



## OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

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**Office Hours:** Tues/Wed 9am-5pm Thurs 9am-2pm

*Twinned with the Parish of Ermelo in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa*



## PARISH NEWS

10th May 2020

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)



## VICTORY IN EUROPE CELEBRATION WEEKEND



**8th May 1945 - 8th May 2020**

**Do you know anyone who needs support; physically, emotionally or spiritually? Please contact Fr David on 01376 326779 or Sue at [susiehowell@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:susiehowell@tiscali.co.uk).**

**SICK PARISHIONERS:** Please pray for all our parishioners in this uncertain time. We remember especially: Gwen Rushton, Elvira Kitteridge, Kathy McBrierty, Mary Davis, Catherine Hughes, Cecilia Omoyinbo, Val Harding, Kathleen Haigh, Mary McGrath, Mary Rooney, Megan Delaney, Isaac Barry, Sandra Gilbert, Peter Beard, Bernard Boylan, Chris Brodie, Barbara Mansell, Janet Cash, Mary Delaney, Josie Pullum, Frances Weaver, Rachel Stokes, Bob Bothello, Brenda Sewell, Maria Wray and Fran Wetton.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Rita Tarpey, Evelyn Matthewman, Elizabeth Jarvis, John Fahy, Josephine Sochan, Michael Lane, Mary Blackmur, Erika Peagram, Violet Amos, Maria Castellazzi, Maria Sarnicka, Catherine Smoothy, Anthony de Souza and Marie Day. May they all rest in peace.

**PRAYERS:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Fran Wetton**, who has died this week, after a short illness. We offer our deepest sympathies to Mick, and their children Christopher, Clare and Marie. May she rest in peace.

**APPEAL FROM POPE FRANCIS:** On 4th February 2019, Pope Francis and the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar met in Abu Dhabi to sign the Document on Human Fraternity - a joint statement calling for the reconciliation of people of goodwill in service of universal peace. With the support of the United Arab Emirates, who themselves are deeply committed to harmonious coexistence through dialogue and understanding, the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity was founded [www.forhumanfraternity.org/](http://www.forhumanfraternity.org/). Pope Francis made the following appeal on Wednesday: *"As prayer is a universal value, I have accepted the proposal of the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity so that on **Thursday 14th May** believers of all religions unite spiritually in a Day of Prayer and Fasting and Works of Charity, to implore God to help humanity overcome the coronavirus pandemic. Remember: May 14, all believers together, believers of different traditions, to pray, fast, and do works of charity."* Please join in this initiative however you can.

**OFFERINGS:** If anyone would like to donate to the parish, then please visit: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=braintree>.



### **MARRIAGE MATTERS - FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER:**

***Acts 6:1-7. 1 Peter 2:4-9. John 14:1-12***

***'I am in you and you are in me'***



Jesus says, "To have seen me is to have seen the Father". In our married life, through the visible sign of the way we love each other, when people meet one of us we can be a sign that 'when seeing me, you see the one I love, in me and with me', thus emulating Jesus' relationship with His Father.

**CATHOLIC TIMES/UNIVERSE NEWSPAPERS:** If you would like a newspaper, delivered to your home address, please telephone 0161 820 5722 or order online at: [www.thecatholicuniverse.com](http://www.thecatholicuniverse.com).

## **READINGS FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER:**

### **First Reading**

*Acts 6:1-7*

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

### **Second Reading**

*1 Peter 2:4-9*

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: *See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed.* That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

## Gospel

*John 14:1-12*

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled.

Trust in God still, and trust in me.

There are many rooms in my Father’s house;  
if there were not, I should have told you.

I am going now to prepare a place for you,  
and after I have gone and prepared you a place,

I shall return to take you with me;

so that where I am

you may be too.

You know the way to the place where I am going.’

Thomas said, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going,  
so how can we know the way?’ Jesus said:

‘I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

No one can come to the Father except through me.

If you know me, you know my Father too.

From this moment you know him and have seen him.’

Philip said, ‘Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.’

‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip,’ said Jesus to him

‘and you still do not know me?

‘To have seen me is to have seen the Father;

so how can you say, “Let us see the Father”?

Do you not believe

that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?

The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:

it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.

You must believe me when I say

that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;

believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

I tell you most solemnly,

whoever believes in me

will perform the same works as I do myself,

he will perform even greater works,

because I am going to the Father.’



## THE STRUGGLE OF A BUTTERFLY

A man found a cocoon of a butterfly. One day, a small opening appeared. He sat and watched the butterfly for several hours as it struggled to force its body through that little hole.

Then, it seemed to stop making any progress. It appeared as if it had gotten as far as it could and it could go no further. So the man decided to help the butterfly. He took a pair of scissors and snipped off the remaining bit of the cocoon.



The butterfly then emerged easily, but it had a swollen body and small, shrivelled wings. The man continued to watch the butterfly because he expected that, at any moment, the wings would enlarge and expand to be able to support the body, which would contract in time.

Neither happened! In fact, the butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a swollen body and shrivelled wings. It never was able to fly.

What the man, in his kindness and haste, did not understand was that the restricting cocoon, and the struggle required for the butterfly to get through the tiny opening, were God's way of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into its wings, so that it would be ready for flight once it achieved its freedom from the cocoon.

Sometimes struggles are exactly what we need in our lives too. If God allowed us to go through our lives without any obstacles, we would not be as strong as what we could have been.



***"I asked for strength, and God gave me difficulties to make me strong.  
I asked for wisdom, and God gave me problems to solve.  
I asked for prosperity, and God gave me a brain and brawn to work.  
I asked for courage, and God gave me danger to overcome.  
I asked for love, and God gave me troubled people to help.  
I asked for favours, and God gave me opportunities.  
I received nothing I asked for but everything I needed!"***

## DRAWING A PICTURE OF JESUS

A kindergarten teacher was walking around her classroom while her students drew pictures. One little girl was scribbling so intently that the teacher asked what she was drawing. The little girl replied, "I'm drawing a picture of Jesus." The teacher said, "Oh honey, nobody really knows for sure what Jesus looked like." The little girl, without missing a beat, responded, "They will in a minute."



## STANDING AT THE GATES OF HEAVEN

At the end of the age when all the believers were standing in line waiting to get into heaven, the angel Gabriel appeared and said, "I want all the men to form two lines. One line will be for the men who were the true heads of their households. The other will be for the men who were dominated by their wives."

Gabriel continued, "And now we need all of the women to report to Mary and Martha on the other side of the gate."

The women left while the men hurriedly formed two lines. The line of men who were dominated by their wives was seemingly unending. The line of men who were the true head of their household had just one man standing in it.

Gabriel said to the first line, "You men ought to be ashamed of yourselves. You were appointed to be the heads of your households and you have not fulfilled your purpose. Of all of you, there is only one man who obeyed."

Then Gabriel turned to the lone man and asked, "How did you come to be in this line?"

The man sheepishly replied, "My wife told me to stand here."

## WHEN GOD ANSWERS PRAYERS

After starting a new diet I altered my drive to work to avoid passing my favourite bakery. I accidentally drove by the bakery this morning and as I approached, there in the window were a host of chocolates, donuts, and cheesecakes.



I felt this was no accident, so I prayed ... "Lord, it's up to You. If You want me to have any of those delicious goodies, create a parking place for me directly in front of the bakery."

And sure enough, on the eighth time around the block, there it was! God is so good!

## ENGLISH COUNTIES ANAGRAM PUZZLE - ANSWERS

Did you manage to find all the English Counties hidden in the anagrams?

<b>FRESHER DO BID</b> <i>Bedfordshire</i>	<b>GHOSTLIER RESCUE</b> <i>Gloucestershire</i>
<b>TENK</b> <i>Kent</i>	<b>MIXED SLED</b> <i>Middlesex</i>
<b>STARFISH OF RED</b> <i>Staffordshire</i>	<b>RICKSHAW WIRE</b> <i>Warwickshire</i>
<b>HIPS OR HERS</b> <i>Shropshire</i>	<b>PRIME HASH</b> <i>Hampshire</i>
<b>HYBRID SEER</b> <i>Derbyshire</i>	<b>NIGHTMARISH NOTE</b> <i>Nottinghamshire</i>

## SPORTS ANAGRAM PUZZLE

Are you longing to continue with the sport you love, or perhaps you're missing watching the sport on the TV? Can you solve these anagrams?

<b>A WET FEW RAN IT RIGHT</b> (5,5,7)	<b>GET WIN IF LIGHT</b>
<b>RING WELTS</b>	<b>LOB ALOFT</b>
<b>LITHE CATS</b>	<b>ROMAN HAT</b>
<b>MINOR GO CART (5,6)</b>	<b>WIN FUN GRIDS</b>
<b>BALK TABLES</b>	<b>FLOG</b>

Answers will be in the newsletter next week

## MASS INTENTIONS

Whilst the church is closed until further notice, Fr David will be saying Mass privately, every day, and will pray for you and your families and ask for God's protection for us all at this difficult time.

**This week, Fr David will be saying the following Private Masses:**

Saturday 9th May	People of the Parish
Sunday 10th May <b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)</b>	Ints Deacon Gary May and Family (McKay)
Monday 11th May	Ints Sister Nora Hartigan (Maher)
Tuesday 12th May <b>St John Houghton</b>	Ints All Teenagers and Their Families (Norton)
Wednesday 13th May <b>St Erconwald</b>	Ints Franciscan Sisters
Thursday 14th May <b>ST MATTHIAS</b>	Fran Wetton RIP (Digby)
Friday 15th May	Ints James Black (McKay)
Saturday 16th May	Ints Mick Wetton and Family
Sunday 17th May <b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)</b>	People of the Parish

<b>St Francis Primary School</b> Headteacher: Vicky Jackson Gilchrist Way Braintree, CM7 2SY 01376 320440 <a href="http://www.stfrancisbraintree.co.uk">www.stfrancisbraintree.co.uk</a>	<b>St John Payne Secondary School</b> Headteacher: Tom Coen Patching Hall Lane Chelmsford, CM1 4BS 01245 256030 <a href="http://www.sjp.essex.sch.uk">www.sjp.essex.sch.uk</a>
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