



Please pray for: Frank & Alice May Purcell (deceased)

Mass Times: Sunday 31st May 2020 – Pentecost Sunday – Solemnity (A)

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| Sunday, 31 May | No Mass | Solemn Mass |
| Sunday, 31 May | No Mass | Young Adults Mass |
| Monday, 01 Jun | No Mass | Mary, Mother of the Church (Memorial) |
| Tuesday, 02 Jun | No Mass | Sts Marcellinus & Peter, martyrs (Optional) |
| Wednesday, 03 Jun | No Mass | Charles Lwanga & Comp (Memorial) |
| Thursday, 04 Jun | No Mass | Thursday – 9th Week, Ord Time |
| Friday, 05 Jun | No Mass | St Boniface, bishop, martyr (Memorial) |
| Saturday, 06 Jun | No Mass | Sts Norbert & Marcellin Champagnat (Opt) |

Regular Confession Times:

Monday to Friday: 11.45 am – 12.30 pm (before 12.35 pm Mass)
Sunday: 5.30 pm (before 6.00 pm Mass) (*Not available at this time*)

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office



If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on ph 02 9390 5812.



A VOCATION VIEW: 'You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? ... You are the light of the world ... let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.'

Matthew 5:13-16

Pentecost Sunday – this, the 'fiftieth day' concludes the season of Easter, the continuous single festival of the risen Christ. Pentecost, the Jewish feast of harvest, which also commemorates the giving of the Law of Moses, was the day when the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles (see Acts 2:1 ff). The event has been celebrated on this day at least since the third century. The joy of Pentecost is that the risen Christ breathes upon the Church and says, 'Receive the Holy Spirit' (John 20:22).

A Pentecost Prayer – God of Wind and Fire, we celebrate today the indwelling of Your Holy Spirit which You sent upon the believers on the day of Pentecost and which is our blessing today. Lord, we thank You for the transforming work of Your Holy Spirit in our lives and through our lives toward others. We thank You that You have given us boldness to proclaim the Gospel. Remind us to use Your power to do the work You have given us. Amen.

The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church – the Second Vatican Council presented the Virgin Mary in its document on the Church and in 1964 proclaimed the title Mother of the Church. Christ on the Cross entrusted his mother to St John: This is your mother. The memorial, on the day after Pentecost, remembers her presence among the disciples of Christ from the beginning.

Streaming of Sunday Mass – from St James' Parish, Glebe – 5pm

Sunday Mass is now being celebrated by the Dominican community and streamed from St James' Parish in Glebe (Forest Lodge) at 5pm each Sunday. Here is the link to this Sunday's Mass – Pentecost Sunday (31st May 2020) – <https://youtu.be/KkTB4foVkMc>

Sunday Mass – is also televised by **Channel Ten**, every Sunday at **6am** – this service is called '*Mass for you at Home*' – and is televised from various Catholic churches around Australia.

Prayer Resources during time of Pandemic – The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney has a dedicated webpage with prayers and scriptural reflections to help nurture your faith during these difficult times: <https://www.sydneycatholic.org/coronavirus-updates/prayer-resources-for-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

The Jesuit Refugee Service is seeking food for their Foodbank & (new) Winter blankets at Two Wolves Community Cantina, (Cnr Broadway & City Rd) Mon-Fri–11am-2pm. Please contact Ramesh Richards, SJ, to arrange – Ramesh.Richards@thecardonerproject.org – or 0426 366 544 – thank you.

Urgent Appeal for Personal Hygiene products – for Seafarers

Donations of personal hygiene products are urgently sought for Care Packages being put together for the thousands of seafarers currently stranded on ships in Sydney waters. Chaplain to the Seafarers, Sr Mary Leahy, rsj, says donations of shampoo, body-wash, toothpaste, deodorant, razors, knitted beanies and chocolates are desperately needed. Sr Mary has spent the past 20 years helping those who earn a living on the seas and says she has never seen conditions so dire. In this area, Mary Immaculate Parish at Waverley has kindly agreed to be a drop-off point for these hygiene product donations. Thank you for your support.

St Benedict's now has its own Tap and Go Donation Point!

As a society, we're using our plastic cards more and carrying cash less. For the convenience of our 'cashless' parishioners, we have installed a *Tap and Go* quest donation terminal, located at the back of the church, on the right side. With a simple tap of your credit card (or mobile or watch) you can contribute to our parish. **Each 'Tap' is valued at \$5** and is a **NON tax-deductible** donation that supports the running, upkeep and maintenance of the parish. These donations are regarded as part of the 'Loose (or Second) Collection'. Please note: Visa or Mastercard are accepted – and no receipts or refunds can be issued. You can tap multiple times if you wish to donate more than \$5. (Example: to donate \$20, please tap four (4) times, as directed).



Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! / Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful / and kindle in them the fire of your love. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 20:19-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you'.

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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RECONCILING SPIRIT

Today's rich array of scriptural readings brings out the Church's sense of being a community equipped by the Spirit to take up the mission of Jesus.

The first reading, from the Acts of the Apostles, locates the imparting of the Spirit on the Jewish feast of Pentecost, a pilgrimage feast celebrated fifty days after Passover.

In biblical tradition, wind and fire signal the presence and power of God, as when Israel stood before God at Mount Sinai. What is described here seems to be a central fiery mass from which distinct 'tongues' ('as if of fire': not real fire!) separate off and come to rest on individuals.

The sense is that the Spirit, which rested solely upon Jesus during his own life, is now, as he promised (Luke 24:49), being distributed among those who are to carry on his mission – in first instance to Israel, eventually 'to the ends of the earth' (Acts 1:8).

The variety of people who hear and understand the testimony of the apostles in their own language foreshadows this worldwide mission. In many languages the Church will communicate the single message of God's reconciling love.

The Gospel (John 20:19-23) associates the gift of the Spirit more closely with the resurrection. On Easter Sunday evening the risen Lord breathes out upon his disciples the Spirit that will empower them to take up the mission that he has received from the Father. Central to this will be passing on the reconciliation ('whose sins you shall forgive ...') that he, as Lamb of God (1:29), has brought into the world.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

FIRST READING

Acts 2:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.

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.'

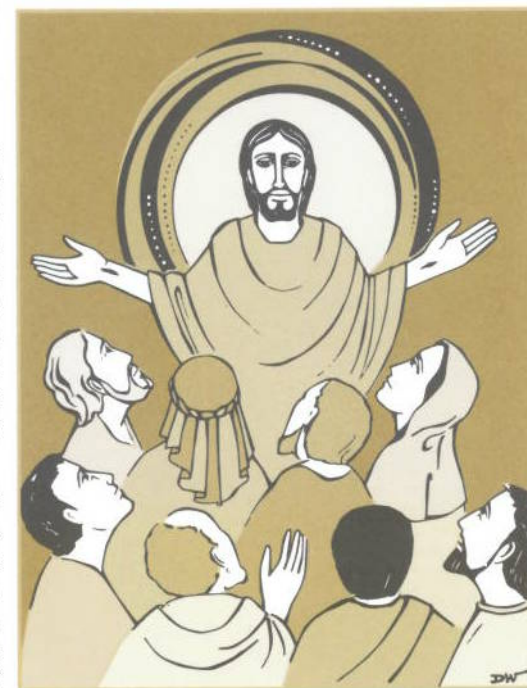
■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34. R. v. 30

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. (or Alleluia.)

1. Bless the Lord, my soul! / Lord God, how great you are! / How many are your works, O Lord! / The earth is full of your riches. **R.**
2. You take back your spirit, they die, / returning to the dust from which they came. / You send forth your spirit, they are created; / and you renew the face of the earth. **R.**



3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever! / May the Lord rejoice in his works! / May my thoughts be pleasing to him. / I find my joy in the Lord. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.