



7th Sunday of Easter

13th May 2018

We must choose someone
who has been with us
the whole time
that the Lord Jesus
was travelling round with us
... and he can act with us
as a witness to his resurrection.
(Acts 1:21-22)

After Jesus' Ascension, which we celebrated last Thursday, in today's scriptures we hear how the apostles were looking for someone to take the place of Judas. They wanted someone who had experienced Jesus's life and teaching, and who could "act with us as a witness to his resurrection".

Christianity is not etched in stone; it's etched on people's hearts. It needs to be constantly proclaimed in fresh ways and the only people who can bear witness to it are those whose hearts have been sealed by the Spirit in baptism and confirmation. Each day God calls you and me to be a new Matthias, someone who has experienced the power of Jesus and can tell others about it.

World Communications Sunday

The Catholic Church celebrates World Communications Day on 13 May 2018. It's a day when we pray for those who work in the media and have a second collection after Mass to support the Church's important work in this area. Pope Francis, in his message for communications day, focuses on 'Fake News and Journalism for Peace'.

To this end, drawing inspiration from a Franciscan prayer, we might turn to the Truth in person:

*Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
Help us to recognize the evil latent in a communication
that does not build communion.
Help us to remove the venom from our judgements.
Help us to speak about others as our brothers and sisters.
You are faithful and trustworthy; may our words be seeds of
goodness for the world:
where there is shouting, let us practise listening;
where there is confusion, let us inspire harmony;
where there is ambiguity, let us bring clarity;
where there is exclusion, let us offer solidarity;
where there is sensationalism, let us use sobriety;
where there is superficiality, let us raise real questions;
where there is prejudice, let us awaken trust;
where there is hostility, let us bring respect;
where there is falsehood, let us bring truth.
Amen.*

*From the Vatican, 24 January 2018, the Memorial of
Saint Francis de Sales.*

FRANCIS

FAITH IN FOCUS: NEITHER HERE NOR THERE

Today, the seventh Sunday of Easter, is one of the strangest of the Church's entire year. There's an air of anticipation and unfulfilment about it. Jesus has already ascended to heaven and yet we're still here waiting for the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. We're in the

in-between time. It gives us chance to pause and breath a little, to take stock of the thrust of what Jesus said and did during his life and teaching on earth before he went back to the Father.

And when we listen to Jesus' last message today, a prayer to God for his disciples, we find something of a paradox. Jesus wants us to be in the world but not part of it.

Does this mean that we should become like monks in a monastery, shut off from the world and having nothing to do with it? Should we keep our distance from those who are God's children but who are not Christians? Should we shun science and technology, culture, sport, music and enjoyment? Should we stack our bookshelves with nothing except bibles and prayer books? Should we pepper our conversations with scripture quotes and hope thereby to convert people?

The word "world" has a special meaning when Jesus uses it. It doesn't mean the earth or the mass of people who inhabit it. It means all those values which do not reflect God's vision for his creation. And so we live in the world but do not have "worldly" values. The world thinks it's stupid to put yourself last rather than first, to put yourself out for those in need, to die to yourself in order that you can really live. Blessed are the poor in spirit, those who mourn, those who are meek. It makes no sense says the "world". For the world puts a premium on comfort and affluence.

So today Jesus reminds us that if we are true to his word, if we allow ourselves to be consecrated in the truth, then our thought-patterns will be different from those who do not know him or believe in his message. And his final prayer is not that we should be removed from the world but that we should be protected from the tempter who will try and entice us to worship fame, success, wealth or what the world might call "progress".

Are we sufficiently tuned in to God's word

Adoremus

Pastoral Area Holy Hour — *This Sunday* *at Our Lady of Mount Carmel at 3pm*

The Pastoral Area Holy Hour for May will take place here in Mount Carmel Church. We welcome parishioners from all the parishes in the Pastoral Area.

PRAYER CARDS: As part of our own personal preparation for *Adoremus* the Archdiocese has issued another prayer card for this time leading up to Pentecost. This will be used at every Mass between Ascension and Pentecost.



With You Always This Sunday children who attend schools other than our own Catholic Schools will celebrate their first Eucharist at OLMC church. Next Sunday, 20th May, it will be the turn of St Finbar's children.

Pentecost Walk—Next Sunday Since the mid 80s, the biennial **Two Cathedrals Service** has provided an opportunity for the Christians of Merseyside to be 'Together in One Place', celebrating both the faith that we share, and the growing unity we feel with our brothers and sisters from other traditions, whilst seeking the Holy Spirit. Since 2016 it has become a yearly occurrence to celebrate Pentecost together.

We would like to invite everyone in Merseyside to join in with this year's Pentecost celebrations in Liverpool. Could we ask you to please advertise this in your Churches.

Our ecumenical celebration and walk will take place on **Pentecost Sunday, 20th May from 3:00 to 5:00pm. Starting at Liverpool Cathedral with a short act of worship we will process along Hope Street.** During the procession different choirs from our two cathedrals will fill Hope Street with music and celebration. The proceedings will culminate in a mass choral performance and singing of the Halleluiahs chorus on the steps of the Metropolitan Cathedral.

May Devotions: May Procession Missionaries of Charity Annual May Procession, next Saturday 19th May at 2pm: Assemble at St Peters Sq (off Seel St) finishing at the Shrine. A special invitation to those making their 1st Holy Communion this month. Contact Jim Ross 07766 706766, email jimmyross7@gmail.com

To Honour Mary This Thursday's evening service will be a traditional May service in honour of Our Lady. Do you remember all the good old hymn we used to sing during May? - Bring flowers of the rarest, O Mother Blest.... So we will as many of the traditional hymns to Our Lady which many (older) parishioners grew up. If you have a favourite hymn to Our Lady which you have not heard for years let me know. As long as we can find the words and the music we will sing it during the service.

Dementia Action Week begins 21 May

In our diocese Dementia Action Week begins with a Dementia Friendly Mass for Pentecost Sunday 20 May at 3pm, Holy Rosary Church, Old Roan L10 2LG. For those living with dementia, carers, family, friends & parishioners. Followed by refreshments.

John Southworth



MASSES AND SERVICES

In Church this week

- No Mass on Monday
- Requiem on Tuesday replaces 7pm Mass
- Wednesday Mass at 9.45am

7th SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday 13th May

Sat 5pm	Roy Barclay	OLMC
Sun 9.45am	Karl Lee	St Patrick
Sun 11.15am	Parishioners	OLMC

Mon 14th May		
9am	No Mass	OLMC

Tue 15th May		
12noon	Requiem: Ann Harper	OLMC
7pm	No Mass	

Wed 16th May		
NB Earlier Time 9.45am	Thanksgiving (TMC)	St Patrick
12noon	Funeral Service: Patrick Smith	OLMC

Thu 17th May		
10am	Ashley Roberts	St Patrick
2pm	Funeral Service: Kathleen Baird	OLMC

Fri 18th May		
10am	Chas Davies	OLMC
12noon	Funeral Service: Lyndsey Green	St Patrick

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Sunday 20th May

Sat 5pm	Parishioners	OLMC
Sun 9.45am	Teresa McLean	St Patrick
Sun 11.15am	Lisa	OLMC

Evening Service: Thursday 7pm

To Honour Mary

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday 4-4.30pm

Bonus Ball

Mount Carmel and St Patrick

The bonus ball for Wednesday 9th May No 5.

Collections ...

....Many thanks

OLMC Sat Loose £144.99 Sun Loose £63.17
Envelopes £122.50

St Patrick Envelopes £0 Loose £156.65

Total £487.31

Please Pray For.... Those who have died: Ann Harper, Pat Smith, Lyndsey Green, Kitty Baird

The sick: Irene Maloney, Betty Flannery, Tony Robinson, Carol Pickford, Betty Billingsley, Tommy Duffy, Audrey McKenna, Ian McCafferty, Betty Christian, Bernard Duffy, Helen Melarange, Jack Davies, Joan Higgins, Michael McNicholas, Billy Thompson, Freya Matheson, Rene Humphreys, Clifford Browne, Gary Hollinson, Jackie Heath-Anderson, Ted Cunningham, Anne Deuchar, Charlotte Rice, Irene Finneran, Lisa Balshaw, Mary Kewley, Claire Kearney, Lyn Barton, Betty Devine, Kathleen Devine, Joseph Baxendale, Ann Chapman, Nadia Kent, Susan Roberts, Alex Sielski, Lee Foster, Denise King, John Dunning, Emily Rolands, Angela Kent, David Majoury, Donald Smith, Pius Laizer, Maria Jones, Mary O'Toole, Sally Wilkins, Michael Murphy, Margaret Chung, David Stevenson, Thomas & John Paul Conroy, Keith Holden, Kathleen Cowny, Joanne Fairbrother, Eileen Edwards, Erin Caulfield, Lisa Ginley, Lillian O'Connor, Owen Hall, Anne Brannigan, Thelma Mainwaring, Cheryl and Lenny Hart, Sheila Chapman, Elaine Gorry, Alexandra Reid, Winifred Williamson, Kathryn Reid, Wally Williams, Chrissy White, Nicholas Maher, John Hodson, Terry Macklin, Muriel Minshull, Maureen Ryan, Mary Ryan, Regna Lewis, David Shea, Steven Binks.