



St. Edmund and St. Frideswide R.C. Church
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Pentecost (Year B) – 23rd May 2021

1st Reading – Acts 2:1-11

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

2nd Reading – Galatians 5:16-25

Gospel – John 15:26-27; 16:12-15

The Solemnity of Pentecost is a celebration of our birth once again. Time after time the Spirit descends on us in order to breathe new life into us, to re-create us and put us back in order whilst leaving the chaos behind. The Spirit brings about unity within our being, enabling us to become living images of the Holy Trinity. We are called to recall today what we have been given at our Confirmation so that we may realize who we have become because of the Spirit's presence within us.

The group of disciples gathered together in prayer and in fear presents us with an image that we can relate with. We may belong to the Church, we may say our prayers, we may do all the right things we are supposed to, and yet fear can still rule our lives in all its dimensions. Fear can be a positive experience when it warns us of the dangers and makes us more careful and conscious of our need for safety. However, fear can also paralyze us and make us stand still. When we think of it in those terms, our spiritual lives can seem to reach a certain point and we find it extremely difficult to proceed further. Often it is fear that stops us. Fear of the unknown, fear of suffering, fear of change, fear of losing out. That is why the Spirit needs to come into our hearts once again and speak to us and take away our fear. We are unable to do it by ourselves.

In other words, the Spirit brings us an experience of real freedom. It is the Spirit who prays within us in words we could not utter ourselves, it is the Spirit who guides and enlightens, who unites and perfects us every step of the way. We do not have to understand how the Spirit does all this within us, what is more important is that we do not get in the way and invite the Spirit to be present. St. Paul in his Letter to the Galatians gives us a good check list to see how spiritual we are. It is worthwhile looking in the mirror and trying to see how we fit the description of someone who is loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, kind, good, trustful, gentle, and full of self-control. If we struggle to recognize ourselves in that list, then let us pray to the Spirit to help us grow in that direction. If we recognize those gifts within us, let us continue to pray that the Spirit will help us to grow even more.

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.

Franciscan Spirituality Sessions – Starting on Friday 28th May at 7.30pm I will be sharing the Franciscan spiritual journey according to St. Bonaventure's 'Itinerarium Mentis in Deum'. It is a short piece of writing commonly translated as the soul's journey into God. A reflection of a saint on the spiritual life of another saint – aimed at helping all of us to deepen our love and experience of God in everyday life.

Held on Zoom. Meeting ID **845 9492 0169** Passcode **934692**

Open to everyone, invite your friends.

Baptism – This Sunday we welcome into the Church's community Estevania Henrique whose baptism we celebrate today. Congratulations to her and her family on this special day.

Baptismal Preparation – Our next session for parents who are preparing for their child's baptism will take place on the 2nd Sunday of June – 13th June at 3pm. Details of how to attend will be made available on the website and here in the newsletter.



THE ORATORY

Coordinator of Spiritual Life
Closing date: 28 May 2021

The Oratory School is seeking to appoint for September 2021 a lay man or woman who is in full communion with the Catholic Church and fully in sympathy with our Oratorian ethos to the exciting new post of Coordinator of Spiritual Life. The school is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes a diverse pool of candidates.

For further details please contact the Human Resources department:
E-mail: recruitment@oratory.co.uk

Alternatively, please visit our website for an application form
www.oratory.co.uk

The Oratory Schools Association Registered Charity No. 309112 is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Applicants must be willing to undergo checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.

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 23rd May

Pentecost Sunday (Year B)

9.00am	Parishioners
11.00am	Maria da Costa Freites & Jaime Luz Pires R.I.P
5.30pm	John Corcoran R.I.P.

Monday 24th May

Dedication of the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi, Feast

7.30am	Friars & Benefactors
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Tuesday 25th May

St. Bede the Venerable, Memorial

7.30am	Ewa & Jarosław
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Wednesday 26th May

St. Philip Neri, Memorial

7.30am	Br. Ade's Intentions
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Thursday 27th May

Our Lord Jesus Christ the Eternal High Priest, Feast

7.30am	Pedro Fernandes Verediona Gracias R.I.P.
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Friday 28th May

7.30am	Vocations
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Saturday 29th May

8.00am	Randal Lightbound R.I.P.
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6.30pm	Holy Souls
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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.