



OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

Parish Priest: Monsignor David Manson

The Presbytery, The Avenue, Braintree, CM7 3HY
01376 326779

braintree@dioceseofbrentwood.org / www.olqp.co.uk

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

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

PARISH NEWS

31st May 2020

PENTECOST SUNDAY (A)

Dear Friends,

In the midst of the corona-virus pandemic, people have (rightly) been looking to see what vital lessons we might learn from our situation and what positive results we can bring out of this tragedy. One of the areas most frequently talked about is how we might better care for our planet and the environment. Over the past few weeks, the differences due to lack of pollution have been astonishing.

Quite co-incidentally (or maybe not), this past week has marked the fifth anniversary of Pope Francis' Encyclical Letter *Laudato Si'* which, of course, is about how human beings are called to care for Planet Earth, "our common home". The Holy Father concludes his Letter with two prayers for our planet and you will find the first of these on one of the inside pages of this newsletter. The second one is specifically addressed to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and given the fact that next Sunday is the Feast of the Holy Trinity, it seems appropriate to print that then.

In the meantime, this week's great Feast of Pentecost is a reminder of God's creative and powerful help for human beings in need. Whatever way we take part in Mass this weekend, I would particularly commend to you the response to the Psalm: "Send forth your Spirit. O Lord, and renew the face of the earth". At this time in our history, the relevance and reality of this prayer has never been more apposite and I invite each and every one of us to make this prayer our own, both this weekend and during the months ahead.

God bless you all,
Fr David



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.

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 and Maria Wray.

ANNIVERSARIES: Kevin Rathe, Fr John Timmins, Roy Crow, Margaret Planel, Hilda Kjawinski, David Spencer-Watkins, Ida McCartney, Sydney Saunders, Margaret Shelock, Mary Moran, Jack O'Keeffe and Victor Clancy. May they all rest in peace.

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR APPOINTMENT: We are pleased to inform you that **Clare Smith**, (nee Wetton), will be our new Parish Administrator and will start her training from 10th June. Sue Howell will be leaving at the end of June.

NATIONAL ROSARY RALLY: Pope Francis is encouraging Catholics to pray the Rosary, in their family homes, especially when the pandemic is making us aware of the value of our families and making it possible for us to pray together in lockdown at home. He encourages simple Rosaries and by joining online Rosary initiatives to pray to Our Lady for deliverance from COVID-19. On Pentecost Sunday, there will be a National Rosary Rally, from 9.00am to 9.00pm, across Scotland, England and Wales. Brentwood has been allotted 11.00am. At St Thomas of Canterbury (Grays) they are streaming the Rosary LIVE at 11.00am, followed by Holy Mass. To take part, visit www.grayscatholic.org.

PENTECOST SUNDAY: 31st May - 10.30am Mass for Confirmandi. With a special message from Bishop Alan at the start of Mass, and music recorded by soloists and groups of young people from across the Diocese, as well as Intercessions read by young people, this Mass is especially for those who would have been Confirmed today. The candidates for our parish will be confirmed, by Bishop Alan, in November (hopefully!). The Mass next week will be available on YouTube and Instagram - BrentwoodCYS, and more details of the Mass are at: <https://bcys.net/events/pentecost/>.

100 CLUB - MAY WINNERS: Congratulations to this month's winners! First Prize (£200): **Christie Hooper**. Second Prize (£50): **Agnes Hughes**. For £5 per month, you have the chance to win £200. Money that isn't paid out as prizes, goes towards church funds. If anyone is interested in finding out more about the 100 Club, please contact Sue on 01376 342017.



MARRIAGE MATTERS - PENTECOST SUNDAY:
Acts 2:1-11 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13 John 20:19-23



'The Spirit works in all sorts of different ways'

Years ago, on a Marriage Encounter weekend, we had a real experience of the Spirit working "in all sorts of different ways in different people", not in Church documents, but in real life. We were like the disciples at Pentecost, "filled with joy when they saw the Lord", and we heard our own native language, deep inside each of us.

OFFERINGS: If anyone would like to donate to the parish, then please contact Sue on 01376 342017, to obtain the bank details. Thank you.

**READINGS FOR
PENTECOST SUNDAY:**

First Reading

Acts 2:1-11

When Pentecost day came round, they 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.'

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:3-7,12-13

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

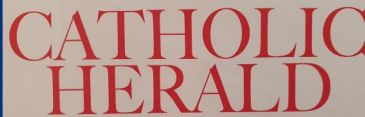
There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person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

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.

Gospel

John 20:19-23

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 logo for the Catholic Herald, featuring the words "CATHOLIC" and "HERALD" in a red, serif font, stacked vertically within a dark blue rectangular border.

From May, the Catholic Herald is changing from a weekly to a monthly publication. Subscribers will receive 12 monthly issues and will have 24 hour access to their new website, as well as a weekly podcast from Rome and our historic archives.

The print magazine will include expanded Vatican coverage from our Rome Bureau; more arts and books coverage, features which expand the mind; and the best spiritual writing and monthly religious calendar which helps us to live the faith, along with interviews that keep the church accountable.

A print and digital subscription will cost £59.99 a year, which is a 30% saving off their usual rate. A digital subscription is £45. For more information, visit: <https://catholicherald.co.uk/subscribe> or telephone 020 7448 3607.

LAUGH OUT LOUD....

Late one night, a burglar broke into a house he thought was empty. He tiptoed through the living room but suddenly he froze in his tracks when he heard a loud voice say: "Jesus is watching you!"

Silence returned to the house, so the burglar crept forward again.

"Jesus is watching you," the voice boomed again.

The burglar stopped dead again. He was frightened.

Frantically, he looked all around. In a dark corner, he spotted a bird cage and in the cage was a parrot. He asked the parrot:



"Was that you who said Jesus is watching me?" "Yes," said the parrot.

The burglar breathed a sigh of relief and asked the parrot:

"What's your name?" "Clarence," said the bird.

"That's a dumb name for a parrot," sneered the burglar.

"What idiot named you Clarence?" The parrot said,

"The same idiot who named the Doberman Jesus."



After the Baptism of his baby brother in church, little Johnny sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car.

His father asked him three times what was wrong.

Finally, the boy replied, "That priest said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, but I want to stay with you guys."

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples.

The nun made a note, and posted on the apple tray:

"Take only ONE. God is watching."



Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. A child had written a note,

"Take all you want. God is watching the apples."



A little boy was listening to a long and excessively boring sermon in church. Suddenly the red sanctuary lamp caught his eye.

Tugging his father's sleeve, he said,

"Daddy, when the light turns green can we go?"

FRUITS OF THE

Spirit

LOVE

PEACE

GENTLENESS

JOY

On the feast of Pentecost, the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit.

PATIENCE

We all demonstrate the fruits of the Spirit, in our everyday lives and now, more than ever, we need to practise them.

SELF-CONTROL

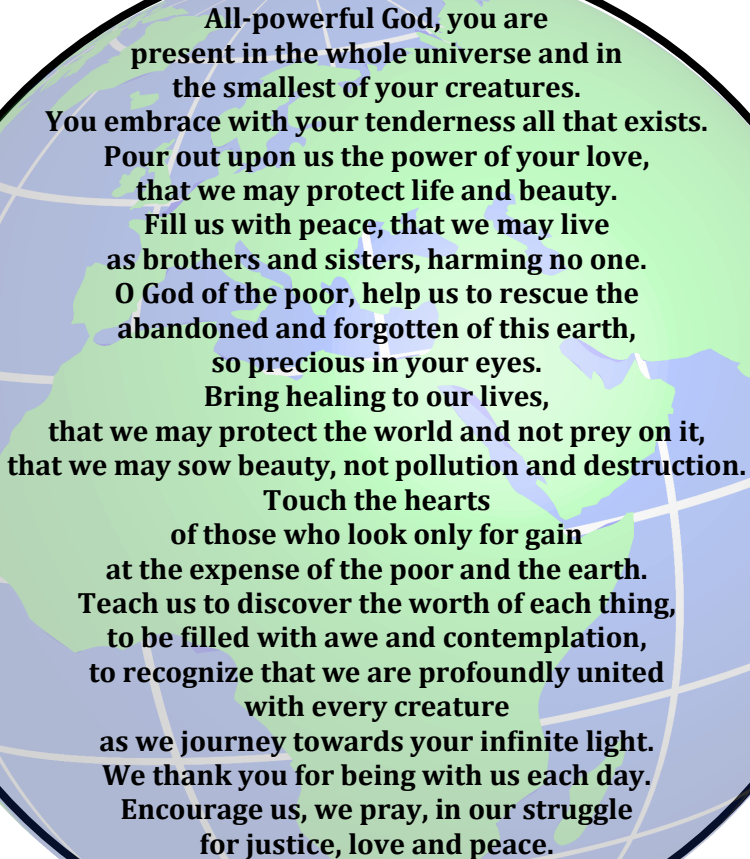
GENEROSITY

KINDNESS

FAITHFULNESS



A PRAYER FOR OUR EARTH



**All-powerful God, you are
present in the whole universe and in
the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.
O God of the poor, help us to rescue the
abandoned and forgotten of this earth,
so precious in your eyes.
Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.
Touch the hearts
of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united
with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.
We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace.**

Amen



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 30th May	Ints Michael Lobo (Henriques)
Sunday 31st May PENTECOST SUNDAY (A)	Mary and Vincent Monaghan RIP (Digby)
Monday 1st June Mary Mother of the Church	Pauline Barry RIP (Williamson)
Tuesday 2nd June	People of the Parish
Wednesday 3rd June St Charles Lwanga and his Comps	Mark Digby RIP (Digby)
Thursday 4th June OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST	Margaret Shelock RIP (A) (Shelock)
Friday 5th June St Boniface	Ints Franciscan Sisters
Saturday 6th June	Annie Wigfall RIP (Paul)
Sunday 7th June THE MOST HOLY TRINITY (A)	Irene McCarthy RIP (A) (Rodway)

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