

## The Parish of St. Edward the Confessor

Registered Charity no. 234025

### Father Peter Cryan

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Newsletter for the week of 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Sunday Readings Cycle C

Weekday Readings Cycle II

Readings for 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter: Acts 2:1-11; Psalm 103; Romans 8:8-17 ; John 17:20-26

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June 5.30pm 1<sup>st</sup> MASS of PENTECOST SUNDAY

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 10.30am MASS: PENTECOST SUNDAY

Day of Prayer for the Church

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 9.30am Mass (Ordinary Time resumes Week 10) memorial: Mary, Mother of the Church

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 11.30am Mass

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June

FEAST: OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, the HIGH PRIEST

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 11.30am Mass

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June 5.30pm 1<sup>st</sup> Mass of the Holy Trinity Sunday

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June 10.30am Mass: Holy Trinity Sunday

Readings for Holy Trinity Sunday: Proverbs 8:22-31; Psalm 8; Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15

A face mask/ covering is **optional** in the church & community Room. Hand sanitizing continues to be **desirable**.  
Care for **safe physical distancing** for oneself & fellow worshippers is more than ever needed.!

### ARRANGEMENTS AT MASS

- church benches & statues restored ; - individual invitation & response at Holy Communion is restored;
- the offertory collection restored; - the offertory procession returns;
- Sunday 10.30am Mass the entrance procession returns; - the non-tactile sign of peace continues.

### WEEKDAY MASS

Mass on Wednesday & Friday is at 11.30am this week.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GIVING

Last Sunday's Offertory £152.00

Communication Sunday Special Collection: £15.30

### INVITATION TO ST. ALBAN'S BI-CENTENNIAL MASS WITH CARDINAL NICHOLS

**Next Sat 11<sup>th</sup> June** at 2.00pm – Open Air Mass at St Alban's Pr. Sch. Priory La. celebrated by *Cardinal Vincent Nichols* to celebrate 200 years of a parish for the Macclesfield area- with a picnic to follow. Entry is by ticket only, but Fr. Peter Burke invites St. Edward's parishioners to join them in the celebration. A £5 per adult suggested donation goes to the Church roof repair. Take a ticket at the church entrances leaving name & phone no or go to St. Alban's website <https://stalbanmacc.org.uk/>. Note: there will no parking at the primary school.

### MEETING on OUR MISSION TOGETHER (OMT)

**Mon 13<sup>th</sup> June** 7.30pm in the Community Room. The Parish Pastoral Council are organising a special meeting to discuss how to use the money available for St. Edward's parish project(s). Invitation is especially extended to those have given continuously over nearly five years. Those contributions by 31<sup>st</sup> March '22 had come a total of £55,191 of which **£18, 634** is available - much of which is yet to be allocated to St. Edward's parish project(s).

### FUNERAL

**Tues 21<sup>st</sup> June** 12noon at St. Alban's Church: Funeral Mass of *Margaret Lillis* followed by committal at Macclesfield Crematorium 2.00pm & reception at the Pack Horse Bowling & Social Club, Abbey Rd. from 1.30pm. Family flowers only; donations in lieu of flowers to CAFOD and East Cheshire Hospice. May she rest in peace!

**GET IN TOUCH QUICKLY –IF YOU ARE SICK** If you or your relative enters Macclesfield Hospital let Fr. Peter know as soon as possible tel: 01625 423576 or by e-mail [st.edmacc@gmail.com](mailto:st.edmacc@gmail.com)

### PRAYER for the QUEEN

Almighty God, we pray, that your servant Elizabeth our Queen, who, by your providence has received the governance of this realm, may continue to grow in every virtue, that, imbued with your heavenly grace, she may be preserved from all that is harmful and evil and, being blessed with your favour may with, with the royal family, come at last into your presence, through Christ who is the way, the truth and the life and who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

## Pope Francis on Praying to the Holy Spirit



Pope Francis said in an address :

“The Holy Spirit is the soul of the Church. He gives life, he brings forth different charisms which enrich the people of God and, above all, he creates unity among believers: from the many he makes one body, the Body of Christ.

It is true that the Holy Spirit brings forth different charisms in the Church, which at first glance, may seem to create disorder. Under his guidance, however, they constitute an immense richness.

The Church and other Churches and ecclesial communities are called to let themselves be guided by the Holy Spirit, and to remain always open, docile and obedient.

He it is who harmonized the Church. The beautiful saying of St. Basil the Great comes to mind, “*Ipsa armonia est*”. *He is harmony.*

In our journey of faith and fraternal life, the more we allow ourselves humbly to be guided by the Spirit of the Lord, the more we will overcome misunderstandings, divisions and controversies and be a credible sign of unity and peace. A credible sign that our Lord is Risen and alive!”

No sooner have the disciples regained their Lord in the resurrection than he is gone again. “And as they were looking on,” writes Luke, Jesus “was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight” (Acts 1:9). And yet, their reaction is one of rejoicing! “And they returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the Temple blessing God” (Lk 24:52-53).

Within his address, Pope Francis voiced two prayers to the Holy Spirit, offering guidance for how to ask for the help we need to pray.

*Come, come Holy Spirit, warm my heart. Come and teach me to pray, teach me to look to the Father, to look to the Son. Teach me the path of faith. Teach me how to love and, above all, teach me to have an attitude of hope.*

He also prayed:

*Holy Spirit, I do not know your face – we do not know it – but I know that you are the strength, that you are the light, that you are able to make me go forth, and to teach me how to pray. Come, Holy Spirit.*

“This,” he said, “is a beautiful prayer: ‘*Come, Holy Spirit.*’”

The pope said that our first task as Christians is to keep the flame of the Spirit alive in our hearts:

The first task of Christians is precisely to keep alive this flame that Jesus brought to the earth (see *Lk 12:49*), and what is this flame? It is love, the Love of God, the Holy Spirit. Without the fire of the Spirit, His prophecies are extinguished, sorrow supplants joy, routine substitutes love, and service turns into slavery.

The image of the lighted lamp next to the Tabernacle, where the Eucharist is reserved, comes to mind. Even when the church empties and evening falls, even when the church is closed, that lamp remains lit, and continues to burn; no one sees it, yet it burns before the Lord. This is how the Spirit is in our heart, always present like that lamp.





Preparing for the Mass of Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022 - Pentecost Sunday

### 1 Relax & Remember

Set aside 10 -15 minutes and create a suitable environment by removing any distractions. Make sure that you are comfortable. Perhaps light a candle. Make the sign of the cross † and remain still for a minute of settling silence. Call to mind the love that God has for you. Remember that through this scripture our Lord is truly present. Then read the Gospel, preferably aloud and slowly, and pay attention to any words that stand out. If any do, meditate on them for a few minutes and be invited into a dialogue with God.



### 2 Read

Taken from the Gospel for 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022 (John 14:15-16. 23-26): The Paraclete

Jesus said to his disciples, "If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever. If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own; it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you."



### 3 Reflect

After spending a few minutes considering this Gospel, continue by reading Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

*In Jesus' final speech to his disciples after the Last Supper he is preparing them for life after the Resurrection. He several times mentions a mysterious figure called the 'Paraclete'. 'Paraclete' is Greek for 'advocate', that is someone who is called to your side to help, to guide you through a tricky patch. In Hebrew teaching about the Last Judgement there would be an Accuser and an Advocate on either side. In the gospel, Jesus asks the Father to send this Advocate to his followers to be his own presence when Jesus is no longer there and to guide the Church into all truth. That is the inspiring situation which Jesus speaks of: the Church and every one of her members will continue through the power of the Spirit to grow in understanding of the mysteries of God, as a people over the centuries and as individuals over the years of life. Before the Spirit was given, even the disciples who had been with Jesus throughout his ministry failed to understand his real significance, and certainly lacked courage to proclaim it. The coming of the Paraclete was the booster-rocket which set off the Church on its course and keeps it on course. Now it is the duty and privilege of each of the members of the Church to fulfil the prophetic office of the Church, understanding more deeply and declaring more clearly the truth about Christ in the world.*

*What does the Holy Spirit teach? What difference does the Spirit's presence and teaching make in our lives?*

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

### 4 Respond & Request

Now slowly and prayerfully read the Gospel once again but this time in silence. Consider how this Gospel could apply to your life in general. Then thank God for any insight you may have received. Conclude by asking God to bless you with one of the following spiritual gifts to help you act on any resolution you have made: love, understanding, wisdom, faithfulness, peace, self control, patience, or joy. Please remember to pray for the Church and particularly our school families. Then conclude by requesting the prayers of Our Lady & St Joseph.



*The Wednesday Word is under the patronage of St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church  
Within the tradition of the Catholic Church, each Wednesday is dedicated to St Joseph*

# WEDNESDAY WORD PLUS

Fr Henry's reflections on the first and second readings of Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022



## First Reading: *The Birth of the Church*

### Acts 2:1-11

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech. Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. "Surely," they said, "all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome - Jews and proselytes alike - Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God."

*The ministry of Jesus starts with the coming of the Spirit at his Baptism. In the same way, the ministry of the Church begins with the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost. There can be no witness to Jesus or to his message, no spreading of the Kingship of God, without the Spirit of Jesus. Another lesson from this parallel between Jesus' Baptism and Pentecost is that the task of the Church and the life of the Church are the same as those of Jesus himself: to bring God's kingship to its fulfilment by pouring out healing, love and joy through the message of the risen Christ. The rushing wind and the tongues of fire are an allusion to the Old Testament when God's Spirit descends upon Moses and the elders of the people. So the message of Pentecost is the fulfilment of the Old Testament, breaking out beyond the borders of Judaism to include all peoples of the world. The union of all these peoples (all understanding one language in their own way) is a deliberate contrast with the Old Testament scene of the Tower of Babel, when the LORD split up all the peoples of the world (as symbolised by their inability to understand one another's languages). The list of unpronounceable peoples is itself a witness to the universality of the Church!*

*How does the Church show forth the Spirit at work in the world today?*

## Second Reading: *The Spirit of Christ in Me*

### Romans 8:8-17

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you. So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live. Everyone moved by the Spirit is a son of God. The spirit you received is not the spirit of slaves bringing fear into your lives again; it is the spirit of sons, and it makes us cry out, 'Abba, Father!' The Spirit himself and our spirit bear united witness that we are children of God. And if we are children we are heirs as well: heirs of God and coheirs with Christ, sharing his sufferings so as to share his glory.

*Paul's letter to the Romans is all about the process of salvation. What difference did the death and resurrection of Jesus actually make to me and my condition in the world? This passage is the climax: it plants the flag on the summit and leaves us to live a full Christian life in peace, tranquillity and hope. There have been three stages in this process of salvation. First came the work of Christ: Jesus' loving, obedient death on the Cross undid, washed away, healed the disobedience of Adam, that is, the disobedience of the whole human race (Romans 5:12-21). What is that to me? So, stage two: by Baptism I express my faith in Christ. By myself I am helpless and hopeless, so I put all my trust in Christ. In Baptism I am plunged into Christ, plunged into Christ's death, and emerge from the waters soaked and dripping with Christ's risen life (Romans 6:1-11). Stage three: permeated with, or vivified with, this risen life of Christ, I am adopted into the sonship of God and can cry out 'Abba, Father' with the voice of Jesus himself. The inheritance of Jesus as Son of God is now my inheritance too. So Pentecost is the celebration of the Spirit of Jesus alive and active in every Christian.*

*Where and in whom have you found the Spirit of Jesus "alive and Active"?*

**“ Pentecost is the celebration of the Spirit of Jesus  
alive and active in every Christian. ”**

The Wednesday Word: *Connecting Home, School & Parish through the Word of God*  
w: [www.wednesdayword.org](http://www.wednesdayword.org) e: [info@wednesdayword.org](mailto:info@wednesdayword.org)