

St Joseph's and St Patrick's
Diocese of Leeds Registered Charity No. 249404
Barnoldswick, Earby and District
Parish Priest: Canon Kevin Firth
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PENTECOST SUNDAY
9th WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME
31st May 2020

The Bishops of England and Wales have decided to cease having public liturgies in our churches and chapels. Since the Church finds herself in this difficult situation because of the Coronavirus, the obligation for the faithful to attend Mass on a Sunday or Holy Day of Obligation is removed until further notice.

Celebration of Mass.

Priests continue to celebrate Mass in the church without the presence of the people, on a daily basis. The continuing celebration of Mass ensures that the people can join in Spiritual Communion with the priests of the Church.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot today receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as being already there and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.
(St Alphonsus Liguori)

Act of Perfect Contrition

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins, because I dread the loss of Heaven and the pains of Hell, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, Who art all-good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace to confess my sins, to do penance and to amend my life. Amen.

Fr. Firth is saying Mass each day for all the intentions requested, as follows:

Sunday 31 st May	Pentecost Sunday	Mary (Moira) Murphy (LD)
Monday 1 st June	Our Lady, Mother of the Church	David Lear, Sylvia Murley (LD)
Tuesday 2 nd	Weekday	Jimmy Gibson
Wednesday 3 rd	St Charles Lwanga & Companions	Intentions of Jim & Josie Kelly
Thursday 4 th	Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest	Philip Quinlan (Sick)
Friday 5 th	St Boniface	Dead List
Saturday 6 th	Weekday	Murgatroyd & Southern Families
Sunday 7 th	Holy Trinity Sunday	Graham Thompson (LD)

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Graham Thompson** who died last week, and for his family (Sharon) at this time.

Mass intentions received: Graham Thompson (LD); Philip Quinlan (Sick); David Lear, Sylvia Murley (LD) Jimmy Gibson; Intentions of Jean Wild; Intentions of Bob & Marie Fletcher; Safeguarding; Murgatroyd & Southern Families; Kathleen Zoe Smith (An).

Live-streamed Daily Mass from Leeds Cathedral at 10.30 a.m. and on **Sunday** at 11.00 a.m.

www.leedscathedral.org.uk

In our Diocese:

St Edwards, Wetherby - www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-edward-king-confessor-church-clifford-wetherby
St Mary's Halifax - <https://www.stmaryshalifax.com>

There is Mass every day at 12.00 noon from the Church of Our Lady of Walsingham in Norfolk – live or later – link: <http://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream>

Daily Mass and other devotions can be accessed through EWTN television channel. These can be seen on line <https://www.ewtn.com/>

On the website entitled 'Universalis' you can read the Mass readings and the Daily prayer of the Church, which all priests pray every day.

Please think about using your rosary and Stations of the Cross.

For people who have been unable to live-stream Mass or find it on digital TV channels, it is now possible to dial in to listen to Mass. The following telephone number is available to listen to Mass from home:
01642 130 120

Financial Support for the Church. (An updated note from the Diocese)

Whilst we understand that this is a time of great anxiety for all parishioners and that some people may not be in a position to continue supporting the parish financially, some of you have been asking how you can continue with your weekly contributions while the church is closed.

There are now three ways you may consider:

- **Standing Order.** You can set up a regular Standing Order with your bank. This can be cancelled whenever you want, or you may wish to continue donating this way once things get back to normal. If you would like to set this up please contact Anne Wood either via email aeswood@aol.com or by phoning 07882831159
- **Text Giving.** The diocese has set up a way of donating by text. To contribute £5 to the parish offertory please text CHURCHBARLICK to 70500. You can text as often or as little as you like. The amount will be added to your Mobile Phone bill.
- **Online Donations.** You can visit the Leeds Diocese Website www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk and click on Online Parish Offertory and then search for St Joseph's Barnoldswick.

Of course, you may just wish to bring in your weekly envelopes when the church opens again. Thank you in anticipation of your continued support. Canon Kevin Firth.

Parish Income: Through Fr's letterbox: £275

Buildings and Repairs: The builders have returned to complete the building of the wall along Bolland Street.

The side doors of St Joseph's Church on Gisburn Street are being stripped, repaired and painted.

A thought for when you are washing your hands – instead of singing Happy Birthday twice, why not say a Hail Mary instead. (You could probably say a decade of the Rosary throughout the day!!)

If you would like to take a 'Virtual Tour of the Vatican Museum' the following link will take you there:
www.museivaticani.va Enjoy!

Special Prayers

Lillian Price – Jennie Hendley – Jim Kelly – Marie & Bob Fletcher – Mary Posiko – Margaret DeVito – Phyllis Kirrage – Val Kaynell – Mark Hoare – Dale McLaughlin – Marie Keating – Max Hudson – Peter Catley – Stan Nelson – Paul Wood – Tony Atherton - Jennifer Purcell – Pat Maloney – Clifford Ball - Mandy McLaughlan.

Please pray for these and for the comfort of anyone suffering in any way. Please also remember the recently deceased and those whose anniversaries occur about this time. **Pentecost Sermon**

1. The timid Apostles cooped up in some obscure large rooms in a backstreet of Jerusalem suddenly took the city by storm!

The ill-educated fisherman from up north (Galilee) stood Infront of thousands of incoming Jewish pilgrims from all over the Mediterranean world boldly began to speak about the risen Jesus Christ. As a result, 3,000 people were baptised on the very first day of the Church's birth; today is our birthday!

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How did Peter and the others get the courage and indeed the wisdom to do what they did? Would you dare stand up at some international gathering and confidently proclaim the wonders of God's love for his people?

2. A priest I knew some years ago was the proud owner of two collie dogs. They were always full of energy and life. It was a pleasure to see their tails wag and see one of the two dogs go running around a field. But the second collie stayed by his master's side and only ran in tight circles. I could not understand why this dog would only run around its owner in tight circles instead of making use of all the space and freedom all around it. "Why does your second collie do that?" I asked. The priest explained that before he acquired the dog, it had lived practically all its life in a cage and could only exercise in circles. For this dog to run meant to go in tight circles.
3. I thought about this dog confining itself to an invisible cage and I connected the image with the way we often live in our minds and limit our own lives and activities. This image is particularly apt for our 'lockdown period' when we have been forced by the present circumstances to put a strict limit on many of our normal activities. In normal circumstances God has given us a certain freedom. But in fact, for a lot of the time, when you think about it, we do limit our activities to a routine, frequently confined to a small space. We do not step outside what is familiar and the things we are comfortable with.

Over these weeks of confinement when many ordinary routines have been disrupted but the 'authorities' have encouraged us to exercise once a day, I have met many Barlickers and Earbyites walking the lovely paths, fields and hills all around us. A frequent saying, I have heard out of our towns has been "Well, I haven't been on these paths for years" and "What a beautiful environment we live in and we take it for granted".

4. Even within the present situation we are left with certain freedoms. It is a time when we can think outside our normal routines. For instance, we cannot come to Mass, as yet we cannot even pay a visit to the Blessed Sacrament or light a candle in church. But we can find God outside church. Often, we think of our creator being separate from us, outside us, that we are somehow separate from God. That can make us believe we are alone sometimes afraid and even unlovable.

But all the time God is not separate, someone out there, God is living deep within each one of us here today. We are never completely alone, the Holy Spirit dwells in the depths of our being.

That is what we are celebrating today. Jesus left His devastated friends and His mother standing amazed just outside the walls of Jerusalem when He ascended to His Father. They felt deserted alone, unloved. They stayed confined in the backstreets of the city feeling trapped. Like the collie dog, the disciples ran around in circles, in their minds, in the tight streets and restricting themselves avoiding people.

5. Suddenly on the feast of Pentecost Simon Peter, James, John the whole gang came out into the big open spaces of the city. The Spirit of God was with them, was in them. They were free. No-longer confined by aloneness, fear, anxiety. They would never be alone again. That is what gave the Apostles confidence and an inner wisdom to leave their fishing nets and catch men, women, and children instead.

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Now what about you and me? If we reflect on our Creator living not just 'out there' but in the very depths of our soul, we need not be alone on the inside. Walking reflectively puts us in contact with God around us and in us. Try sitting in an upright chair, breath slowly, deeply, repeat a short prayer with your breathing like "Jesus Christ have mercy on me or just "Come Holy Spirit", focus on slow breathing and simple words.

The Spirit of God deep down in a great floating vastness is dwelling inside us. You will be able to face some of life's struggles and challenges. You and I will be free like the collie running around the open fields not going in tight circles anymore!

Canon Kevin Firth

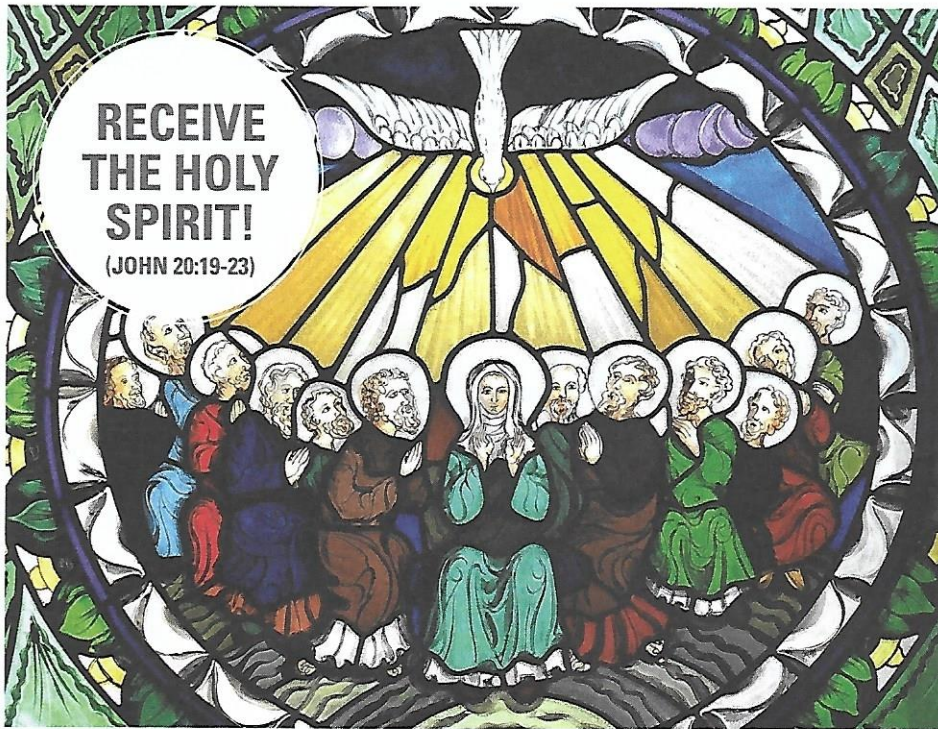
A reminder that the SVP and other volunteers are willing to get shopping, prescriptions etc. for the housebound, vulnerable and elderly. We are also available to ring people for a chat. If you have a need, or would like us to contact someone, (please check first with them that they would like us to do this - especially if they are unknown to us), please ring either Father Firth (01282 812204) or Kath Altham (01282 813806) and we can discuss if it is possible to provide help in some way.

Airedale Hospital Chaplain: If you require Fr Michael McLaughlin please phone 01535 653153

Sunday Message

THE WORD

Year A • Psalter Week 1



We hear today of the appearance of the risen Jesus to his disciples who are locked away in fear of the Jewish authorities. Although they have heard from Mary Magdalene about her experiencing the risen Lord, their faith is not yet complete: it is still tempered by anxiety and apprehension about their future.

Thomas, as we discover later, is not present at this event. Jesus' word to them is "Peace be with you." This is more than a simple greeting: it is the fulfilment of his promise about bestowing on them the gift of a peace the world cannot give and that they will have peace in him. The disciples are filled with joy, a sign that their faith is now complete: they have experienced the risen Jesus for themselves, an essential element in the narratives which establish authentic witnesses to the resurrection, which no one saw occur.

However, this peace and joy is not something to be kept within the circle of present disciples. Up to this point, they have had no share or part in the mission of Jesus. In the Fourth Gospel, Jesus does not give them any role in preaching or healing: for example, at the feeding of the crowds, it is Jesus who performs all the action, distributing the bread to those present. Now the disciples become apostles: they are to continue Jesus' presence and mission now that he is no longer with them physically, and for that task he breathes on them the Holy Spirit. ■

LEARN

Pentecost was one of the Jewish pilgrimage feasts celebrated in Jerusalem. It was originally a harvest festival, offering the first-fruits of the barley crop.

In Jewish practice, it became associated with God's self-revealing at Sinai during the Exodus and the giving of the Law.

The bishop's liturgical greeting "Peace be with you" comes from our Gospel extract today.

SAY

Come, Holy Spirit: transform me and the face of the earth.

REFLECT

With the feast of Pentecost, the Easter mystery reaches its fulfilment in Jesus' giving of the Holy Spirit to the disciples. We might remember that the Holy Spirit is at work in guiding the Church, the people of God today. One of the gifts of the Spirit is fortitude, perhaps better rendered as courage. Although we may pray that the leaders of the Church and we ourselves may be open to the promptings of the Spirit, it is not always evident that we are willing to listen when the Spirit seems to be nudging the Church in a direction away from the tried and familiar practices which we are used to.

The biblical Spirit is often portrayed as a power, as energy which drives and strengthens God's agents. It is not something safe or tame, which is why we may be afraid of where the Spirit may be leading us. The answers and practices of yesterday may have suited the questions and situation of the Church then; but the Church is the people of God: it is not the hierarchy; nor is it simply a human institution. It is, rather, a living organism, the body of Christ and its (or rather our) life-principle is the Holy Spirit. On this feast of Pentecost, we think how a small, frightened group of disciples was transformed into a courageous band of apostles who believed that they had a message for anyone who would accept it. We are that group today: we have been given the Holy Spirit. ■

DO

When you turn on a light, notice how the bulb or strip is transformed from something quite mundane into a source of light and heat. If you really allowed the Holy Spirit to influence you, you also could be transformed: would you be prepared to let that happen?



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world
and that which contains all things
understands what is said, alleluia.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

COLLECT

O God, who by the mystery of today's great feast
sanctify your whole Church in every people
and nation,
pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit
across the face of the earth
and, with the divine grace that was at work
when the Gospel was first proclaimed,
fill now once more the hearts of believers.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of
the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 2:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. "Surely" they said "all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God."

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 103

Response:

Send forth your Spirit, O Lord,
and renew the face of the earth.

or

Alleluia!

1. Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are.
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches. (R.)
2. You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. (R.)
3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord. (R.)

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

No one can say, "Jesus is Lord" unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The sequence Veni Sancte Spiritus (Holy Spirit, Lord of Light) may be said or sung.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 20:19-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, "Peace be with you," and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, "Peace be with you.

"As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you."

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

"Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
(all bow during the next two lines)
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant, we pray, O Lord,
that, as promised by your Son,
the Holy Spirit may reveal to us more abundantly
the hidden mystery of this sacrifice
and graciously lead us into all truth.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, who bestow heavenly gifts upon your Church,
safeguard, we pray, the grace you have given,
that the gift of the Holy Spirit poured out upon her
may retain all its force
and that this spiritual food
may gain her abundance of eternal redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

