



St. Edmund and St. Frideswide R.C. Church
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Sixth Sunday of Easter (Year B) – 9th May 2021

1st Reading – Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

Psalm – The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.

2nd Reading – 1 John 4:7-10

Gospel – John 15:9-17

This Sunday's Word of God tells us once more about the great love of God that is poured into our hearts as a free gift, and the most precious of gifts is the presence of the Holy Spirit within us. Jesus shows us what eternal love is about, that it has no limits, no favourites, it never changes, it is never withdrawn. The Lord is asking us to love Him and one another with the same kind of love, this is our model and inspiration that we need to follow. Any other idea or representation of love falls short of what it really means to love. We know this, we have been taught, we listened to the sermons, to the homilies, we read books about the topic, friends tell us, we know what love is.

In the first reading we meet members of the faithful who are still astonished that the Spirit could be poured out onto people who do not belong to their group. They know them, they know their beliefs and practices, surely God would not give them the same gift as to us. Those faithful people are challenged by what they see, and they experience what all of us need to experience, a conversion of heart. Since we are the children of God, our hearts are not simply human but divine. We are capable of being stretched and expanded day after day in order to embrace all people, even God himself with our love.

We need to pray that the Holy Spirit will do this work of converting, of purifying, of enlightening our hearts and make them grow. It is the Spirit that re-creates us and moulds our hearts after the image of the Sacred Heart. This is God's work within us and the masterpiece of creation, that our hearts become like Christ's. On Friday we begin the novena to the Holy Spirit in preparation for the great solemnity of Pentecost. Let us pray that the Spirit would reveal to us all the ways in which we get in the way of the work of the Spirit within our lives and grant us the courage to give the Spirit free and full access to all of our being.

Ascension of the Lord – Please note that this coming Thursday we will have another Mass in the evening at 7.30pm.

Café Programme – Joy of Hope



Don't miss: 'The Joy of Hope'. Our last session is on Wednesday 12th May at 7.30pm. Each session features a short video followed by discussion in small groups and closes with a prayer. The sessions explore the virtue of Christian hope and what it means for us today. Sessions start at 7.30pm and each runs for just over an hour, finishing around 8.30pm. You are very welcome to attend any session. **To receive further information please e-mail John Kirwan johnkirwan1a@gmail.com**
Zoom Link: Meeting ID 828 0652 7052 Passcode 744625

Parish Social – Our next parish social will still be online via Zoom. Please put this date in your diary: **Thursday 27th May 7.30pm.** Details on the home page of our website.
Meeting ID 82297597573 Passcode 139343
Looking forward to seeing you there.

CAFOD Campaign to Reclaim our common home - Cafod have launched a campaign 'to reclaim our common home' in advance of the G7 meeting in June of leaders from seven of the world's richest countries under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister and the COP26 climate talks in November also under Mr Johnson's chairmanship. The aim of the campaign is to bring before our political leaders in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic the plight of the poorest nations of the world and to adopt measures to help rebuild them by ending unjust debt repayment and tackling the climate crisis.

The easiest way to sign the petition is to do so online
at <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Reclaim-our-common-home>

Parish donations – Our website provides you with details of how you can support our parish financially during this time, whether you are a member of our GIFT AID scheme or not. If you are a tax payer, please take a moment to fill in the relevant form you will find on our website – all at no cost to yourself, but helping us immensely. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Intercessory Prayer Group

If you would like us to pray for somebody or for anything else, please email GreyfriarsIntercessoryPrayer@gmail.com or phone 07384 116920. All requests will be treated in strictest confidence.

Diocesan Newsletter

To keep up-to-date with all the latest news, information and online events from across the Archdiocese and beyond please sign up to the newsletter, issued every few weeks via email.

Please visit www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/e-news to sign up.

Important information for EU Citizens

If you are an EU passport holder and have not yet obtained Settled status please be aware that the deadline for this is the end of June this year. It applies regardless of how long you have been resident in the UK. Spread the word! You can ask for help with your application at **Europa Welcome**, based in East Oxford. They can help with language problems and have information on their website in **Tetum**, the language of East Timor, many of whose citizens hold Portuguese passports.

You can find more information generally about who needs to apply for Settled Status here:

<https://www.london.gov.uk>

And here is the website for Asylum Welcome:

<https://www.asylum-welcome.org/europa-welcome>

To read it in **Tetum**, go here:

https://www.asylumwelcome.org/docs/Asylum%20Welcome%20Eschema%20Settlement%20iha%20EU%20no%20Coronavirus_4%20Aug%202020.pdf

NB The information above does **NOT** apply to Irish citizens as they are covered by the Common Travel Area legislation and do not need to apply for Settled Status.

Mass Times and Intentions

Sunday 9th May

Sixth Sunday of Easter (Year B)

9.00am

Edward James Martin R.I.P.

11.00am

Barry Macey Dore R.I.P.

5.30pm

Ana Maria Caroso R.I.P.

Monday 10th May

7.30am

Jose Manuel Da Cunha R.I.P. & Maria Augusta Ribeiro R.I.P.

Tuesday 11th May	
St Ignatius of Laconi, Memorial	
7.30am	Tom Ryan R.I.P.
Wednesday 12th May	
St Leopold Mandic, Memorial	
7.30am	Good health for Wilson & Angela Fly
Thursday 13th May	
Ascension of the Lord, Solemnity	
7.30am	Kieran Hughes
7.30pm	Parishioners
Friday 14th May	
St Matthias, Feast	
7.30am	Pious Union of the Holy Spirit
Saturday 15th May	
8.00am	Pious Union of the Holy Spirit
6.30pm	Karl Stephen Andrew Gordon R.I.P.

Please pray for those members of our community who are sick, especially **Therese O'Malley**. If you are aware of somebody in our community who is sick and in need of our prayers, please ask them to contact the parish or let us have their contact details.