



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY & ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY



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PENTECOST SUNDAY 28th May 2023



The descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost prepared Mary and the Apostles for their respective post Ascension missions. The tongues of fire that appeared in the Upper Room infused their hearts and minds with charisms and gifts required for their vital mission of evangelizing the world: worshipping, preaching, teaching, healing, administrating, serving and unifying the people of God. The Holy Spirit effected their transformation into Christ.

Christ did not send the Apostles forth immediately following His ascension. He directed them to the holy ground of the Upper Room where He had instituted two key sacraments for the birth of the Church: the sacrament of His body and blood—the Eucharist, and the sacrament of Holy Orders—the priesthood. Christ sent them to the Upper Room to be near Mother Mary who would prepare them to receive and respond to the Holy Spirit in an altogether new way of holy conviction.

We cannot separate what God has joined together—Mary and the Holy Spirit are mystically espoused and always work in communion for the sanctification of souls.

St. Augustine teaches, “What the soul is to the body of man, the Holy Spirit is in the Body of Christ which is the Church. The Holy Spirit acts in the Church as the soul acts in the members of a body (*Sermon, 267*)”. The Church is Christ’s living mystical body breathing with two co-dependent lungs: institutional and charismatic—as St. John Paul said at the 1998 Pentecost Vigil in Rome. The Hebrew name for spirit is “ruah” meaning both breath and wind. The necessity of breath to a living organism is obvious. The breath of God is

the life of the Christian, the love that animates the soul and fills it with splendour.

It is sublime to realize that the Holy Spirit is *in love with us first*. To be possessed by the Holy Spirit is to be loved in an absolutely perfect divine way that frees us from the tyranny of false loves. Mary is the perfect model of full possession by the Holy Spirit and therefore she magnifies God alone. She can teach us to do the same—to abide with the same docility to the Holy Spirit’s action in our soul. All our good works, every prayer that we offer, the promptings and desires which impel us to be better, the necessary help to realize the inspirations of God, is the work of the Holy Spirit, our sweet divine guest, comforter, and sanctifier.

He who receives the gift of the Holy Spirit finds his soul full of light, and raised above natural reasoning, able to see that which he did not know formerly. There is quite a distinction between my human judgment of things and the divine discernment of God derived from the Holy Spirit. Mary is the model discerner. God communes in various ways in the silence of a recollected soul, in the gentle whisper of a wind, or the shaking of the heart pierced by some truth. Mary is God’s chosen vessel who assists in attuning our hearts to perceive the Holy Spirit prompting us, “Go this way, not that way” or “Arise and begin this work that I am calling you to do.”

The Holy Spirit never ceases to act within the Church: awakening new desires of holiness, new and at the same time better children of God. Our Lady, collaborating always with the Holy Spirit in souls, exercises maternal wisdom for all her children. Our Heavenly Father and Jesus have provided for us the very Gift of God—the Holy Spirit. It is consoling to remember that Christ, at the time when His Ascension was near, taught that it was better (better!) that He go to the Father so that His Spirit would come and be poured into our hearts. We are not able to see Jesus as did the Apostles but we have God with us through the abiding gift of the Holy Spirit.

PRAYER FOR PENTECOST

Christ said, “When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth.” Spirit of truth, guide me always, I pray. Christ said, “He will glorify me, for He will take what is mine and declare it to you.” Holy Spirit, help me to glorify The Father and to declare with my life that Jesus Christ is Lord. Christ said, “The Counselor, the Holy Spirit will teach you all things and brings to your remembrance all that I have said to you.”

RC HOSPITAL

CHAPLAIN: John O'Neil. Please call the Chaplaincy office at the Lister Hospital
Contact Tel: Mobile: 07876 526935 Lister 01438 285518,

FOR ALL GENERAL PARISH ENQUIRIES

CONTACT: Parish Office: Tel: 01462 893127

CHURCH HALL HIRE: Please contact parish office 01462 893127

BAPTISM

PREPARATION: For further information please contact the parish office on 01462-893127 .

RCIA COURSE: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults programme consists of regular weekly meetings; if you would like to find out more please speak directly to Fr. Denis.

ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL is our Catholic Parish Primary School. Parish families are welcome to visit and have a tour of the school. Contact the School Office or the Head teacher, Mr Tom Timson 01462 892478

The school website is <http://www.stjohns4.herts.sch.uk/index.html>

NEWSLETTER

Please submit items for inclusion, preferably by Tuesday evening, by either emailing the parish email address (baldock@rcdow.org.uk) or handing them to Fr. Denis. Thank you

VATICAN NEWS

Remember that you can keep up with all the latest news from The Vatican at the Official Vatican Network www.news.va/en.

Your SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

have responsibility for promoting good and safe practices in all activities involving children, young people, and adults at risk. Please Contact: Patricia Cusack & Colette Murphy
Baldocksg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
Baldocksg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Divine Counselor, please enlighten my mind to the teachings of Christ, and help me to recall His words that are spirit and truth. Holy Spirit, please come anew; fill me with your love, life, joy, peace, and wisdom as I pray for my personal Pentecost through the intercession of your beloved spouse, the Virgin Mary. Amen.

Readings in Parish Mass
Book 278

CHURCH CALENDAR

OPEN AIR MASS

Our Parish community can celebrate Mass together outside on 2nd July at 10.30 am, followed by a BBQ.

MEN'S GROUP

Men of the Parish are welcome to come and join our regular Men's Breakfast sessions. These take place once a month on a Saturday morning with tea/coffee and a Danish served at 8.30am. We finish at 10.30am. Come along and meet friends old and new. The next date is the 10th June. See Richard M or John B for more details.

KNIT & NATTER. Our next meeting is next Friday, 2nd June in the Holy Family room, 9.30 to 11am. All adult knitters are welcome whether experienced or beginners. Support will be given to new knitters as well as a cuppa and chat! £2 per session which goes towards the church building fund.

CARDINAL WELCOMES NEW NUNCIO TO BRITAIN

At a special Mass to welcome the new Apostolic Nuncio to

Great Britain, Cardinal Vincent Nichols described the Catholics of England and Wales as "a faithful people" with a "depth of faith in our history and in our hearts." His Excellency Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendía attended a Westminster Cathedral Mass of welcome on the 18th May. The Apostolic Nuncio is the personal representative of Pope Francis to the Court of St James's - the royal court for the Sovereign of the UK. His role is equivalent to that of an ambassador, representing the Holy See to the UK Government.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:



We pray for the sick in the parish especially, Fr. Philip Law, Maraid Kirk, Peter Gray and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, Ken Woodruff, Fr. Peter Maher, Patrick Heffernan, Pasquale Mani Edward Valentine Walsh; Rosina Insole; Gill Daniel; Mary Chivers; Elizabeth Miller; Philomena Geary; Helen Picking and Michael Raferty

Sat 27 th	6.30pm	St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop Michael & Breege Kerrane RIP
Sun 28 th	8.30am 10.30am	Domenico Franco RIP Donald & Nana Adwoa Mbeutcha
Mon 29 th	10.00am	Mary, Mother of the Church Maureen Lydon
Tue 30 th	10.00am	Bentley Gloucester RIP
Wed 31 st	10.00am	The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Dwenda & Mario Cataldo RIP
Thu 1 st	10.00am	Our Lord Jesus Christ, The Eternal High Priest
Fri 2 nd	No mass	

Please note that mass intentions as set out above may not always be read out, but the intention is offered.

Holy Hour: Saturday 5.15 - 6.15 pm

Confessions: Saturday 5.45 - 6.15 pm

Or by appointment with Fr. Denis.

Family Mass: 1st Sunday 10.30 am

Fr. Denis is still celebrating the Vigil Mass online at 6.30 pm every Saturday night & Sunday Mass at 10.30am. All are accessible through the Parish Facebook page: **Catholic Church of the Holy Trinity and St Augustine of Canterbury.** For more information, please go to the Parish website. **THE WEDNESDAY WORD IS AVAILABLE VIA**

<http://www.wednesdayword.org/school/index.htm>