

The Solemnity of Pentecost

This weekend we celebrate the **Solemnity of Pentecost** the birthday of the Church, the feast of the **Holy Spirit**. The name is derived from the Greek for **50**. It is 50 days since Jews celebrated Passover and Christians celebrated Easter Sunday. Because a number of Weeks have passed between Passover and Pentecost the feast was also referred to as the feast of Weeks, Shavuot in Hebrew. **Pentecost** was a very important Harvest Festival during which they thanked God for the grain harvest. They also thanked the Lord for the **Ten Commandments** given to Moses at Sinai. Notice in the reading from the Acts of the Apostles the huge variety of people present in Jerusalem. These are members of the Jewish diaspora who are attending the feast. Notice the presence of **fire and wind**, great symbols of the **Holy Spirit**.

Whit is another name attributed to the feast. There is uncertainty as to how the name evolved. Is it a reference to the White Garments that the newly baptised were wearing that day? In the early Church Baptisms took place at **Easter, Pentecost** and **All Saints Day**. Whiter garments would be worn by the newly baptised to signify their new birth in Christ.

Whit Monday was a bank holiday until 1967. In 1971 the Spring Bank Holiday on the last Monday of May replaced Whit Bank Holiday. In the north of England there were brass band competitions and marches of witness including Church groups, First Communicants, Trade Unionists. New clothes were often given out and worn on Whit Monday. There are still 34 countries in the world who observe Whit Monday as a holiday. The Poles and Ukrainians refer to Pentecost as **Green Sunday** and decorate their homes with greenery. In the Orthodox tradition green is the colour for the Holy Spirit. In the Latin Church red is the colour of the Holy Spirit.

Following the **Solemnity of Pentecost** the Church returns to **Ordinary Time** again. The **Easter (Paschal) Candle** will be returned to the its position beside the Baptism Font and green vestments will once more be worn. The Masses of the 10th week in Ordinary Time will be celebrated. Notice that the next couple of Sundays have some very important celebrations using white vestments: the **Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity** (16th) followed by the **Solemnity of Corpus Christi** (23rd) and then the **Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul** (30th) with red vestments.

On **Monday 10th June** the Memorial of **Mary Mother of the Church** is to be celebrated. This memorial was introduced into the Roman Calendar by Pope Francis in 2018. If the disciples of the Lord are to grow in fervour and fidelity they are to plant their lives on the Cross, the Eucharist and on Mary, the Mother of the Lord.

The month of **June** is specially dedicated to the **Sacred Heart of Jesus** whose feast day takes place on Friday 28th June.

We welcome Mary's Meals to the parish this weekend. They will sell raffle tickets in support of their work and collect textiles on **SUNDAY MORNING ONLY**. Parishioners are invited to bring their textiles, shoes, handbags, belts, curtains to the garage on **Saturday** and **Sunday**. Margaret McQueen and James Langton will coordinate efforts

On **Monday 10th June** there will be a prayer service in Carfin Grotto at 7:30pm for those inspired by, or touched by, the words and life of **Joseph Wilson**, who died suddenly in December 2011. The event will consist of prayers, reflection and procession to Joseph's plaque.

The **St Vincent De Paul Society** donations collected on the weekend of the **15th and 16th of June** will be donated to the voluntary organisation **Lanarkshire Cancer Care Transport**. This organisation helps those suffering with Cancer transport to receive their treatment. Their work has been highlighted by Neilly Tierney, who has benefited from their help during his Cancer treatment. Hopefully this gesture will help them to continue their sterling work.

***Response to the Psalm:
Send forth your Spirit, O Lord,
and renew the face of the earth.***

Recently Dead:

Jackie Reilly

Anniversary of:

James McKenna, Cissie Hughes

A Prayer For The Solemnity of Pentecost.

God who connects us, who relates and reconciles,
forgive us when we fragment your world.

To our Babels, bring your Pentecost;

Teach us the language of understanding and unity.

Forgive us when we undermine our neighbours
instead of encouraging them.

To our Babels, bring your Pentecost;

Teach us the language of understanding and unity.

Forgive us when we close ranks in hostility
instead of opening ourselves in hospitality.

To our Babels, bring your Pentecost;

Teach us the language of understanding and unity.

Forgive us when we pursue self-interest
instead of sharing resources and power.

To our Babels, bring your Pentecost;

Teach us the language of understanding and unity.

Forgive us when we are diverted by trivia
instead of engaging with the struggles of the downtrodden.

To our Babels, bring your Pentecost;

Teach us the language of understanding and unity.

Forgive us the we pillage the earth
instead of respecting and cherishing it.

To our Babels, bring your Pentecost;

Teach us the language of understanding and unity.

God who connects us, who relates and reconciles,
forgive us when we fragment your world.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia



Administrator:
Revd W. G. Bergin

ST. TERESA'S R.C. CHURCH

Address: Benford Avenue, Newarthill,
Motherwell, ML1 5BE

Telephone: 01698 832920

Email: fatherbillthepadre@gmail.com

Parish website: www.stteresa-newarthill.org.uk
A Scottish Registered Charity No. 11041

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Weekly Schedule	Time	Intention
Sunday 9th June <i>Solemnity of Pentecost</i>	10:00am	James McKenna
Monday 10th June <i>The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church</i>	9:30am	Cissie Hughes
Tues 11th June <i>St Barnabas</i>	9:30am	Jackie Reilly
Wed 12th June	9:30am	Private Intentions
Thurs 13th June <i>St Anthony of Padua</i>	9:30am	People of the Parish
Friday 14th June	9:30am	Private Intentions
Saturday 15th June	12:00noon 4:00pm 4:30pm	First Holy Communion Holy Rosary Private Intentions

	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers
Saturday 15th June.	M MacNeill	M Connor, A M Lynn, C Morrissey
Sunday 16th June.	F McQuade	M Green, J Mullen, F Carroll