ST MARGARET'S PAGE

Pentecost Sunday 31st May 2020

In Peter writes: Were one to be asked as to what is the central message of the Gospel, most of us would become over-complicated too quickly, trying to offer everything at once while at the same time not wishing to offend sensibilities. All that ensues in such a scenario is confusion, the content sounds strangled and the motivation to believe obscure. Pope Francis sees the confusion stemming from mistaking catechesis, what we learn mainly as children and apologetics, how to argue for the faith, for primary proclamation. The Solemnity of Pentecost is the appropriate moment to rediscover the primary preaching of the Church which is none other than what St Peter's and the Apostles addressed to the crowds in Jerusalem in the then known languages of the world.

This primary proclamation has been expressed by Pope Francis in these simple terms; 'Jesus Christ loves you; He gave His life to save you; and now He is living at your side every day to enlighten, strengthen and free you'. The tongues of fire that descended on the Apostles, gave them the power to accept, make their own and communicate this message. Those same tongues of fire descend upon us sacramentally at Baptism and Confirmation, but only come alive when we encounter Jesus later. Believing as a Christian involves accepting into our hearts only what Jesus Christ can achieve, give us back our full humanity, and that is what one would automatically wish to share with others. Meeting Jesus brings with it the desire to testify about His love and power.

The rush to be complicated is the trait of those who either wish to hide something or who remain fundamentally unconvinced by the power of the original argument. Not every problem can be reduced to one simple sentence as many issues require more sentences to explain but clarity of thought and intention are fundamental for effective communication. So, talk about the Church's social teaching, its vast network of hospitals, its educational



empire, the great works of Christian art, architecture and literature is to

place the emphasis in the wrong place. All these are worthwhile enterprises and achievements but without the warm heart of personal faith become empty shells. Others with no faith, men and women of good will, are quite capable of producing all the above.

The structures of traditional Catholicism may survive as empty shells for a few generations but their hearts have gone cold and the care disappeared. The tales of abuse and neglect that have scarred the Church are testimony to the disappearance of care and warm heart in too many institutions. Yet though a structureless Church, and some sort of spiritual anarchy might attract some, for the rest of us we need some basic order to orientate and ground our lives. This starts with our basic domestic routines that bring food to the table and a roof over the head. St Paul demonstrates that much the same is needed for faith. His insistence that the Church is the Body of Christ implies a physical organisational presence, with the different parts working in harmony. This Body, and so every Catholic organisation, has the Holy Spirit at its heart. It is the perfect description of the Catholic institution whether family, parish, school, hospital or Diocese.

This Pentecost, celebrated in unique circumstances, is the moment to invite the Holy Spirit into your heart to accept the basic message of the Gospel; 'Jesus Christ loves you; He gave His life to save you; and now He is living at your side every day to enlighten, strengthen and free you'. The joy of spiritual liberation and selfunderstanding cannot but effect every aspect of our lives as we share that message with others. Everyone needs this Gospel message, and everyone has the right to hear it too. Pentecost brought the Holy Spirit, it also marks the beginning of the Church's public mission of proclamation. This is the day to begin our personal, collective Parish spiritual renewal ready for when we are allowed back to worship in the Church building.

MASS INTENTIONS June - Monday 1 st - Sunday 7 th			
Mon 1 st	10.00am Mass	June Barnett (RIP) (Walker)	
Tue 2 nd	10.00 am Mass	Alan Picton (RIP)	
		(Vicky Phelan)	
Wed 3 rd	10.00 am Mass	Fr Christopher Gawecki (RIP)	
		(Gawecki Family)	
Thu 4 th	10.00 am Mass	For all children & teachers	
		returning to school	
Fri 5 th	10.00 am Mass	All those who are struggling	
		to cope with the current	
		situation	
Sat 6 th	10.00am Mass	All those struggling to find	
		work	
Sun 7 th	10.30am Mass	For you the people	

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Mary Reagan, Pauline Slawson, Janet McAllister, Ben, Mark Titmus, Carol Samba, Colin Bartram, Gerry McEntee, Rose Williams, Peter Coughlan, Hilary Sudell, Rose Lorden, William Hamilton, Mary Arnold, Cesar Juan Urrutigoity, Mary Ethel Arnolda, Sydney and Patricia Parkes, Judith Thomas, Wanda Ostrowska, Christopher Browne, Antonella Sesta, Margaret Masterson, Bernard Sharratt, Carmen Ruibal, Ann Macpherson, Chris McLoughlin (son of Olga), Paul Costello and Kevin Sweeney

RECENTLY DECEASED

Donal Dwyer (brother of Mary Ibbett), Rose Mitchell, Ann Noble, Juliane Ditsche, Antonio Lopes, Muriel Kelly, Juliet Grafton, Karina Kinnear

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like Mass said for your intentions or for the repose of the soul of someone, please contact Cynthia via <u>email</u> (stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk). She will compile the list which will be published on the Parish website each week.

Fr Peter offers up the Sunday Mass for the intentions of all the Parish, but Masses may be said for specific intentions from Monday to Saturday.

THE FINANCIAL WELFARE OF ST MARGARET'S

The St Margaret's <u>Virgin Money Giving</u> is now live. This is a secure method for giving. If you are using the St. Margaret's website, you will find the Virgin Money Giving under the 'Support' tab.

Even if you are only able to donate less than you might normally do, every gift is valuable.

Thank you to everyone for your generosity.

PENTECOST CARDS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF LYNDE HOUSE

Thank you to all families who have taken time to make the cards. I am sure they will bring tremendous joy to the residents. We will post feedback soon.





Take part in the Friends of Westminster Cathedral Lockdown Online Quiz on Tuesday 2 June at 6.30pm on the Friends of Westminster Cathedral Facebook Page.

The quiz is free to enter but we are asking if you might make a £5 per head donation. All monies raised will help to support Westminster Cathedral. Parish virtual teams are welcome and may communicate using Zoom, Microsoft Teams, WhatsApp etc.

For more details and to enter email <u>christinawhite@rcdow.org.uk</u>

Please note that the Friends page is private and you will need to join the page in advance to take part in the quiz.

LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN

CAFOD are offering a webinar of a Liturgy of the Word with Children at home. Parents and children are encouraged to join online for prayers and reflection on this Sunday's Gospel. It is based on CAFOD children's liturgy resources.



Please use <u>link to register</u>: After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

For family support, TenTen are also making freely available resources for families, called Prayers for Home, which include '<u>Sunday Liturgy for Families'</u> and '<u>Daily Prayers for Home</u>'



Please find the link to **LOOK**, color in sheets to find what is in the Gospel today.



Building Missionary Parishes, Forming Missionary Disciples

RESOURCING THE LOCKDOWN

We hope you will find something of real benefit here for you as we journey together through this extraordinary period in our lives. Please find the bulletin from the Agency for Evangelisation, **Resourcing the Lockdown**.

Fr Alan Robinson, Rector of the Corpus Christi Shrine in Covent Garden, has highlighted an invitation from the organisers of the postponed Eucharistic Congress to unite the world in prayer around the Blessed Sacrament by holding a Holy Hour on **Saturday 13th June**, the Vigil of Corpus Christi. There is no set time or programme for this. More information, as well as the possibility of registering participation, can be found on the official website: corpusdomini.iec2020.hu.

Please find a poster for this event.

As Fr Alan from Covent Garden invites us, "Let us light up London on the map!".

Fr Stephen Willis, Parish Priest and Rector of the Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden has produced a virtual May Procession and Devotion. The Cardinal has offered a reflection as part of the online Service, with prayers and meditations on the Luminous Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary led by the priests and people of those parishes. The whole thing can be seen here: https://youtu.be/93aGmi9wEg4

Please find a pdf file of images for use on social media with the hashtag **#<u>FaithInLockdown</u>**. Secondly, short <u>Sunday reflections</u> for the month of June, compiled by Fr Javier Ruiz-Ortiz at Bow, continuing our journey through this Year of the Word.

Fr Chris Vipers

Parish Priest of Moorfields and Bunhill Row Director of the Agency for Evangelisation

READINGS & GOSPEL

<u>Pentecost Sunday – 31st May</u>

Reading 1 Acts 2:1- 11	They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak.
Psalm Ps 103: 1. 24. 29-31. 34 r. 30	In the one Spirit we were all baptised.
Common Psalm Ps 103: 1. 24.29-31 .34 r. cf.30	Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.
Sequence	Veni Sancte Spiritus Holy Spirit, Lord of light
Gospel Acclamation	Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Gospel John 20:19-23	As the Father sent me, so am I sending you: receive the Holy Spirit

<u>The Most Holy Trinity</u> Sunday after Pentecost- 7TH June

Reading 1 Exod 34:4-6, 8-9	Lord, Lord, a God of tenderness and compassion.
Psalm Dan 3:52-56 r. 52	To you glory and praise for evermore.
Reading 2 2 Cor 13:11-13	The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.
Gospel Acclamation Apoc 1:8	Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, the God who is, who was, and who is to come.

The Most Holy Body & Blood of the Lord
Sunday after Trinity Sunday – 14th JuneReading 1He fed you with manna which
neither you nor your fathers had
known.PsalmO praise the Lord, Jerusalem!Ps 147:12-15, 19-
20 r. 12OR

Alleluia!

Reading 2 That there is only one loaf 1 Cor 10:16-17 means that, though there are many of us, we form a single body. Sequence Lauda Sion salvatorem. optional Sing forth, O Zion, sweetly sing. Gospel I am the living bread which has Acclamation come down from heaven, says John 6:51-52 the Lord. Anyone who eats this bread will live forever. My flesh is real food and my Gospel John 6:51-58 blood is real drink.

Updates & Online Events

If you know anyone in the parish who is not receiving updates and The Page and would be keen to hear from St. Margaret's & its online events or join in with Fr Peter for the daily online mass, please let me know via email (stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org .uk) and I will glad to set it up for them.



Pause for Faith: Catholic life, conversations and prayer with Fr Stephen Wang

Join <u>Fr Stephen Wang</u> each day as he live streams on the new YouTube channel <u>'Pause for Faith</u>' - For some inspiration and spiritual support during the Lockdown

It's an informal conversation about living the Christian faith, with some Catholic history, the lives of the saints, Christian teaching, spiritual traditions, practical tips for everyday life, contemporary issues facing the Church and the world, some Q&A and interviews.

Don't be alone! The whole point of live streaming is that you can join a community of viewers who are watching and praying together.





<u>Online Garden Party in College Garden,</u> <u>Westminster</u>

Friday 5th June, from 6pm, to commemorate 40 years of The Passage and its work helping people to overcome homelessness.

Hosted by **BBC Gardener's World's, Adam Frost,** live from his spectacular back garden, spend a peaceful summer's evening with us as we celebrate gardening and mark our anniversary.

Sit back and enjoy gardening tips and secrets from Adam, while tucking in to a suggested menu at home from The Passage's very own **Head Chef, Claudette Dawkins;** which you can pair with a refreshing gin cocktail, recommended by HMS Spirits, who are offering 20% off their products for all attendees.

Hear directly from the frontline, via staff at The Passage who have been supporting homeless people in a range of innovative ways during the pandemic, and take part in our auction for a chance of winning some fantastic lots to keep you occupied right the way through lockdown!

All whilst serenaded throughout the evening by a variety of live music and entertainment. To sign up and for more details visit

https://passage.org.uk/get-involved/events/virtualgarden-party/

There is no charge for this event but of course donations are most welcome.



THANK YOU!