

NEWSLETTER

PENTECOST SUNDAY

On the mission of the Holy Spirit in the Church

When the work which the Father had given to the Son to do on earth was accomplished, the Holy Spirit was sent on the day of Pentecost that he might forever sanctify the Church. In this way, all believers would have access to the Father through Christ in the one Spirit. He is the Spirit of life, a fountain of water springing up to eternal life. Through him the Father gives life to men who are dead from sin, till at last he revives in Christ even their mortal bodies.

The spirit dwells in the Church and in the hearts of the faithful as in a temple. In them he prays and witnesses to the fact that they are adopted sons; Guiding her into all truth and uniting her in communion and service, he bestows upon her various gifts, both hierarchic and charismatic, and adorns her with the fruits of his grace.

By the power of the gospel he allows the Church to keep the freshness of youth, and leads her to perfect union with her spouse. The Spirit and the bride both say to the Lord Jesus: 'Come!'

Thus, the Church shines forth as a people made one with the unity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The whole body of the faithful who have an anointing that comes from the holy one cannot err in matters of belief. This characteristic is shown in the supernatural appreciation of the faith of the whole people, when, from the bishops to the last one of the faithful, they manifest a universal consent in matters of faith and morals. By this appreciation of the faith, aroused and sustained by the Spirit of truth, the People of God, guided by the sacred teaching authority and obeying it, receives not the mere word of men, but truly the word of God, the faith once for all delivered to the saints. The people unfailingly adheres to this faith, penetrates it more deeply with right judgment and applies it more fully in daily life.

It is not only through the sacraments and the ministrations of the Church that the Holy Spirit sanctifies the people, leads them and enriches them with his virtues. Allotting his gifts as he wills, he also distributes special graces among the faithful of every rank. By these gifts he makes them fit and ready to undertake various tasks and offices for the renewal and building up of the Church, as it is written: 'The manifestation of the Spirit is given to everyone for profit'.

Whether these charisms be very remarkable or more simple and widely diffused, they are to be received with thanksgiving and consolation since they are fitting and useful for the needs of the Church.

Constitution of the Second Vatican Council on the Church

This coming week, let's pray- "As we celebrate the feast of Pentecost, we recall the fruits of the Spirit that are present in our lives. We pray that in our church's mission to serve the poor, broken and unborn, it would be anchored in love, joy, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Lord hear us"

Readings for this & next Sunday

1st Reading; Acts 2: 1-11

Psalm 103; 1, 24, 29-31 response v 30

2nd Reading - Corinthians; 12:3-7; 12-13

Gospel – John 20; 19-23;

1st Deuteronomy; 4: 32-34, 39-40

Psalm 32; 4-6, 9, 18-20, 22 response v 12

2nd Reading - Romans 8; 14-17;

Gospel – Matthew 28; 16-20;

MASS INTENTIONS

May 22nd , 2021

6pm - Pro Populo

May 23rd, 2021

9am—Ints of Fr Simon

11am— Ints of

Fr Christopher

For weekday mass intentions please, see the notice board on the left hand side of the main door of the church.

Confession on Saturday between 5.15-5.45 pm

or by appointment.

ADORATION

Every Saturday

from 5pm until 5.45

Spiritual Communion

Jesus!

My God and my All
my soul longs for thee.

My heart yearns to
receive thee in
Holy Communion, come, O
Lord.

Bread of heaven and food of
angels to nourish my soul
heal my body and to rejoice
my heart
come most lovable friend of
my soul,
to inflame me with such love
that I may never again be
ever separated from thee.

The sending of the Holy Spirit

When the Lord gave to the disciples' power to confer rebirth into the life of God, he said: 'Go, make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

He promised through his prophets that he would pour out this Spirit in the last times on his servants and handmaidens so that they would prophesy. And so the Spirit came down on the Son of God, who became the Son of man, and with him became accustomed to dwell in the human race and to abide in God's creation, within men, working the Father's will among them and making their old natures new with the newness of Christ.

Luke says that at Pentecost, after the ascension of the Lord, the Spirit came down on the disciples with power to grant all nations entry into life, and to open the new testament. And so, in every language, they sang a hymn to God in unison; for the Spirit brought the scattered races together into a unity, and offered to the Father the first fruits of all nations.

Therefore, the Lord promised to send us the Holy Spirit to make us fit for God's purposes. Just as dry flour cannot coalesce into a lump of dough, still less a loaf, without moisture, so too we, being many, could not become one in Christ Jesus without the water which comes from heaven. And just a dry soil cannot bear fruit unless it receives moisture, so we, who to begin with dry wood, can never bear the fruit of life unless the rain from heaven falls upon our wills.

For our bodies through the water of baptism have received the unity which leads to freedom from corruption, but our souls have received it through the Spirit.

The Spirit of God came down on the Lord, 'the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and devotion, the Spirit of fear of the Lord'. He gave the same Spirit again to the Church, sending the counsellor to every nation from heaven, from which the Lord said 'the devil was cast down like lightning. Accordingly, we need God's dew, so as not to be burnt up and made unfruitful but rather to have a Counsellor when we have an accuser. For the Lord entrusts to the Holy Spirit his man who had fallen among thieves. Taking pity on him he has bound up his wounds, and given two imperial coins, stamped with the image of the Spirit and the inscription of the Father and the Son. We are to accept them, and make the coin entrusted to us bear fruit and multiply for the Lord.

St Irenaeus

"Christian prayer, like all Christian life, is not a "walk in the park." ... Yes, one can pray like a parrot — blah, blah, blah, blah, blah — but this is not prayer. Prayer certainly gives great peace, but through inner struggle, sometimes difficult, which can accompany even long periods of life. Praying is not something easy, and this is why we flee from it. Every time we want to pray, we are immediately reminded of many other activities, which at that moment seem more important and more urgent. This happens to me too... Almost always, after putting off prayer, we realize that those things were not essential at all and that we may have wasted time."

Pope Francis

"Jesus told us: "That my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full." And the Lord wants that the joy He possesses, because He is in complete communion with the Father, to be in us insofar as we are united to Him. The joy of knowing we are loved by God despite our infidelities enables us to face the trials of life confidently, makes us live through crises so as to emerge from them better. Our being true witnesses consists in living this joy, because joy is the distinctive sign of a true Christian. True Christians are not sad; they always have that joy inside, even in difficult moments."

Pope Francis

A date for your Diary

The Solemnity of **THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS ET SANGUIS CHRISTI)**

Is fast approaching. The organisers of the International Eucharistic Congress taking place in Budapest this September- have asked every parish throughout the world to have an hour of Adoration on Saturday 5th June 21. We here at St Edmund's will be having our Adoration on Saturdays' from 5 pm -5.40 pm, Let's adore the King of the Universe. Do put this date in your diary and our Lord in his infinite mercy would heal the world. Amen.

Fr Christopher

The effects of the Holy Spirit's action.

Who is there who can hear the name of the Holy Spirit and not feel exaltation in his soul, not lift up his thoughts to that supreme nature? For he is called the Spirit of God, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, the upright Spirit, the guiding Spirit. His chief and distinguishing name is Holy Spirit.

To the Spirit, all creatures turn for their sanctification; all who live virtuously seek him, and are, by his influence, refreshed and helped towards their own natural end.

He is the source of holiness, the light of our understanding, for to every mind he offers his own light for the discovery of truth.

Though by nature he is inaccessible, yet through his generosity men can receive him in themselves. He fills all creatures with his power, but only those who are worthy can participate in him. But all do not share him in the same measure; he distributes his power in proportion to men's faith.

He is simple in essence, but manifold in power. He is present to each in his fulness, and in his fulness is present everywhere. He is divided, but does not suffer by the division; all share in him, but he remains whole, like a sunbeam whose kindly influence benefits each creature as though it were present to that creature alone, and shines over land and sea and dissolves in the air.

So too the Spirit is present like the sun to each individual who is capable of receiving him, and emits an influence which is sufficient to help them all, but is not divided; and they profit by sharing in him according to their natures, not according to his power.

Through him hearts are raised on high, the weak are led by the hand, those who are advanced gain perfection. He it is who shines on those whose hearts are purified and stainless and makes them truly spiritual through the common union they have with him.

Even as bright and shining, once touched by a ray of light falling on them, become even more glorious and themselves cast another light, so too souls that carry the Spirit, and are enlightened by the Spirit, become spiritual themselves and send forth grace upon others.

This grace enables them to foresee the future, to understand mysteries, to grasp hidden things, to receive spiritual blessings, to have their thoughts fixed on heavenly things, and to dance with the angels. So is their joy unending, so is their perseverance in God unfailing, so do they acquire likeness to God, so-most sublime of all-do they themselves become divine.

St Basil the Great

Holy Spirit Come.

Come down, O love divine., seek thou this soul of mine.

I pray this line and yet I feel low and down in spirit. I don't feel the presence of God. At such times which is often, there is a dryness and I couldn't think of God; I try to invoke the Holy Spirit.

It is you O Holy Spirit that can make me know Jesus. recall how the Apostles, spent a long time with Jesus and they failed to comprehend him; But the fire of tongues that came down upon them helped them to understand Jesus. Holy Spirit, consolation, joy, peace, strength, light, Come down O love divine, and give me your light to find the spring where I can quench my thirst. Illume me with your light so I could see my Lord. I ask thee no other learning, nor wisdom than the knowledge of how to find Jesus and the wisdom to remain with him. O love divine, when you came upon the disciples they were transformed; they were no longer what they had been before; their strength had been restored and they could offer sacrifice easily; they came to know Jesus better than when he was among them. And so, the yearning strong, with which the soul will long, shall far outpass the power of human telling. For none can guess its grace, till he becomes the place wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling. O, Holy Spirit Come.

Fr. Christopher

NEW BOXES OF DONATION ENVELOPES are ready for collection at the church's hall.

If you cannot find your box, please, drop an email to Millwall@rcdow.org.uk and I will prepare the box for you. Katherine

Diocese of Westminster
Roman Catholic Parish of St Edmund of Abingdon, Millwall
297 Westferry Road, Millwall. E14 3RS

Telephone: 020-7987-4114; Email: millwall@rcdow.org.uk; <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/millwall/>



Fr Christopher Silva
Parish Priest,

Mrs Katherine Woznicka
Parish Secretary

The office may be contacted by phone:
Monday to Friday 9am-2pm
Closed on Bank Holidays

Those who might be in Need

If you are aware of anyone who might be in need at this difficult time, do let the parish office know, by giving their details after having consulted with them. We can assist with food vouchers and one of our neighbours are willing to help with groceries. Do let us know if anyone might need help. Thank you, Fr Christopher

BAPTISMS can happen now on a Saturday morning or afternoon.

Parents must attend a 2-session Baptism Formation Program (during pregnancy or after birth) – **Next baptismal courses will be on 16 June 2021 at 7pm on Zoom.** Please, drop an email to the office to reserve your space during the next course. Later we will need your email address to invite you to join the session. Before you do the course you need to come to the office to buy a baptism pack (£10).

GARDEN PROJECT; we want to launch a garden project in our parish. Our garden needs a complex approach. Each year we ask volunteers to come to help to clean it. But while cleaning it we dump a huge amount of organic matter out. If we could shred and to compost it instead of throwing away, we could reuse what is growing in the garden and put it back into the soil as compost. At the moment we do not own a garden shredder. We would very much like to buy one this season with a few other necessary garden tools. We can later share the shredder with our parishioners who have their own gardens. If you like the ecological approach to gardening and want to support us: please, donate in an envelope that you can find on the table in our porch: with GARDEN PROJECT on top of it or by your online banking with Garden as a reference..

We have collected : **£575.00 so far.** Thank you very much, Katherine

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO CLEAN THE CHURCH. If you can spare an hour or two monthly to help us to keep the church clean, please, contact the office to discuss details. Thank you.

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LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS: loose: £162.39 envelopes: £215.50 total: £377.89
Standing orders in April £2314.

As a charity we rely on your donations only. As you have not been allowed to come to the church , we only were receiving donations set up as standing orders. We will be grateful for your financial support when you are back.

Your new sets of gift aided envelopes are available for collection before/after any mass or from the office.

Alternatively you could sent your donation by bank. Parish account is on Parish Web.

Thank you for your Generosity

WRCDT Charity No: 233699