our website with signposts to helpful resources we have collated for use during this difficult time. You can find this, along with livestreaming times, here:

<https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/covid19/>

VIRTUAL MEDITATION

If you are interested in taking part in a led meditation session via the internet (Zoom), Mary Durkan is happy to lead these sessions, which may also have participants from her new parish in Horwich.

If interested please email Mary:
maryannedurkan@gmail.com

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION FOR CHILDREN EASTER 2021

Do you know any Catholic children currently in year 7 at Secondary school (Thornleigh/Canon Slade, Bolton School etc) who reside in our parish and are still to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?

Confirmations are scheduled to take place at Easter 2021

ONLINE MASS

www.churchservices.tv or www.mcnmedia.tv

If you have no internet-The Diocese of Middlesbrough are now offering Mass by phone. The number is **01642 130120**

Calls are charged at local rate or free if included in your phone package

Come, Holy Spirit

Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

V. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.

R. And you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray: O God, who taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that by the gift of the same Spirit we may be always truly wise and ever rejoice in his consolation. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

A very happy church birthday, the Easter season now complete and we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit.

In Scripture, Pentecost comes after the beginning of our freedom in Jesus' death and rising at Easter. After a period of waiting and praying by the disciples, the Spirit set free the story for the whole world at Pentecost. On the Feast of Pentecost, we remember what happened then, but we too wait and pray for the full salvation promised us when Christ will come again. In the church calendar, Pentecost is followed by ordinary time – a time of waiting and praying.

Slowly the restrictions under which the virus have placed us are being lifted. We still have a time of serious waiting, praying for a time of complete freedom from the virus and from the hardships that have weighed on so many.

Hopefully our churches may open initially for private prayer but we await guidance from the Government and the Bishop.

The rhythms of God's work and our response correspond to the rhythms of our restricted life now, always lived with gratitude for God's goodness and in hope of God's freedom.

With every good wish and God bless Fr Alf