

Parish of Our Lady & St Vincent, Potters Bar

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sunday 19th May 2024

SEND FORTH YOUR SPIRIT, O LORD

The coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost was a powerful event. There is the danger that we view this as a one-time event in history. We need to remember that the Holy Spirit is alive and active in the world – just as powerfully today as s/he was 2,000 years ago. The invitation is for us to pray *‘Come Holy Spirit’* – but are we ready to really experience it and work with all that flows from it?

The Holy Spirit came down on Our Lady and the Apostles as they were praying. They experienced empowerment as a community and everybody present, no matter what their background and language, understood them. It is significant that they received the Holy Spirit as a community. It brings to mind the proverb, probably of Nigerian origin, *‘It takes a village to raise a child.’* Although parents are the first educators of their children, they are assisted, both officially and unofficially, by many other people; grandparents, siblings, school staff, scouts and guides, activity clubs and many others.

As Catholics we have our parish community and the wider Church to help us discern the call of the Holy Spirit. With children in particular we have the ministry of catechist. Pope Francis recently said that *‘Every catechist must be a witness to the faith, a teacher, a companion and pedagogue, who teaches for the Church.’*

In our synodal listening exercise last year the most common theme was young people – *what are we doing for our young people?* Amandha has now settled in as the parish worker for youth and children and we have many ideas, some coming from children and parents themselves, for involving young people in the life of the parish in many ways; a Youth Mass, Saturday Club for children with additional needs, ‘Messy Mass’ for toddlers and youth activities. We have some fantastic young people who have been confirmed in the last few years and we want to involve them but Amandha can’t do it on her own.

Please listen to Amandha today and ask yourself, and the Holy Spirit, what can I do? We have a great team of adults who work with children and young people already, but we need many more. We want to recruit and start training now so that things can start in September. Please be generous in your response.

☎ 01707 654359 <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/pottersbar/> Email - pottersbar@rcdow.org.uk

All services are live streamed – www.churchservices.tv/pottersbar

Parish Priest: Canon Shaun Lennard - shaunlennard@rcdow.org.uk

Presbytery: 243, Mutton Lane, Potters Bar, EN6 2AT

Deacon: Rev Donal Hopkins - donhopkins@rcdow.org.uk

Youth & Children’s Worker: Amandha Senanayake – pottersbaryouth@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Nicola Thrussell – pottersbar@rcdow.org.uk

Safeguarding Reps: Sue McLellen – pottersbarsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Joe Molloy – pottersbarsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Parish Office open Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri 9.30am – 12.30pm (not Bank Holidays)

To contact a priest in case of emergency 07854 866860

COLLECTION

5th May: Envelopes; £310 Loose; £619
Thank you for your generosity.

INTERNATIONAL MASS

Today we celebrate Pentecost and 11am Mass will be an International Mass led by students from Pope Paul School. We celebrate the rich diversity of our parish and are led in worship by the children.

DEACON DON

Deacon Don is away from Tuesday until Wednesday 5th June.

CONFIRMATION 2025

If you are currently in Year 9 or above and would like to join the course for preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation please collect a registration form from Fr Shaun after Mass. The young person themselves must collect the form and it must be returned by 2nd June.

FIRST RECONCILIATION & HOLY COMMUNION 2025

If your child is in Year 2 or above and you would like them to be prepared for these sacraments next year please collect a form from Fr Shaun after Mass. The form must be returned by 2nd June.

ECUMENICAL HOLIDAY CLUB - URGENT APPEAL – LAST CHANCE!

The Holiday Club will run from 24th – 26th July. It is not too late to sign up to volunteer for arts and crafts, games, music and drama, registering children, catering and supporting the Teen Team with their group. Registration for volunteers go to <https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/volunteer>

REV DALE CUTLAN

Dale, who spent a pastoral year with us in 2022-3, is being ordained priest on Saturday 6th July at 12noon in Cardiff Cathedral. If you would like to attend the ordination and reception afterwards, email Dale at dale.cutlan@rcadc.org He needs to know by the end of May.

NEW TRANSLATION OF READINGS FOR MASS

From the First Sunday of Advent the bishops have produced a new translation of the scripture readings at Mass. We have to buy new Lectionaries for use in the church. There are four volumes of the Lectionary (£175 each) and one Book of the Gospels (£275) If you would like to donate a volume in memory of a loved-one (or more) please speak to Fr Shaun after Mass. Only one volume per family.

COMMUNITY PEACE GARDEN

Last call for volunteers to 'adopt' sections of the garden, keeping weeds down, shrubs trimmed etc. Ann-Marie O'Keefe, a parishioner, has designed the garden as a gift and contractors have done the heavy work. Tree surgeons will do annual work on the trees to keep them in shape. We need volunteers to care for the garden on a day to day basis and Ann-Marie is putting together a maintenance plan. Please complete a slip this week if you can help. If you have any ideas for seasonal focal points please contact her through the office.

GARDEN SAFETY

The garden is a resource for the whole community and contains a memorial section with ashes. Please supervise children at all times so that they are safe and the garden is kept beautifully.

RE-ENGAGE MONTHLY TEA PARTIES

The group offering monthly tea parties for isolated elderly people (75+) has just reached its first anniversary. A huge thanks to all who volunteer to support this, both drivers and hosts. A driver will pick the person up and drive them to afternoon tea at somebody's home. There is currently space for one more guest. If you know of an isolated elderly person who might benefit from this, please speak to Fr Shaun or contact Francesca at francescakhaliq@hotmail.com or by calling 07923 630811

ARUNDEL PILGRIMAGE

The pilgrimage to Arundel on 30th May is full. The coach leaves at 10.15am prompt. Don't forget your packed lunch.

YOUTH MASS

The young people who were confirmed a few weeks ago have said that they would like a Youth Mass on a monthly basis. The first Mass will be on **Saturday 8th June at 6pm**. For this first one the new confirmandi will lead the Mass. They will meet afterwards to discuss how to expand participation in the Mass. All young people of Secondary School age and above, especially those who have been confirmed, are very welcome.

GOOD COUNSEL NETWORK

On Tuesday 21st May, the Vigil of St Rita, please pray and fast for the end of abortion in this Country. Through God's grace we have seen thousands of Mothers in our counselling centre continue their pregnancies in very difficult circumstances see www.GoodCounselNetwork.com

PASTORAL CARE OF SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Deacon Don co-ordinates this. Please speak to him, Fr Shaun or the Parish Office to arrange a visit.

POTTERS BAR CHORAL SOCIETY SUMMER CONCERT

Saturday May 25 at Pope Paul School, Baker Street starting at 7.30pm. The music is a wide-ranging selection of pieces from American Musicals, under the title "The American Songbook" – music by composers such as George Gershwin, Cole Porter, Rodgers and Hammerstein to name a few. Tickets (£15) are available from 01707 65297 or on the door. Accompanied children under 16 are free, and elderly/ disabled residents with carer can attend free of charge provided spaces are booked by May 20 (info@pbchoral.org)

ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC GRAMMAR SCHOOL SECONDARY TRANSFER

Entrance tests take place in September. Applications have to be completed by 2nd July 2024. Full details of open day and admission process <https://www.st-michaels.barnet.sch.uk/home/admissions/admissions-2025-26/>

CAFOD PILGRIMAGE

CAFOD is organising a pilgrimage for young adults aged 18-40 from Friday 12th – Sunday 14th July, in this year of prayer and lead up to the year of Jubilee. Reconnecting with their faith through worship, prayer and journeying as a pilgrim together. For more information visit <https://cafod.org.uk/fundraise/sponsored-challenge-events/pilgrimages/young-adults-residential-pilgrimage>

A YEAR OF ENCOUNTER

With a UK general election due sometime this year, we have a responsibility as Catholics to make sure that parties commit to tackling issues such as poverty and injustice. Raising our voices and contacting parliamentary candidates will send a strong signal to those standing for election locally. A Year of Encounter seeks to equip Catholics to ask key questions of candidates. www.cafod.org.uk/encounter

COOPERSCROFT'S HOST YOUR ROAST

Sunday 26th May, 1pm – 2.30pm. Every last Sunday of the month, Cooperscroft Care Home offer a three-course Sunday roast and activities afternoon. Open to the local community, especially those in social isolation or that have financial challenges. For more information or to book, please contact bdm@cooperscroftcarehome.co.uk or call 01707 644179.

ST PAUL VI FEASTDAY

Is 29th May. Mass will be celebrated in school on Friday at 2pm – all welcome.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Please remember in your prayers the sick, including: Damien Grafton, Marsaili MacAuley, Linda Brooks, Patricia Wallington, Grant Davis, Bridie Spelzini, Susan Lundrigan, Joan Bonner, Jamie Giles, Mary Lindsay, Paige White, Christakis Christofides, Philomena O'Sullivan, Bernard Keown, Ann O'Neill, Abbey Cummings, Anne Conlon, Kathy Lavelle, Monica Doheny, Vincent, Lee & Abigail Clark, Maria Halsey, Angela Loizou, Jean O'Sullivan, Teresa Gray, Bob Cox, Henry Rochford, Julie Anne Chambers, Emilia Roberts, Tom Quinn, Angela O'Keeffe, Sheila Corbett, Michael Connell, Jacqui Mylonas, Karrieanne O'Sullivan, Carmela Mackay.

Recently dead: Silvana Capaldo (Funeral 29th May at 10am), Fr Frank Wahle and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time including Concetta Urso.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

The Most Holy Trinity (Year B)

Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40;

Romans 8:14-17; Matthew 28:16-20

NEXT CLEANING TEAM

Monday 3rd June at 10.30am

Please come and help

TIMES OF MASS & OTHER LITURGIES

Sunday 19th May

Pentecost Sunday

5.15pm – 5.45pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

6pm Vigil Mass *First Communion Children*

9am Mass *Intentions of Cynthia Friend (Birthday)*

11am Mass *Intentions of Christopher, Matthew & Michael (Birthdays) (International Mass)*

Monday 20th May

10am Mass *Ron Thomas RIP*

2.10pm Mass for 10NLMT at Nicholas Breakspear School

Tuesday 21st May

9.30am Rosary

10am Mass *Iolanda Menichelli RIP*

Wednesday 22nd May

10am Mass *Intentions of Patsy Sherrin & Family*

Thursday 23rd May

No Mass

Friday 24th May

10am Mass *John Brooks RIP (Anniversary)*

2pm Mass of St Paul VI at Pope Paul School

Saturday 25th May

5.15pm – 5.45pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

6pm Vigil Mass *People of the Parish*

Sunday 26th May

The Most Holy Trinity

9am Mass *Mark Casalli RIP*

11am Mass *Marino Sorenti RIP*

& Baptism of Giavanna Stalano-Sharp

12.30pm Baptism of Olivia Jackson