

FISHER HOUSE



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 23 MAY – PENTECOST SUNDAY

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

SUNDAY 23	PENTECOST SUNDAY 10.30am	Mass Sung English
Monday 24	8.20am 1.05pm 5.30–6.00pm	Mass <i>Our Lady, Mother of the Church</i> Mass Eucharistic Adoration
Tuesday 25	8.20am 1.05pm 5.30–6.00pm	Mass <i>St Bede the Venerable</i> Mass Eucharistic Adoration
Wednesday 26	8.20am 1.05pm 5.30–6.00pm	Mass <i>St Philip Neri</i> Mass Eucharistic Adoration
Thursday 27	8.20am 1.05pm 5.30–6.00pm	Mass <i>Christ the Priest</i> Mass Eucharistic Adoration
Friday 28	8.20am 1.05pm 5.30–6.00pm	Mass Mass Eucharistic Adoration
Saturday 29	8.20am 1.05pm 4.30–5.30pm 6.00pm	Mass <i>Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday</i> Mass Confession Mass Sung Latin (Vigil for Trinity Sunday)

EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday 23	12.00pm	Fisher Friends Virtual Coffee. Join using this link or Meeting ID 977 0795 2460.
	4.30pm	The Dolphins football team will meet for training at the Chesterton Recreation Ground (CB4 1ED). No experience necessary. Contact Julia (jw735) if you have any questions.
Monday 24	6.30pm	Charles Taylor Reading Group will meet in Fisher House to discuss the next section of <i>A Secular Age</i> . Let Paul know if you would like to come.
Wednesday 26	7.00pm	Post-doc Society will meet for Bible study on Zoom. Contact Kotryna Bloznelyte (kb449).
Friday 28	3.00pm to 5.00pm	Tea on the terrace. An opportunity to relax, take a break from exams and deadlines, and enjoy tea and biscuits at the end of the working week. If anyone would like to help bake some more ambitious refreshments, contact Paul.
	6.30pm	Vespers will be prayed in the chapel, with a short reflection.
Monday to Saturday	4.15pm	SVP Soup Run. Please see their website for details and to sign up.
Every day	9.00am to 9.00pm	Chapel open for private prayer. Please leave a kneeler on the floor when you leave, whether or not you have used one, so we know your space needs to be sanitised.
	9.00am to 9.00pm	Library and Fisher Room open for study. Please sign-up in advance for Week 4 .

NOTICES

PILGRIMAGE TO ELY

The walking pilgrimage to Ely has been postponed until Saturday 5th June. Let Paul know if you would like to take part.

SVP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Society of St Vincent de Paul is looking for volunteer 'Digital Champions' to help manage safeguarding training Zoom calls. They would not need to deliver any content, but only help to run the chat and break-out rooms. Please contact Teresa Kehoe (teresak@svp.org.uk) for further details.

NEW LAY ASSISTANT

Fisher House is looking for a new lay assistant for the next academic year. This is a full-time role, lasting ten months, from September 2021 to July 2022. If you would like to apply, please send a CV to the current assistant, Paul Norris (pn303), who would be happy to answer any questions about the job. The deadline for applications is Monday 7th June.

RADIO MARIA, ENGLAND MARIATHON WEEK

Elizabeth O'Malley, will be promoting Radio Maria, England after Mass on Sunday. Radio Maria, England is a Cambridge based Catholic radio station. Please help yourself to the information on the Radio Maria leaflet provided. You'll find out how to listen, see a sample of the Radio Maria schedule and how to contact them to volunteer your help. From broadcasting, to writing, to presenting, to praying, there are many opportunities to get involved with full training and support provided. You don't have to be technically-minded, and there are lots of behind-the-scenes-support roles that you can get involved with. Radio Maria is a very young station and there are lots of opportunities to learn new skills through supporting the work of the station. If you'd like to learn more, please speak to Elizabeth after the Sunday Mass.

REFLECTION

IMPERFECT TRANSLATIONS

At Pentecost the Spirit inspires the apostles to speak and be understood by all who hear. This moment is an undoing of the tower of Babel, the story told in the first reading of the Pentecost vigil. Babel is a monumental project, a proto-totalitarian project, intended to bring humanity together by building big, reaching upwards. If Babel's plane is vertical, Pentecost's is horizontal. The good news spreads through the whole of humanity in all its scattered heterogeneity, rather than insisting on singularity (and it is interesting to note here that the number 'one' is a narrow tower in both Arabic and Roman numerals: 1, I). At Pentecost, the Word is not translated, it is simply understood.

The early modern bishop Lancelot Andrewes, a peerless preacher and linguist, explained his reasoning for quoting so much Latin, Greek and Hebrew: 'I wish no word ever narrowed by a translation, but as much as might be, left in the latitude of the Originall tongue'. At Pentecost, the gospel is not narrowed into any single people or culture or language, but expands, to inhabit the fulsome latitude of the Church.

Some of us in the Benson Club, the Fisher House literature group, have recently been translating Charles Péguy's *The Porch of the Mystery of Hope*, at Fr Chase's commendation. And we have struggled to render the refrain *j'éclate tellement dans ma creation* into English. No word seemed to capture the many senses of the verb *j'éclate*. In the end I gave up and used two words, writing: 'my creation shatters and I shine in it'. Any one word seemed too small.

For us to translate one word into many all the time would be impractical. Translations more often must miss the original meaning, like Odysseus missing his mother's embrace when he finds her in the underworld (an image Ezra Pound associates with translation in his first Canto, itself a translation of a translation of the *Odyssey*). Even in conversation with those who speak the same language as us, we are always translating, narrowing meanings or even ignoring them (particularly with the many mishearings that occur when speaking through masks and video calls). To do otherwise would tax the human mind beyond its limits.

But, in the passage from Romans read at the Pentecost vigil, St Paul reminds us that the task is not ours alone: 'when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words'. Translation implies distance, a distance the Spirit bridges in these wordless moments.

The Church that is founded at Pentecost is huge and awe-inspiring, but not because of an authoritarian singularity of ambition. It is huge and awe-inspiring because it lets people become more fully themselves, in Christ. Each life lived in imitation of Christ is an imperfect translation of Christ's life, a narrowing of an infinitesimal range of meaning into a few meanings, a rendering of the Word into mere words. But it is also a life lived in the hope of full union with the creating Word. This is a union that does not need to translate, and a hope that transfigures.

MASS TEXTS

SUNDAY 23 MAY YEAR I – PENTECOST

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

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.’

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 103 (104)

℟: Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

1. Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches. ℟
2. You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. ℟
3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord. ℟

SECOND READING

Galatians 5:16–25

If you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence, since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit, the Spirit is totally against such a thing, and it is precisely because the two are so opposed that you do not always carry out your good intentions. If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you. When self-indulgence is at work the results are obvious: fornication, gross indecency and sexual irresponsibility; idolatry and sorcery; feuds and wrangling, jealousy, bad temper and quarrels; disagreements, factions, envy; drunkenness, orgies and similar things. I warn you now, as I warned you before: those who behave like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. What the Spirit brings is very different: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control. There

can be no law against things like that, of course. You cannot belong to Christ Jesus unless you crucify all self-indulgent passions and desires.

Since the Spirit is our life, let us be directed by the Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

SEQUENCE

Holy Spirit, Lord of Light,
From the clear celestial height
Thy pure beaming radiance give.
Come, thou Father of the poor,
Come with treasures which endure
Come, thou light of all that live!
Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow
Thou in toil art comfort sweet
Pleasant coolness in the heat
Solace in the midst of woe.
Light immortal, light divine,
Visit thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill:
If thou take thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay
All his good is turned to ill.
Heal our wounds, our strength renew
On our dryness pour thy dew
Wash the stains of guilt away:
Bend the stubborn heart and will
Melt the frozen, warm the chill
Guide the steps that go astray.
Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and thee adore,
With thy sevenfold gifts descend:
Give us comfort when we die
Give us life with thee on high
Give us joys that never end.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 15:26-27,16:12-15

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘When the Advocate comes,
whom I shall send to you from the Father,
the Spirit of truth who issues from the Father,
he will be my witness.
And you too will be witnesses,
because you have been with me from the outset.

‘I still have many things to say to you
but they would be too much for you now.
But when the Spirit of truth comes
he will lead you to the complete truth,
since he will not be speaking as from himself
but will say only what he has learnt;
and he will tell you of the things to come.
He will glorify me,
since all he tells you
will be taken from what is mine.
Everything the Father has is mine;
that is why I said:
*All he tells you
will be taken from what is mine.*

The Gospel of the Lord.

THE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God

from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.