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## Pentecost Sunday



Dear Friends,

The disciples are sent out with the same mission of the master! Just as the Father sent Jesus into the world, the disciples are sent with the good news of the father's forgiving, healing, reconciling, redeeming Grace! *"As the Father sent me, so I send you... receive the Holy Spirit."* Jesus was sent into the world to be the light, to heal, to forgive, to reconcile, to bring hope, to bring harmony, to call forth justice, to proclaim the Father's compassionate presence, to redeem, to take up the cross, to die and to rise again... The disciple are sent just the same way... *"As the father sent me, so I sent you" ...*

**What Jesus became for the disciples, the disciples must become for the world...**

**What Jesus did for the world the disciples must do...**

Today's Gospel passage says, *"He breathed on them and said, receive the Holy Spirit..."* Knowing well the limitations with which his disciples must live and work in the world, Jesus empowered them with his own Spirit. Jesus had spoken to the disciples much about the Holy Spirit.

He said to the disciples: *I will ask the Father and He will send you another helper who will stay with you forever (Jn.14:16). The helper, the Holy Spirit will teach you everything and make you remember all I have told you (Jn.14:26). The Spirit will give them courage to stand up and witness to him in the face of difficulties (Jn. 15:26-27). The Spirit will lead them into truth (Jn.16:7-8, 13). Jesus breathed on them and said: "receive the Holy Spirit" (Jn. 20:21-22). At Pentecost, the Spirit took "possession" of them (Acts 2:2-3). The Spirit transformed the disciples and Peter who denied knowing Jesus, so that they could go outside and begin preaching and proclaiming Jesus (Acts 2:15-17).*

- **The Holy Spirit is the Comforter that Jesus sends. ...**
- **The Holy Spirit is the advocate who pleads our cause, who stands beside us and articulates for us what we are unable to articulate...**
- **It is the Holy Spirit within us who helps us discern the call of God and empowers us to respond to God' call...**
- **Our witness to Christ is inspired and sustained by the Holy Spirit from within...**
- **Our witness comes from long, lasting fellowship and intimacy with Christ. The disciples were witnesses because they have been with him. We can witness Christ only when we have been with him. The spirit brings us into this fellowship with Christ and sustains that relationship...**
- **The witness comes from inner conviction, personal conviction. There can be no effective witness without personal conviction. The Spirit empowers, strengthens and sustains our conviction...**
- **The witness flows into outward testimony. A Christian witness is a person who not only knows Christ but wants others to know Christ. He is prepared to speak what is in his heart. The Spirit empowers the person to speak the truth that is in the heart...**
- **The Spirit gives courage to stand up and witness to him in the face of difficulties...**
- **In Scripture, the presence of the Holy Spirit is always an occasion of the return of harmony from chaos, freedom from slavery, rebirth from death...**

**Let us pray that we may experience the Holy Spirit rushing in with gifts that will transform us into "Sons and daughters of God".**

# Pentecost Day celebration



**Pentecost Day Celebration:** St. Peter's will be celebrating Pentecost Sunday as an international diversity day. Celebration includes traditional/national outfits, and mass readings, bidding prayers and hymns with languages from different countries. Please feel free to come in your traditional outfits to celebrate the diversity in our church.

## The Solemnity of Pentecost brings to close the Easter Season.

Date & Time	Place	Masses Requested	Saints & Feasts
Sat 18 <sup>th</sup> May 5.30pm	St. Peter's		Adoration followed by Mass
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> May 9.00am 11.00am	St. Michael's St. Peter's		<b>Solemnity of Pentecost Sunday</b>
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>No Mass</b>		<b>Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church - Memorial</b>
Tue 21 <sup>st</sup> May 9.30am	St. Peter's		
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 10.00am	St. Michael's	Clare's Int.	
Thu 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	<b>No Mass</b>		<b>Our Lord Jesus Christ, The Eternal High Priest - Feast</b>
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> May 9.30am	St. Peter's		<b>St. Adhelm, Bishop - Memorial</b>

### SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

In St. Peter's Saturday 5.15pm to 5.45pm

In St. Michael's Wednesday 10.45am to 11.15am and by appointment, please ring to arrange. Thank you.

**A Warm Welcome:** today is Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May. As always, we welcome visitors and newcomers to join our "regulars," asking Almighty God to bestow His blessings and graces on us all. You are most welcome to join us for coffee and tea in the Parish Hall.

**On Thursday** 23<sup>rd</sup> (May) as I would be joining our Bishop Bosco for the mass at the Cathedral followed by a meeting, there will be no mass at St. Peter's'.

**First Holy Communion in St. Peter's:** We will begin the preparation for First Holy Communion on the 26<sup>th</sup> of May. If you would like your child to participate, please complete the form placed at the back of the church and give it to Audrey, Cathy, or Fr. Maria. Classes will run from 10:00am on Sunday mornings every other week. Please could parents attend the first session.

# Quiz in St. Peter's

Please join us for an evening of fun.

There will be a quiz on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May at 7:30pm in St. Peter's Hall,  
Tables of 6. Ploughman's, wine, tea and coffee.

Tickets £10 children £5

Raffle

**Mass in the Cathedral as a celebration of Marriage and Family Life:** The bishop is celebrating Mass in the Cathedral on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May** at 12 noon inviting all families to join him to celebrate the joys and challenges of family life. In addition, we will celebrate those couples celebrating a significant anniversary during 2024. If you are, or know of a couple celebrating special anniversaries during 2024, please do let us know. You just need to send names to this email: [adult.education@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:adult.education@cliftondiocese.com) with the address so that a personal invitation can be sent to them from the bishop, including the number of years celebrating. It is always a wonderful Mass at the Cathedral, and it will be good to see you.

**The Eucharist:** A bond of love which can never be undone. There is an opportunity on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June** at **St Bernadette's Secondary School, Whitchurch, Bristol**, for the whole diocese to deepen our understanding and love for the Eucharist as we grow in our desire to be a people of communion, participating together as the Body of Christ so that we may be the Body of Christ to the world. It is particularly appropriate for parishioners who are Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist and would fulfil the requirement for the annual retreat in preparation for recommissioning. It is also a helpful introduction to those who might like to support the priest in this ministry. Fr. Michael McAndrew will lead us in our reflections and conversations. The day will include a time of prayerful Adoration with words, music, and silence. Refreshments will be available from 9.30am. Attendees are asked to bring a packed lunch. We will finish by 4pm. Please use the Event [britelink: https://cliftoneucharist.eventbrite.co.uk/](https://cliftoneucharist.eventbrite.co.uk/) to register for the day. You are most welcome!

**For the Attention of St. Michael's**

**Save the Date Please!** 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024 at 7pm for 7.30 sit down. We are going to have an authentic Curry Evening. The theme is 'Indian', please sign up at the back of the church as we will need to know numbers and if you can help with food please put your name on the list in the porch. If you need a lift on the night please put a note on the form in the church. All welcome!

**Offertory Collection**

**Last Week:**

**St. Peter's:** £400.47 (incl. via the Dona Machine)

**St. Michael's:** £63.01

**New Lectionary**

As you are probably aware this coming Advent we will have to start using the new Lectionary in both parishes. This week we received a brochure detailing what is available including the new People's Missals. The Lectionary will be a four-volume set costing £695 with the Study Edition available for £250. If anyone would like to sponsor any of these, you are most welcome to do so or it would be much appreciated if parishioners of both parishes would like to give a donation towards the purchase of these. Donation can be made by cheque payable to the appropriate parish or through the Dona machine located at the back of St. Peters'. Additionally, attached to this newsletter, you will find details regarding the "People's Missals". Please complete the form provided and submit it along with your cheque to the Parish Office.

**PARISHIONER'S MISSAL ORDER FORM**

NAME	PARISH	CONTACT NUMBER
<b>SUNDAY MISSAL</b>		
RED STANDARD	£19.95	QUANTITY
WHITE PRESENTATION	£29.95	QUANTITY

BURGANDY PRESENTATION	£29.95	QUANTITY
RED PAPER BACK	£9.95	QUANTITY
<b>DAILY MISSAL</b>		
BLUE	TBC	QUANTITY
<b>SEPARATE PAPERBACK BOOKS OF THE GOSPEL</b>		
THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW	£3.95	QUANTITY
THE GOSPEL OF MARK	£3.95	QUANTITY
THE GOSPEL OF LUKE	£3.95	QUANTITY
THE GOSPEL OF JOHN	£3.95	QUANTITY

TOTAL AMOUNT OF CHEQUE ENCLOSED

SIGNATURE

DATE

PLEASE COMPLETE BEFORE 20TH JUNE 2024

THE NEW LECTIONARY

Dear Fr Maria,

I would like to Donate £            towards our new Parish Lectionary.  
Please find attached my cheque.

Yours sincerely



**Name:**

**Parish:**

**Date:**



James Abbott from the Bishops' Conference has been lucky enough to spend time and record a video with Bishop Declan Lang.

It was the evening before his successor's episcopal ordination, and we were fortunate to sidestep all the intense planning and preparation for the day to come, in order to sit down in the garden of the retiring Bishop of Clifton as the Spring sun gave out its last.

Metaphorically, the sun was setting too on Bishop Declan's years of ministry as the ninth Bishop of Clifton – it was just a matter of hours before his handover to the incoming Bishop Bosco MacDonald.

So, for this video, it seemed apposite to take a stroll with Bishop Declan to look back over almost a quarter of a century shepherding the diocese.

In this honest conversation, they discuss:

His upbringing on the Isle of Wight

The call to the priesthood

Being both a seminarian and a university student

A meeting with the Apostolic Nuncio – Pope John Paul II's representative in the UK

A pastoral plan from bottom to top for Clifton  
What it's like being a bishop  
How the episcopal ministry comes full circle  
Young people – the Church for today and tomorrow  
National and international work  
The challenge of living with Parkinson's

Poignantly, when discussing his health challenges, he says:

“It has strengthened my *trust* in God – that God knows what He's doing. I'm not saying that God sent me Parkinson's, but I am saying that you can live through Parkinson's.

“The Christian message is about life. It's about death, but it's about life coming from death. We are people of hope, and we can find God. We might think Parkinson's is totally destroying lives, but actually God can be found in illness, sickness and vulnerability, and it has made me more vulnerable in some ways.”

You can watch the full conversation here: [In conversation with Bishop Declan](#)

Thank You