

PENTECOST SUNDAY OF EASTER Year B - 19th May 2024

PENTECOST – BIRTHDAY OF THE CHURCH!

This is how today's Feast is sometimes described. The Apostles, gathered with Mary in a room out of sight and full of anxiety, are suddenly changed. The Holy Spirit of God, promised by Jesus, arrives and transforms them into people ready to 'go out to the whole world to proclaim the Good News'. No longer timid, nervous and afraid – they become bold and ready to communicate with anyone who will listen. And there is an audience ready and receptive: no matter where they come from, no matter what their native language, they are able to understand the message the Apostles proclaim. The Good News knows no bounds and is given to everyone, without exception. The only qualifying factor is people's readiness to receive and to hear this Good News.

As we pray for the Holy Spirit to take charge of us, shaping our personal choices and decisions, we pray too for things to change on a larger scale. Various politicians have warned recently that in the world today we face increased disruption and conflict in the coming years. This happens because leaders make bad decisions which seldom help their own people but instead are aimed at securing their own futures – no matter the cost in lives and livelihoods. It is now more than two years since President Putin ordered his troops to invade neighbouring Ukraine. Since last October the situation in the Middle East engulfing Gaza and Israel has left all of us appalled and distraught for the many innocent people suffering the consequences. Other conflicts pop up in the news periodically: the famine in Sudan; civil war in Yemen fuelled by other countries; the military oppression in Myanmar; ongoing agony caused by the Taliban in Afghanistan; Iraq, Syria and Iran where human rights have been crushed. Only this week the Prime Minister of Slovakia was shot, and protesters were on the streets in Georgia. We must never stop praying for these situations too – asking God to send his Spirit to challenge and change the hearts of those who have the power to steer a better course.

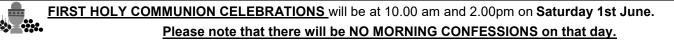
Next Thursday I leave for Lourdes to take part in the International Military Pilgrimage (IMP). I return the following Monday. This annual pilgrimage began in 1958 as an act of reconciliation between the French and German nations after the Second World War. The United Kingdom has supported this event for many years, at the invitation of the French Minister of Defence. There will be around 16,000 participants – all serving personnel wear uniform (sadly those of us who are no longer serving have to wear civilian attire!) and there are military bands taking part. There will also be personnel involved who were wounded, in body and mind, in recent conflicts such as Afghanistan and Iraq. It just so happens that the group of students from St Peter's School, who our parishes are supporting financially, will be there at the same time, so I'll look out for them. In my absence I am very grateful to Father Brendan and Father Denis for celebrating Mass. Whilst in Lourdes I shall, of course, pray for you. 'Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love'. *Father John*

<u>YOU ARE INVITED</u> to a Celebration of Thanksgiving for the presence for 75 years of the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in this area, on Sunday 23rd June at 10.00am.

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The Convent closed last year, but some of the Sisters will be with us, along with friends, as we give thanks, and say farewell.

Everyone is welcome to enjoy hospitality with us after Mass in the Parish Centre.



DATE CHANGE: SVP Tea Gathering has had to be brought forward by a week. It will now be in the Memorial Room on Thursday 23rd May from 2.00pm to 3.30pm. All welcome

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REFUGEES AT HOME. https://refugeesathome.org **Information Evening Tuesday 21st May** 7.15pm (refreshments) **7.30pm** in St Mary's Catholic Church 211A Wimborne Rd, Poole, BH15 2EG **Do you have a spare room?** Could you accommodate a refugee at risk of homelessness? Hosting is only ever temporary and can be as short as a few days.

<u>CAFOD THANK YOU</u> to our parish for the generous support for their Lent appeal and for all that our parish has done this year to share hope and compassion to those in need. This support helps them to work with others around the world to build a better, firer, kinder future.

<u>STELLA MARIS</u> Catholic maritime charity Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea) is very grateful for this parish's prayer and financial support of its work on Sea Sunday last year. To report back on the use of those funds, it invites parishioners to join an online update and thank you webinar on **Tuesday 28th May from 7:30pm to 9:00pm**. You will hear about the impact of your generosity on the lives of seafarers, fishers, and their families over the last year. Its CEO and chaplains will share inspiring stories of how they have helped seafarers and fishers through your support. **To register for this virtual event, please visit www.stellamaris.org.uk/thankyou2024**

<u>DIOCESAN LIFE IN THE SPIRIT COURSE on ZOOM</u> - 7 Sessions starting on Thursday evenings, from 6th June to 18th July 2024 from 7.30pm until 9pm. Live Holy Spirit Day for course participants at St Bede's Church in Basingstoke on Saturday 29th June starting 9.30am with Mass until 1pm. Adoration at 8.30am optional! Tea and coffee will be provided. Welcome to bring and share packed lunch afterwards. Please use this link to register – https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/ register/tZllf--trDwjGNAuzzyTiLVcwy7lzHwq87dG Free to all – Crowdfunding to cover costs - https://www.justgiving.com/ crowdfunding/CHARISPortsmouthLIFEINTHESPIRITcourse

<u>A CELEBRATION OF CERAMIC ART</u> East Dorset Potters will be exhibiting in the Gallery at Walford Mill Crafts centre BH21 1NL until 16th June. There will also be pottery demonstrations during Dorset Arts Week. *See poster.*

MONTEVERDI VESPERS OF 1610 University Music Choir & Orchestra **Thursday 30th May at 7.30pm** in St Ambrose Church, Westbourne. Tickets £15 on the door (students free) Card payments only - to reserve seats email: musicadmin@bournemouth.ac.uk See poster.

<u>BROADWAY SHOWTUNES - A NEW WORLD</u>. A production by **Big Little Theatre School** at **Bournemouth Pavilion** from 11th - 13th July at 7.30pm. Tickets from £18.50 from the box office or scan QR code on the poster.

FLAME 2025 The largest YOUTH gathering of Catholics, taking place at the OVO Arena, Wembley on **Saturday 15th March 2025**, with the theme Unstoppable. Join with other young Catholics at Flame, enjoy modern inspirational faith filled music, hear motivational speakers, share the faith and spend time in prayer. **Early Bird tickets** can be purchased now at £29 per person before the **30th September 2024** after which the price will increase to £35.

All young parishioners, school or university, confirmed Catholics or not are WELCOME! The only stipulation is that they are in at **least Year 9**, so around 14. Of course, all minors will need to be accompanied. There will be loud music at the event together with bright lights and moments of stillness. Accessible seating is available however it is essential that need is communicated at least 6 weeks in advance of Flame by emailing youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

A coach will run from Portsmouth Cathedral at 8am directly to the OVO Arena. Seats can be booked for the coach at £23 each, by contacting youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. Any questions you have about the event can be answered by emailing youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or by phoning 07780 221686 *Event organised by Canon PJ Smith*

FREE WILL WRITING OFFER FROM THE DIOCESE The Diocese have partnered with expert will writers, Octopus Legacy, to make giving a gift in your will to the Church even easier, though of course in claiming your FREE Will, you are under no obligation make provision for the Diocese or your particular parish. Go to: https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/ support-our-work/make-your-free-will/ or call 0800 773 4014.

<u>VOCATIONS</u>: "Receive the Holy Spirit." Is the Holy Spirit preparing you to share the Lord's mission as a priest or religious brother or sister? Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869.

INTENTIONS: For an increased devotion to the Holy Spirit among our young people, as He leads them in their prayerful discernment to discover their vocation in Christ, we pray to the Lord.

FOOD BANK COLLECTIONS are Friday mornings 10.30-11.30am and at Saturday evening and Sunday Masses. Gifts may be dropped off in the church porch. **TINNED FOODS** always appreciated.

Don't Stress.	<u>GOOD LUCK</u> to all our
	young people who are
Do Your <u>Best</u> .	taking exams. Deep breath, keep calm and pray to the
Forget the Rest.	keep calm and pray to the Holy Spirit!

TO SET UP A STANDING ORDER (Can be Gift Aided) Go to your bank: You will need the parish business bank details, which are: CDP BOURNEMOUTH CORPUS CHRISTI Sort code 30-93-04. Parish Account number: 01786041 Or donate online at our website: http://www.corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk/ or on our Facebook page or to donate via Give As You Live, *click on the QR CODE*

<u>GIFT AID</u> If you are a UK taxpayer please consider Gift Aiding your donation. The parish can reclaim 25p for every £1 donated, at no extra cost to you. To join the Gift Aid scheme, or if you want an annual box of offertory envelopes, please send contact details to: **accounts@corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk** Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Reg. Charity No.1199568

