SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance Antiphon: ***Wisdom 1: 7***
The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world
and that which contains all things
understands what is said, alleluia.

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,
God, for ever and ever.

First reading: ***Acts 2:1-11***

When the day of Pentecost arrived, the Apostles were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. And they were amazed and astonished, saying, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians — we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.'

Responsorial Psalm: ***Ps 104: 1, 24, 29-31, 34***

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

Bless the LORD, O my soul!
O LORD my God, how great you are!
How many are your works, O LORD!
The earth is full of your creatures.

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

You take away their breath, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, and they are created,
and you renew the face of the earth.

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

May the glory of the LORD last for ever!
May the LORD rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I will rejoice in the LORD.

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

Second reading: ***1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13***

Brothers and Sisters: No one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except in the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptised into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

Pentecost Sequence

Holy Spirit, Lord of Light,
From the clear celestial height.
Thy pure beaming radiance give.

Come, thou Father of the poor,
Come, with treasures which endure;
Come, thou Light of all that live!

Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow.

Thou in toil art comfort sweet;
Pleasant coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.

Light immortal, Light divine,
Visit thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill.

If thou take thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay;
All his good is turned to ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour thy dew,
Wash the stains of guilt away.

Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.

Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and thee adore,
With thy sevenfold gifts descend.

Give us comfort when we die;
Give us life with thee on high;
Give us joys that never end.
Amen. Alleluia.

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***

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.' And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.'

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.

Communion Antiphon: Acts 2: 4, 11
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.

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ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUDBURY

Sunday 24th May 2026

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Welcome to all at Mass today and especially anyone who is new. Please take this Newsletter home with you. You may wish to share it with family and friends. This Newsletter can also be found via our website. We ask God's blessing on you and your loved ones this week and know that we pray for you all each day.

Sunday Cycle
Readings Year A
Weekay Mass Readings
Ordinary TimeWeek 8
Divine Office
Week 4

For children, download a weekly sheet: http://www.sdc.me.uk/sundayliturgy/

Masses and Intentions THIS WEEK

Sun 24 May	**PENTECOST SUNDAY**
6.15pm *Sat Vigil*	Conversion of Sinners
8.30am	Dan Sullivan RIP
9.45am	Naty Valmoria Get Well Intentions
11.15am	Dorothy Coomarewel & Family Intentions
5:30pm	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
Mon 25 May	**Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church**
9:30am	Reparation of Sinners
Tues 26 May	**S. Philip Neri**
9.30am	Joel & Celina 25th Wedding Anniversary
11:00am	**FUNERAL MASS** Christopher Herson RIP
Weds 27 May	**S. AUGUSTINE**
9.30am	Ann Gallagher RIP
Thurs 28 May	**OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST**
9.30am	Josie Lannon RIP
Fri 29 May	**S.Paul VI, Pope**
9:30am	John Grant RIP
Sat 30 May	**Of Our Lady**
9:30am	Mary McLaughlin RIP
Sun 31 May	**THE MOST HOLY TRINITY**
6.15pm *Sat Vigil*	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
8.30am	Jack McLaughlin RIP
9.45am	Naty Valmoria Get Well Intentions
11.15am	Maria Doyle RIP
5:30pm	Kevin Duffey RIP

TODAY'S MASS



The season of Easter concludes with today's celebration, the Feast of Pentecost. On Pentecost we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem; this event marks the beginning of the Church. The gospel today reminds us about the integral connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun: "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." He breathes the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and sends them to continue his work of reconciliation through the forgiveness of sins.

First Reading: ***Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11***
The Holy Spirit descends upon the apostles gathered in Jerusalem.

Responsorial Psalm: ***Psalm 104:1,24,29-31,34***
God's Spirit renews the earth.

Second Reading: ***1 Corinthians 12:3b-7,12-13***
We are all one in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading: ***John 20:19-23***
Jesus appears to his disciples and gives them the gift of the Holy Spirit.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"As the soul is the life of the body, so the Holy Spirit is the life of our souls"
St. Peter Damian

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

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Charity No: 233699
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GOSPEL REFLECTION

DAILY MASS TIMES

SUNDAY MASS: 6.15pm (Saturday Vigil), 8.30am, 9.45am (Family) & 11.15am (Solemn), 5.30pm.
WEEKDAY MASS: Monday – Saturday 9.30am.
HOLYDAYS OF OBLIGATION: 9.30am, 8.00pm.
EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: Friday 9.00-9.30am, Saturday 5.15-6.00pm.
CONFESSIONS: Saturday 5.15pm -6.00pm. *and any time by appointment.*
DIVINE MERCY: Tuesday 10.30am.
ROSARY: Daily after Mass.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

SICK & HOUSEBOUND: *Marie Rego, Eileen Kidd, Dee Auriol, Christopher Browne, Fiona Power, John, Aaran Thayaparan, Shaun Scoon and Helen Jordan, Sean Marren, George Beel, Marian Lynch, Shane & Paul, Patrick, Gerry & Corrine Gilbert, Martha Conway, Edward Granger, Ciara I, Mary O'Connell, Leslie De Lima, Paul Pereira, Nora Hunt, Mario, Maureen Chick, Ramzan, Larry Sicat, Andras Nagy, Sheena Chambers, Tony Eivers*

RECENTLY BAPTISED: *Zoe D'Costa, Chloe Turner*

RECENTLY DEPARTED: *Christopher Herson*

RECENTLY MARRIED:- *Frazer & Pansy*

RECENTLY CONFIRMED:

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: -*Dan Sullivan*

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
In Memory of Nimal Perera

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM
In Memory of Nimal Perera

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS for May
That everyone might have food
Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.



On Pentecost Sunday we celebrate the wonderful good news that the risen Lord has poured out his Spirit upon us, first of all to convince us of his victory over sin and death, and then to enable us to continue his work of salvation by our own love.

As fragile human beings, we know the experience of living in fear and of being anxious and worried about many things, some of which exist only in our imagination. Jesus, having absorbed the ultimate violence, offers us his peace and thereby enables us to be confident and joyful in the face of even severe uncertainty and threat. This represents a real experience of liberation from the paralysis of fear—a paralysis that often prevents us from doing beautiful and risky things, - like giving cut flowers!

With this peace and joy comes the obligation to share our blessings with others. Whilst the command of Jesus to forgive or retain sins was primarily addressed to priests and referred only to the Sacrament of confession or reconciliation, it is clear that this charge is addressed also to all the followers of Jesus. We must all accept the wonderful and awesome responsibility of offering or withholding forgiveness. In this case, the sin of omission looms large and should make us all examine our consciences in regard to the many times that we may have persisted in nursing old injuries or have refused to make allowance for extenuating circumstances in the lives of those we call sinners.

We should recall the very strong words of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount: *"Stop judging, that you may not be judged. For as you judge, so will you be judged, and the measure with which you measure will be measured out to you."* (Matthew 7: 1–2) When we face the final judgment, we all hope to have a merciful judge and now we know how to assure that happy outcome.

It is, of course, very difficult to achieve such an ideal of forgiveness. And that is why Jesus offers us the Holy Spirit who, if given half a chance, will empower us to become the kind of gentle, caring, and compassionate persons that can make a real difference in a world that desperately needs the witness of love and forgiveness.

Let us all rejoice in this wonderful gift of the Spirit.

NEWS UPDATE



PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT
By Saint Augustine of Hippo

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.
Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy.
Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy.
Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy.
Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy.
Amen.

WELCOME to all at Mass today and a big welcome to anyone who is new or a visitor.

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH? It always helps us to get to know you and also your family if you register with us. We can then send you information about the parish and opportunities. Registration forms can be found at the back of Church underneath the photo of Pope Leo.

THE PARISH OFFICE HOURS will now be Monday—Friday 10.00am-2.00pm. Outside these hours, **urgent** matters can be directed to the Presbytery. Please note the Parish Office will be closed from Monday 25th to Friday 29th May 2026.

THIS WEEKEND the Easter Season draws to a close with the celebration of Pentecost. Following Pentecost Sunday, the Paschal (Easter) Candle will be moved closer to the font, where it is lit for Holy Baptisms. For funerals the candle will be placed near to the coffin, to signify that Christian death is a true Passover. Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love!

FUNERAL MASS of **Christopher Patrick Andrew Herson** on Tuesday 26th May at 11.00am followed by cremation at a later time. May he Rest in Peace.

PLEASE PRAY FOR our Confirmation Candidates who will receive the Sacrament on Saturday 6th June.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
The Most Holy Trinity Sunday 31st May
Corpus Christi Sunday 7th June
The Sacred Heart of Jesus Friday 12th June
Ss. Peter and Paul Sunday 28th June

LEAD UP TO CORPUS CHRISTI on Sunday 7th June. In the week before there will be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament each morning from 9.00am to 9.30am. At the end of the 11.15am Mass on the Day of the Feast (7th June) there will be a a Blessed Sacrament Procession.

MAY is the Month traditionally dedicated to Our Blessed Lady. Many families have discovered the importance of the prayer of the Rosary. Why not give it a go either by yourself or with your family? If you are interested in becoming part of the 'Rosary at Home' initiative, where a statue of Our Lady of Fatima is brought to your home for a period as you say the Rosary each day, please contact Cheryl on 07941 002 161. In addition the Rosary will be said in the church each evening, Monday to Friday, at 6pm throughout the month of May. Everyone welcome!

A MASS FOR YOUR INTENTIONS is a beautiful and deeply meaningful spiritual gift. At the heart of the Mass, we bring our prayers to the Lord, whether for a loved one living or deceased, in thanksgiving, or for a special need, and we unite them with Jesus' perfect offering to the Father. Requesting a Mass intention is a powerful way to place what matters most to us into God's loving care. It is also a wonderfully practical way of supporting the mission and ministry of the Church, enabling Priests to continue their pastoral work and the Gospel to be proclaimed. The Mass offering recommended by the Diocese is £10, or whatever you can afford. Every intention is welcomed with prayer and gratitude, just contact the Parish Office for available dates. **However** Masses at St George's are now fully booked until January 2027. If you would like a Mass to be sent away to the missions, please let us know. Masses are generally booked on a first come, first served basis. Thank you.

EXAMINATION TIME: We pray for our young people sitting their examinations at this time. If you are finding it a bit stressful - utilise your faith! Say a prayer, asking for the intercessions of Blessed Mary, Seat of all Wisdom, who unties knots! There is even a special saint for exams—St Joseph of Cupertino. You'll find prayers to him in a basket at the back of the church.

SPONSORING THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP & THE LAMP AT OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM is a lovely thing to do for a departed loved one or a particular intention. There are some possibilities in the month of July. Please contact the Parish Office.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - The **FHC Evaluation Session (for Parents/Carers only)** takes place on **Tuesday 9th June at 7pm** followed by the **FHC Celebration Mass on Sunday 14th June at 9.45am** when all the children, who have made the FHC at the Parish this year, dress-up again in their FHC outfits to celebrate. **Might you like to help with the FHC Programme in 2026-27?** For further information, please contact our **Catechetical Coordinator**, Peter Kingsley, at **peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk**.

CONFIRMATION 2025 - Rehearsals for the **Confirmation Masses** taking place at the Parish on **Saturday 6th June** take place on **Monday 1st & Thursday 4th June at 7.30pm**. Candidates are requested to **arrive in good time** for their **allocated rehearsal** with their **Sponsor** (if practical) **& a Parent/ Carer**. Full details will be provided to Parents/Carers this coming week via email. If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact our Catechetical Coordinator, Peter, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk

BAPTISM PREPARATION - **Baptism Preparation** sessions at the Parish provide **essential** formation for Parents/Carers as they prepare for this important Sacrament. If you are expecting a baby, or would like your baby baptised, please **pick up a Baptism Pack** from the **Parish Office**. To attend our next **Baptism Preparation** you will need to **complete** the **Baptism Application Form** (in the Pack) & **return it to the Parish Office by Monday 1st June 2026.**

CALLING NEW CATECHISTS & HELPERS - We are delighted when new people come forward wishing to help with our **First Holy Communion** & **Confirmation Programmes**. These Programmes are fruitful thanks to the generous help of **volunteers from the Parish**. Might you consider **offering to help serve our children & young people** alongside a group of experienced Catechists? For further information, or to meet to speak about opportunities for helping in other ways at the Parish, please contact Peter, our Catechetical Coordinator, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk

PRIEST TRAINING FUND — THANK YOU! Thank you for your generosity to the Priest Training Fund collection. We have raised £2,403 so far, which is a wonderfully generous amount to forward to the Diocese. The collection is still open and envelopes are available in the pews and at the back of the church. You can also donate using the QR code on the poster in the porch. Please continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood and for those men who have offered themselves for formation and are in training at this time. If you think you might have a vocation, or just want to know more, please speak with Mgr Jeremy or Fr Jude.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CHRISTIAN OR JUST DISCOVERING MORE? If you are interested in becoming a Christian we would be delighted to accompany you on this journey. Please **speak to one of the clergy** or **email our Catechetical Coordinator**, Peter, at **peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk**, so we can provide further information. If you were baptised but have not yet received the gifts of the Holy Spirit in confirmation we would also be happy to support you on this journey.

WHAT A GENEROUS SCHOOL & PARISH! GOOD NEWS - LET THE CHILDREN LIVE! was our Lent charity and we are delighted to advise we have raised £10,887 so far! This sum is made up of £3,156 raised by our Confirmation Candidates on their Sponsored Walk and £7,731 raised from Lent Appeal boxes (parishioners & children at St George's School) and collection. Please know that it's not too late to return your box (we gave out 400 of these so many of them must be still sitting at home!). Above all –**thank you for your generosity.**

CHURCH CANDLES must always be placed on a candle stand (and NOT beside a particular statue on the wood) as this poses a fire risk. Please ONLY use candles that are supplied in the church.

WESTMINSTER DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 17th – 24th July 2026. Registration is now open at https://pilgrimages.rcdow.org.uk/registrationform/ or via the Pilgrimage Office on 0207 798 9173. If you would like to sponsor or fundraise for an Assisted Pilgrim, member of the medical team or volunteer then please also contact the Pilgrimage Office for further details.

THE DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE, London is holding a First Saturday Divine Mercy Recollection Day at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, on Saturday 6th June 2026 from 10:30am to 4:30pm. The Recollection Day will include Holy Mass, Talk, Hour of Mercy with Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information. Coaches from Slough, Ealing Broadway, North London, Barking and Victoria.