




5th Sunday of Easter (A)

Mass Times and Intentions

Divine Office – Psalter Week 1



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| Saturday 2 nd May | 5.30pm | People of the Parish |
| Sunday 3 rd May | 11.00am | Nell Taylor |
| Tuesday 5 th May | 9.30am | George and John Ross |
| Wednesday 6 th May | 7.00pm | Intentions of Denise and Tim Neal and Family |
| Thursday 7 th May | 9.30am | Val Meredith |
| Saturday 9 th May | 5.30pm | People of the Parish |
| Sunday 10 th May | 11.00am | Paul Lowrey |

Sunday Liturgy

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|---------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Proper of the Mass | | p. 265 |
| Profession of Faith | Apostles' | p. 12 |
| Preface | Easter IV | p. 74 |
| Eucharistic Prayer | Prayer 3 | p. 26 |

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for May



That everyone might have food. Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

May is the month of Mary. The tradition of dedicating the month of May to Mary, came about in the 13th Century. This month is the time when spring is at the height of its beauty. Spring is also connected with nature renewing itself. In her way, Mary gave new life to the world when she gave birth to our saviour Jesus Christ.



**The Roman Catholic Parish of
Our Lady Help of Christians**

Portico Lane, Prescott, L34 2QT

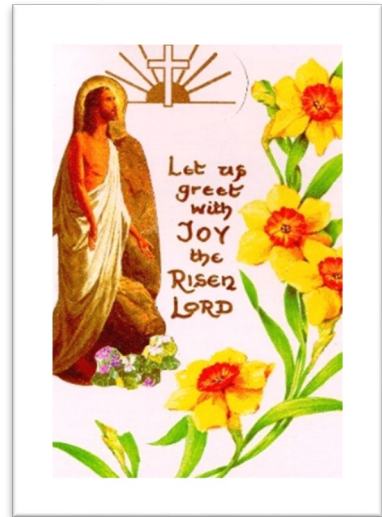
Administrator: Fr Andrew Rowlands VF
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5th Sunday of Easter (A)

3rd May 2026



In the First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles we learn of how this “new Church” was growing so rapidly with new members that it created the need for additional workers to help the Apostles with the important but less liturgical functions of the community. So, after praying for guidance, the apostles chose and anointed men from the Greek-speaking converts (Hellenists) who were "filled with faith and the Holy Spirit" to help. Faith and the Holy Spirit are prime criteria for anyone who is truly inspired and committed to serve Christ through His Church. Putting our faith into action requires trust in the Holy Spirit that our abilities will measure up. It should not be a way of fulfilling our own needs. The Responsorial Psalm exemplifies the qualities of the Lord that place Him above all other powers, which should draw us to worship Him in "good times and bad." This takes a sincere commitment of faith that

goes beyond natural understanding. The Second Reading, from the First Letter of St. Peter, talks about building up the Church and likens each member to a precious stone needed to build the community. Of course, the most important of these is the keystone or cornerstone. Each and every member of our parish is needed to build and maintain our church. No one person can consider himself or herself as too insignificant or too unimportant to serve. Jesus Himself was rejected by the chief priest and rulers of the temple of His time, yet He became the Divine Head, the cornerstone of all Christianity. In the Gospel Reading, from the Gospel of John, we hear how the Apostles are saddened by the news that Jesus will be leaving them soon. This obviously undermined their confidence and they became fearful. Jesus assures them that He will be watching over them even if he is not present. Again, this takes faith and commitment. What would be your feelings if you were among the Apostles during the night of the Last Supper?



Offertory Collection/Donations

If you do not have any cash you can donate by scanning this QR code with a smart phone.

Parish Meeting

Many thanks to all those who attended the Parish Meeting last Wednesday. Hopefully I'll be able to provide a summary with recommendations shortly.

Annual Pentecost Celebrations

As the Feast of Pentecost approaches and we remember the moment when the early Christians were flooded with the Holy Spirit and carried the Gospel out into the crowds, Christians across the Archdiocese region are preparing to come together in celebration at this year's Two Cathedrals Pentecost Walk. Inspired by Pope John Paul II's journey down Hope Street in 1982, the Two Cathedrals Pentecost Walk is denominations to come together in celebration.

The Two Cathedrals Walk will take place on Sunday 24th May at 3pm. All are warmly welcome to join us in gathering at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King for a walk down Hope Street to Liverpool Cathedral in a time of celebration.

May Procession

The Missionaries of Charity's annual May procession will take place on Saturday 30th May at 2pm beginning at St Peter's Square, Seel Street, Liverpool to the Blessed Sacrament Shrine. All are welcome.

Newman Association Talk – Assisted Dying

"Lord, into your hands I commend my Spirit." Archbishop John Sherrington will lead this talk for the Newman Association on the topic of Assisted Dying. It takes place at 7.30pm on Thursday 21st May at St Helen's Church, Alexandra Road, Crosby, L23 7TG All are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be served from 7.10pm.

Pray in May with Mary's Meals

Mary's Meals – named after Mary, the mother of Jesus – is a mission built on a foundation of prayer. Today more than three million precious children will receive life-changing school meals in 16 of the world's poorest communities thanks to the prayers and generosity of our supporters and volunteers.

During the month of May, as we take time to honour and celebrate Our Lady in a special way, please join us in praying for the hungry children who rely on our life-changing school meals, and for all the children and families around the world who live in poverty.

Visit www.marysmeals.org.uk/prayinmay to access our prayer resources.

Whiston Hospital

If you or a loved one are unfortunate enough to have to be admitted to Whiston Hospital and would like to receive Holy Communion or a visit from the Chaplaincy team, please phone the Chaplaincy Office on 0151 430 1979. Data protection rules mean that the Chaplaincy team are not allowed to ask if there are any Catholic patients who would like a visit.

Feast Days This Week

Monday

The English Martyrs – On this day in 1535 there died at Tyburn three Carthusian monks, the first of many martyrs, Catholic and Protestant, of the English Reformation. Of these martyrs, 42 have been canonised, and a further 242 declared blessed, but the number of those who died on the scaffold, perished in prison, or suffered harsh persecution for their faith over a century and a half cannot now be reckoned. They came from every walk of life: there among them rich and poor, married and single, women and men, priests, religious and lay people. They are remembered for the example they gave of constancy in their faith, and courage in the face of persecution.

Tuesday

St Hilary of Arles – He was born in the year 400 to a noble family in Lorraine, France. He gave up his successful secular career to join St Honoratus at Lerins Abbey. When Honoratus died after being named Bishop of Arles, Hilary was chosen as his successor in the year 429. He was known for the austerity of his way of life, his aid to the poor and ransoming of captives. On two occasions he became embroiled in controversies with Pope St Leo the Great but they were reconciled. He died in the year 449, and his sanctity brought great veneration.

Tuesday

Blessed Edward Jones and Anthony Middleton – Edward Jones, from Wales, and Anthony Middleton, from Yorkshire, both trained for the priesthood at Douai College in Rheims. After Ordination they were sent to the English mission during the reign of Elizabeth I and the persecution of the Reformation. Middleton was the first to arrive in England in 1586 and pursued the ministry for some time without being discovered. Jones followed in 1588 and quickly became known to English Catholics as a devout and eloquent preacher. They were both hunted down and captured by spies posing as Catholics, and they were hanged in 1590 before the very doors of the houses in Fleet Street and Clerkenwell where they were arrested. They offered their deaths for the forgiveness of sins, the spread of the Gospel and the conversion of heretics.

Wednesday

St Rose Venerini – She was born in Viterbo in the year 1656. She entered a convent, but after a few months had to return home to look after her widowed mother. She began to instruct the women and girls of her neighbourhood in the faith, and with two helpers she opened a preschool in Viterbo. Her reputation spread, and in 1692 she was invited by Cardinal Barbarigo to advise and help in the training of teachers in his diocese. She organised a number of schools in various places, sometimes in the face of stiff opposition. Her patience and trust overcame all obstacles, and in 1713 she made a foundation in Rome that received the praise of Pope Clement XI, and it was in Rome that she died in 1728.

Thursday

St Peter of Tarantaise – He was born in France in the year 1102 and joined the Cistercian Order at the age of twenty. Known for his piety, at the age of thirty he was sent to serve as the first Abbot of Tamie., where he built a hospice for travellers. In the year 1142 he was named Archbishop of Tarantaise against his wishes, and devoted much energy to reforming the diocese, aiding the poor and promoting education. After thirteen years he suddenly disappeared, and eventually he was discovered serving as a lay brother in a Cistercian abbey, and was convinced to return and resume his episcopal duties in Tarantaise. Trusted as an advisor by popes and kings, he defended Papal rights in France and was called upon to assist in bringing about a reconciliation between King Louis VII of France and King Henry II of England.

Friday

Blessed Thomas Pickering – Benedictine martyr. Born in Westmoreland, England, he entered the Benedictines as a lay brother at Douai, France, and there took his vows in 1660. Going home to England, he became attached to the Benedictines in the service of the Chapel Royal of Queen Catherine of Braganza, wife of Charles II (r. 1660-1685). Arrested as part of the "Popish Plot," he was condemned and hanged at Tyburn.