

**Second Reading:** 1 St Paul to the 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.

**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 renewed; 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 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.'



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**SOLEMNITY OF PENTCOST SUNDAY**

**First Reading:** Acts of the Apostles 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.'

**Responsorial Psalm**

Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

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

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.

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.

How does it feel to live through the world's longest lockdown?

We started in the middle of Lent and now we emerge out of it at the end of Easter! Today, is Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Apostles. Pentecost, is a celebration which comes fifty days after Easter. Pentecost was originally celebrated by the Jews to remember the day the law was given to Moses on Mount Sinai. Moses received the law amidst thunder and lightning. Although Jesus had risen from the dead, they were afraid and did not face up to the world. They remembered the promise of Jesus that he was going to send the Gift, the Holy Spirit but they needed to pray: Come, Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit did come, they left their hiding place and went out to speak about the Lord Jesus. Their fear was gone and the insecurity had disappeared. Filled with the Holy Spirit, the Apostles spoke and proclaimed the gospel. Our faith teaches us to pray, 'come, come, come Holy Spirit. We must enjoy His presence, experienced His power and live the life he shares with us. Remember the day that you received the Sacrament of Confirmation which gave us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross. Pentecost brings the Season of Easter to a close. After evening prayer, the Paschal Candle is placed by the Baptismal Font, reminding us that Jesus is the 'Light of the World.' Monday commences 'Week 9 in Ordinary Time.' With the readings come from 'Weekday Cycle Year II,' of the Lectionary. May the Holy Spirit fill you with His presence and empower you to go out and make the world a better place.

We ask for your Prayers: for those who are sick in mind and body, in our parish family, our own family, the people of Cirencester and Tetbury.

For those who have died recently especially of the Corona virus and all whose anniversaries are at this time.

In our Diocesan prayer link we remember the priest and parishioners of Fairford and Cricklade.

This week we celebrate the following:

Monday: Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church.

Wednesday: Memorial of St Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs

Thursday: Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, The Eternal High Priest

Friday: Memorial of St Boniface, Bishop, Martyr

**Thank you:** On behalf of the parish I would like to thank the person who left flowers by the Church front door. They were left anonymously; if it was you or you know who it was, please let me know.

**Parish Finances:** Thank you to all those who continue to support our parishes through standing order; this is a great way to support your parish. If you do not

currently donate this way; it is easy to do, whether you pay tax and 'Gift Aid' your contribution or not, please email the parish office and a form will be sent to you. A cheque made payable for your parish would also be most welcome. Make the cheque payable to the parish and put through the door of St Peter's or the post box for St Michaels. Thank you for your continued support.

**Mass Obligation:** There is no Sunday or weekday Mass – the Sunday obligation has been lifted for the time being. We can still pray together and look after one another. We can take care of those around us who might be in need. We can build up a sense of community in the area in which we live and maybe we relearn the simple things of faith whilst we hunger for the Bread of Life in the Eucharist.

**Today: – Rosary Mission:** As a Diocese we have had a request from Monsignor John Armitage, from the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, to participate in a May Rosary Mission. Each Diocese in England, Wales and Scotland has been allotted an hour in which the Rosary will be prayed either individually or in family groups. The hour allotted to Clifton is 1pm-2.00pm. At this time the Rosary will be live streamed from the Cathedral and St Johns, Bath. It would be appropriate at this time if we as a parish could pray the rosary along with Bishop Declan, priests and parishioners from the whole diocese.

**Mass Livestreamed:** Several parishes throughout the country are livestreaming the Mass each day: Clifton Cathedral Sunday Mass is @ 9.30am; St John The Evangelist Church, Bath Sunday Mass is at 10.00am. Please check their website for weekday Mass times and also the Rosary and other services.

**Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

Lord Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things, and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul, so that I may unite myself wholly to you, now and forever. Amen

**Sunday Morning Coffee:** Rachel Moody is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Topic: Coffee after Mass Time: May 31, 2020 11:00 AM London Every week on Sun, until Jul 5, 2020, 6 occurrence(s) at 11.00am Join Zoom Meeting.

You need to use the following link:

Why not join us, catch up on the week's news:

We can still be instruments of peace, of joy, of faith and love in so many ways. We are a community of hope and faith and love, and we can still be proclaimers of the Gospel even when our normal, everyday routine is upset. May God watch over each and every one of us, and remind us – always – that he is near.

**Please stay safe and well. God Bless**