



Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence

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Parish Priest: Fr David B Barrett

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19 th May 2024 Psalter Week 3		Pentecost - Veni, Sancte Spiritus	
First Reading	Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11 <i>They were all filled with Holy Spirit and began to speak</i>		
Responsorial Psalm	Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.		
Second Reading	1 St Paul to the Corinthians 12:3-7. 12-13 <i>In the one Spirit we were all baptised</i>		
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 <i>As the Father sent me, so am I sending you: receive the Holy Spirit.</i>		
Saturday 18 th May +		5.45pm	Confession
		6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (Deceased members of the Rix & Watson families RIP)
Sunday 19 th May +		10.30am	Mass – (Pro Populo)
So Eastertide Ends			
Ordinary Time resumes: Lectionary Year 2 – Week 7			
Monday 20 th May Mary, Mother of the Church			No Parish Mass today
Tuesday 21 st May St Christopher Magallanes and the Martyrs of Mexico		10.00am	Mass - (Margaret Cleaver Int.)
Wednesday 22 nd May St Rita of Cascia - Religious			No Parish Mass today
Thursday 23 rd May + OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST		10.00am	Mass - (For Deceased Clergy of the Parish)
Friday – 24 th May PARISH SOLEMNITY OF OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS		7.00pm	Mass (Fr. Frank Burrowes Anniversary of Priestly Ordination)
Saturday – 25 th May St Bede the Venerable – Priest & Doctor of the Church		10.00am 10.30am	Mass – (Archibald McDonald RIP) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Confession
The Most Holy Trinity			
Saturday – 25 th May +		5.45pm 6.30pm	Confession Vigil Mass – (Patricia Hryczk RIP)
Sunday – 26 th May +		10.30am	Mass – (Pro Populo)

Last Sunday's Collection

Offertory: £429.25

DGP – £30.00

Average Standing Orders: £464.00

Total: £923.25

Sick & Retired Clergy: £282.55



Our Lady Help of Christians

This coming Friday we celebrate the Solemnity of Our Lady Help of Christians, Chief Patron of our Parish. **Mass will be at 7.00pm.** Afterwards there shall be **some light refreshments** in the hall and in the garden to celebrate. Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy our Feast Day



Month of May – Our Lady's Month

We begin the month of May which we dedicate to Our Lady. After every Mass, we will either pray the Rosary or say the Litany of Loreto. I would suggest we pray for peace in the world – for the conversion of nations away from war to reconciliation and peace. It would be good also if families could come together in their homes to pray the rosary – this will be a source of great grace.

SVP Healing Mass – Many thanks to all who came to the Healing Mass here last Saturday – a special thanks to the members of our parish SVP Group for their organisation and for the splendid lunch. This was another wonderful day for our parish and we thank God for the many graces bestowed upon us all. – **Deo Gr̄atias!**

Parish Forum Meeting – will take place on **Thursday 30th May at 7.00pm** in the parish hall. Everyone is welcome to come, to hear what is going on, to ask questions, to make suggestions, and to contribute your ideas. There will be some good new initiatives to discuss. Please do come!



Catholic Grandparents Association - At our April meeting, with thirteen attending, we enjoyed exploring together the subject of 'How much do our grandchildren know about us, and how well do we know our grandchildren.' In previous months we had the opportunity to speak about our Family Trees and to discuss the issue of 'Truth and Relativism in today's society.' These subjects evoked lively discussion and the sharing of experiences. Our next meeting at **2pm as usual in the Parish Hall on Wednesday 29th May** will be an opportunity over a cup of tea or coffee to share news of our grandchildren's lives and experiences. We will pray together about any particular concerns we have. The overall subject will be '**Grandparents' fantastic opportunities when grandchildren demand to hear about The olden days**'. Please come along if you can. If this will be your fifth meeting you will qualify to receive the beautiful membership badge. All welcome.

New Microphone – we are currently trying out a new microphone to improve the sound quality. Whether you are a reader, sitting in the congregation or watching via the ‘live stream’ please do let us know if this is an improvement. We would particularly welcome comments from those who are hard of hearing.



Parish Garden – our garden is always available for parishioners to visit and pray there – entry via the side gate. Please feel welcome to come and enjoy the peace!

*Simple prayer is above all a response to God.
Whether you are aware of God's presence or not
does not matter. Know that God is in you and with
you -- now and forever.* **Sr Wendy Beckett**



**LAUDATO SI'
WEEK 2024**

‘Laudato Si’ Week 19th – 26th May 2024 The theme this year is **"Seeds of Hope"**, which calls on all of us to be seeds of hope in our lives and in the (natural) world. It runs for the eight days from

Pentecost to Trinity Sunday. There is an on-line downloadable 8-day celebration guide, which through inspirational quotes, practical activities, reflections, and prayers aims to inspire meaningful change in Catholic groups interaction with the environment. Each day a specific theme is proposed that expresses aspects of integral ecology, such as waste reduction, renewable energy use and water conservation. You can find out more at: <https://laudatosiweek.org> or speak to Graham Ryan on from our parish Laudato Si Group.



Sacrament of Reconciliation – as Catholics we should have the confidence and desire to avail ourselves of the Sacraments – not least because they are great gifts from God that give us His love and strength in our daily lives. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is particularly important as it gives us a wonderful opportunity of freeing ourselves from the burden of our sins. Fr David is available for this Sacrament every Saturday morning after Mass and again before the Vigil Mass on Saturday evening – alternatively you can arrange a convenient time with him.

NEW ACTION ALERT - EMAIL YOUR MP A very large cross-party group of 46 MPs have just tabled a new amendment (NC115) to the Criminal Justice Bill. This would help protect women and babies from dangerous late-term home abortions. This morning *Right To Life* have launched the *Protect Both Lives* campaign, entirely focused on building support for this important new amendment, which if it becomes law, will save the lives of babies and protect women from late-term abortions. Please contact your MP and ask them to support this new amendment so that they are made aware of it. Click the link below to contact your MP using the tool. It will only take 30 seconds of your time:

https://righttolife.org.uk/protectbothlives?utm_source=SUBSCRIPTION+LIST&utm_campaign=03ccc3fbdb-abortion-littlefighters_email15-20240516&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-147f4c6bad-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D



Mary, Mother of the Church

In 2018 Pope Francis added a feast day for Mary, Mother of the Church to be celebrated on the Monday following Pentecost – and the date he chose was intentional. On Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the birthday of the Church, and on the memorial of Mary, Mother of the Church, we celebrate the fact that Mary, as the mother of Our Lord, is intrinsically linked to the Church as her mother.

In issuing his decree to add this feast day to the Church's calendar, Pope Francis wished to promote this devotion to "encourage the growth of the maternal sense of the Church in the pastors, religious and faithful, as well as a growth of genuine Marian piety."



The Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest

is celebrated on the first Thursday after Pentecost and focuses on Jesus' Priestly Office (*Latin: Munus sacerdotale*). Jesus is considered the model for believers, and in particular the clergy, with priests acting in 'Persona Christi' ("In the person of Christ"). We are thus urged to pray that priests would be more like Christ, the compassionate and trustworthy high priest (*Hebrews 2:17*), ever-living to intercede for humanity before The Father (*Hebrews 7:25*).



Pentecost Reflection – Pope Benedict XVI

At times it is thought that missionary effectiveness depends primarily on careful programming and its subsequent intelligent application through a concrete commitment. The Lord certainly does ask us for our collaboration, but before any other response his initiative is necessary: His Spirit is the true protagonist of the Church. The roots of our being and of our action are in the wise and provident silence of God. The Pentecost of the Spirit, with the gift of tongues, shows that his presence unites and transforms confusion into communion. Man's pride and egoism always creates divisions, builds walls of indifference, hatred, and violence. The Holy Spirit, on the contrary, makes hearts capable of understanding everyone's languages, as it re-establishes the bridge of authentic communication between earth and heaven. The Holy Spirit is love. This is the mystery of Pentecost: The Holy Spirit illuminates the human spirit and, on revealing Christ crucified and risen, indicates the way to become more like him, that is, to be "expression and instrument of love that comes from him" (*"Deus Caritas Est," No. 33*). The Church, gathered with Mary, as at her birth, today implores:

"Veni, Sancte Spiritus!" -- "Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of thy faithful and enkindle in them the fire of thy love!" Amen.

May Our Lady, Help of Christians, Our Lady Mother of the Church, St Christopher Magallanes, St Rita of Cascia, St Bede the Venerable pray for us all.

With our love and prayers, Fr David, Fr Patrick, and Deacon Peter