

## LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

This weekend two of our Fisher Society members will be baptized and altogether thirteen will receive the sacrament of confirmation. I have discovered, however, that most of us who have received the sacrament of confirmation could use a bit of brushing up on the gifts of the Holy Spirit which the sacrament seals in each of us.

First, what are the Gifts of the Holy Spirit? Pope Francis gave a nice and succinct definition last month:

*“The Holy Spirit is the soul, the lifeblood of the Church and of every Christian: He is God’s Love, who makes our hearts his home and enters into communion with us. The Holy Spirit is always with us, always in us, in our hearts. If we listen to him he teaches us this path of wisdom, he gifts us wisdom which is seeing with God’s eyes, listening with God’s ears, loving with God’s heart, judging things with God’s judgment.”*

That’s the center of our teaching on the Gifts of the Spirit. They sustain our entire Christian life. Further, these gifts were not simply listed out at Pentecost, they came from the heart of the prayers of Israel. The psalmist spoke the human desire, *“Let your good spirit guide me in ways that our level and smooth”* (143:10). And, it is the prophet Isaiah who listed out the spiritual gifts for us:

*There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.* (11:1-3a, RSV)

So there is the list: wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. And, fear of the Lord should not be understood as quaking in terror, but the magnifying quality of wonder and awe! Together, these gifts help to strengthen our minds (wisdom, understanding, knowledge, and counsel) as well as our wills (might, piety, and fear of the Lord). They are at the service of a life well-lived, sown in us in baptism and strengthened in us at confirmation. May the fire of the Spirit renew these gifts in us all.

Fr Kevin



## FISHER HOUSE NEWSLETTER

Sunday 18 May  
Fifth Sunday of Easter

### CALENDAR

Sunday 18	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	
	8.00	Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
	9.00	Sung Latin Mass
	11.00	Sung English Mass celebrated by HE Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O’Connor
Monday 19	12.30	Mass
Tuesday 20	1.05	Mass (Bernadine of Siena)
Wednesday 21	12.30	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	1.05	Mass
Thursday 22	1.05	NO MASS (Polling Day)
Friday 23	1.05	Mass
	7.30	Mass
Saturday 24	1.05	Mass
	4.30	Confessions
	6.00	Vigil Mass of Sunday
Sunday 25	<b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	
	8.00	Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
	9.00	Sung Latin Mass
	11.00	Sung English Mass

### **FRIDAY 7.30pm MASS**

We are continuing with these popular Masses, in a more contemporary style. If you would like to help with music, contact Stephen Bick on bickstephen@gmail.com

### **HOLY ROSARY**

The Rosary is prayed in the Chapel on Saturdays at 5.30pm, Sundays after the 11am Mass, and Tuesdays and Thursdays after 1.05pm Mass.

### **ROSARY-MAKING FOR CHARITY**

The Rosary Legion is making Rosaries (from beads, cord string, and crucifixes) to send to third-world missions. Contact FisherHouse-Rosary@gmail.com

### **FAITH AND THE MODERN STATE**

Professor John Loughlin will deliver the final seminar in the VHI Faith and Governance Series on *Faith and the Modern State* on Friday 23 May at 5.00pm, in the garden room at St Edmund's College.

### **KOLB FUND**

The deadline for applications to the Kolb Fund is this weekend. Grants are available for women for up to £500 towards books, travel or equipment. See poster in the vestibule, and contact Dr Anne Cobby on aec25

### **H.E. CARDINAL CORMAC MURPHY-O'CONNOR**

The 11.00 Mass today will be celebrated by the Cardinal, during which he will celebrate the sacraments of baptism and confirmation for students.

*Following Mass there will be a buffet lunch to meet the Cardinal: all are welcome.*

### **BOOK LAUNCH**

During lunch, there will be an official launch of Professor Duffy's book of prayers: "The Heart in Pilgrimage." Copies will be available to buy at the event.

### **Please pray for those to be baptized and confirmed:**

Bara Golonova  
Rajiv Shah

### **And those to be confirmed:**

Rob Boland  
Josiane Chuisseau  
Ruth Franklin  
Giuliana Fusco  
Tobias Hemmert  
John Howe  
Emma Johnston  
Monika Kondratowicz  
Anita Tam  
Andrew Taylor  
Regina Hung

### **MORNING PRAYER**

From tomorrow, we invite you to join us for Morning Prayer at 8.00am in the chapel, followed by breakfast. You will be finished before 9.00am. It is a great way to start the day, in this exam season.

### **PRAYER CARD**

A prayer card for those taking exams is available in the vestibule outside the chapel.

### **LIBRARY STOCK-TAKING**

We need a volunteer to help the librarian on 11 & 13 June to check the library stock. There will be payment available. Please see Fr Mark.

### **FANCY A ST KEVIN? OR A DULCE DOMINICANA?**

On Friday evenings this term, the Bar staff will be premiering the forthcoming Catholic cocktail book. Bar open from 8.30, all welcome.

### **FISHER HOUSE SVP GROUP**

Feeding the homeless and hungry, visiting the elderly, and helping those on the margins in our city. Meetings every Thursday evening. Please contact Sarah Culkin on slcculkin@gmail.com

### **POLLING DAY**

Advance warning that on Thursday 22 May, Fisher Hall will be used as a polling station. There will be no Mass that day. The library will still be available. Please ring the bell of the old house for admission.

### **SAINTS AND SCONES**

S&S adjourns this week in deference to His Eminence, but your craving for scones, and indeed saints, will be fully satisfied next week!

### **MONKS AT MAGDALENE**

On Sunday 25 May, the Benedictine monks of Douai Abbey will sing Vespers at Magdalene at 6.30pm, recalling the original foundation of the College as a monastic house of training.

### **PRAYER FOR EXAMS**

A Bookmark with prayer for exams is available outside the chapel. It includes the prayer of St Thomas before study - an unfallible aid!

### **COUNTERS NEEDED**

We need volunteers to help count the Sunday collection. Please see Fr Mark.

### **COLLECTION LAST WEEK**

£481.72

*Thank you!*