
 <h2 style="display: inline; margin-right: 20px;">Pentecost Sunday (A)</h2> <h3 style="display: inline; margin-right: 20px;">Mass Times and Intentions</h3> <h4 style="display: inline;">Divine Office – Psalter Week 4</h4> 		
Saturday 23 rd May	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 24 th May	11.00am	Baby Theo Mohr
Monday 25 th May	12.00pm	Parish Feast Day William and Harriet Ross
Tuesday 26 th May	9.30am	Pat Dyas
Wednesday 27 th May	7.00pm	Harrison Family
Thursday 28 th May	9.30am	Rita Parr
Saturday 30 th May	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 31 st May	11.00am	Ann Barrow



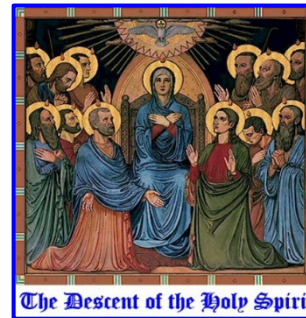
The Roman Catholic Parish of
Our Lady Help of Christians
 Portico Lane, Prescott, L34 2QT

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Pentecost Sunday (A)

24th May 2026



On Pentecost Sunday we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples as well as the ‘birthday’ of the new community of God’s people, the Church. The feast of Pentecost was initially a harvest festival of Jewish origin but later on it became a celebration of the gift of the law and the covenant with God at the foot of Mount Sinai and marked the beginnings of Israel as a nation. Pentecost is celebrated on the fiftieth day after the Passover.

The First Reading recalls how the disciples are gathered together and there is the rush of a mighty wind which fills the house and appears as tongues of fire which rest on each of

them, giving them special gifts. Paramount among these gifts is the ability to speak in tongues so that the message of Christ may be heard by people of different nations. The message of Christ is the proclamation of the mighty works of God, the first of these being that God loves us. When we receive the Spirit of God we receive a Spirit of love. St. Paul gives a prominent position to love when he lists the gifts of the Holy Spirit - love being a language of universal significance.

The message of the responsorial psalm ‘Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth’ reminds us as we celebrate the birthday of the Church, to pray for a renewal of hearts, especially of the members of the Church.

The second reading reminds us of what it means to be a Christian. St. Paul speaks of it as ‘having the Spirit of Christ’ and tells us that as children of God we inherit all of God’s goods and the greatest of these is God’s righteousness.

The Gospel presents one of the final speeches that Jesus makes prior to his passion and death. In this passage we are reminded about the integral connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. It reminds us that the Church is called to be a reconciling presence of Christ in the world which is celebrated in the Church’s sacramental life. In the Sacrament of Baptism, we are washed clean from sin and become a new creation in Christ. In the Sacrament of Penance, the Church celebrates the mercy of God in forgiving sins. Let us pray that this reconciling presence be a way of life for all Christians.

<h2>Sunday Liturgy</h2>		
Proper of the Mass		p. 288
Profession of Faith	Apostles’	p. 12
Preface	Pentecost	p. 76
Eucharistic Prayer	Prayer 2	p. 25

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.



Offertory Collection/Donations

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

Parish Feast Day

This year our Parish Feast Day (24th May) falls on Pentecost Sunday, which takes precedence. So we will celebrate our Feast Day instead with Mass at 12.00pm on Monday 25th May, which is a Bank Holiday.

After Mass we would like to invite parishioners to bring a picnic to enjoy in our beautiful garden – or in the Parish Hall if the weather doesn't behave. We will provide tea, coffee and soft drinks and you are invited bring your own picnic and something stronger to drink if you wish!

The Parish Hall will be open from 11.30am should anyone wish to leave their picnic before Mass.



Church Cleaning

Could you (male or female) spare a couple of hours once a month to help us keep our beautiful Church clean and welcoming? We are a friendly group who clean the Church every four weeks on a Tuesday after the 9.30am Mass. We usually have a cup of tea afterwards, which is a nice way to meet people.

We are very lucky at Our Lady Help of Christians to have volunteers who work behind the scenes. If you are interested in helping to clean our beautiful Church please call Pauline Webster on 07875 486 344. Thank you!

Annual Pentecost Celebrations

The Two Cathedrals Walk will take place on Sunday 24th May at 3pm. All are warmly welcome to join us in this ecumenical walk inspired by the visit of Pope St John Paul II's journey down Hope Street in 1982. Gather 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, moving onto Bold Street, Church Street and Whitechapel before finishing at the Blessed Sacrament Shrine on Queens Square.. All are welcome.

Liverpool Bach Collective

The Liverpool Bach Collective aims to put on performances of J S Bach's cantatas in churches in and around Liverpool every month as part of Sunday Evening Prayer. The next event takes place at the Church of St Philip Neri, Catherine Street, Liverpool, L8 7NL, at 6.30pm on Sunday 31st May. The performance will feature Cantata 129, which is a grand cantata to celebrate Trinity Sunday, with trumpets and timpani added to the usual ensemble. The first three sections are each devoted to one person of the Trinity, and the rest of the work is to their Union.

Feast Days This Week

Monday

Our Lady, Mother of the Church – This celebration was instituted in 2018 and then added to the Universal Roman Calendar. The Decree states “This celebration will help us to remember that growth in the Christian life must be anchored to the Mystery of the Cross, to the oblation of Christ in the Eucharistic Banquet and to the Mother of the Redeemer And Mother of the Redeemed, the Virgin who makes her offering to God.”

St Bede the Venerable – He was born near the monastery of Wearmouth in the year 673. He received his education from St Benedict Biscop. He joined the monastery, was ordained priest, and spent his time teaching and writing. He wrote theological and historical works, and especially upheld the tradition of the Fathers and explained the Scriptures. His “Ecclesiastical History of the English People”, finished in the year 731 is considered to be his most significant work, and he is regarded as the first English historian. He died in the year 735. St Boniface, on hearing of his death, wrote that “the candle of the Church, lit by the Holy Spirit, was extinguished”.

Tuesday

St Dunstan – Living in the 10th Century, Dunstan was born of a noble family near Glastonbury. He was educated by Irish monks at the abbey and sent to the court of King Athelstan. He became a Benedictine monk about the year 934 and was ordained priest five years later. He was the principal agent in the restoration of English monasticism after the Viking devastations. He was appointed Bishop of Worcester and London in the year 957, and was later appointed Archbishop of Canterbury. His work reformed the English Church. He also served as an important minister of state to several English kings. A man of many talents, he was renowned as a painter, musician and worker in metals. He died in 988, and is revered as one of the most popular Anglo-Saxon saints.

Wednesday

St Augustine of Canterbury – He was sent by Pope Saint Gregory the Great in the year 597 from the monastery of St Andrew in Rome to preach the Gospel in England. He was helped in England by King Ethelbert and he became Archbishop of Canterbury. He founded many diocese, including Canterbury, Rochester and ,later, the See of London. He organised the Church well in the Home Counties. He died on 26th May about the year 605.

Thursday

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST

Friday

Pope St Paul VI – Giovanni Battista Enrico Antonio Maria Montini was born on 26th September 1897 in Brescia, Italy. He was elected Pope, in succession to Pope St John XXIII, on 26th June 1963. He completed the Second Vatican Council and was father to the Universal Church. He visited six continents during his Pontificate and was known for his gentleness of heart. As he approached death he wrote “I pray the Lord will give me the grace to make my death a gift of love to the Church. I can say that I have always loved her and I feel that I have lived my life for her and for nothing else.”

Saturday

Blessed Lawrence Richardson – He was born Lawrence Johnson of Great Crosby. He became a Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford, gaining a Bachelor's Degree in 1572. In 1573 he started his training for the priesthood at Douai College and he was Ordained in 1577, taking the name Richardson. He returned to work in the English mission and ministered in Lancashire, often at Park Hall in Charnock Richard. In 1581 he was arrested and imprisoned at Newgate. When offered a pardon if he would confess to being part of a plot against Queen Elizabeth he said: “I cannot confess an untruth, neither can I deny my faith.” He was executed at Tyburn on 30th May 1582. He is one of the venerated Lancashire martyrs who helped to keep the faith alive in our region during the penal times of the Reformation.

