



## OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH In NEW MILTON

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

15 Mount Ave, New Milton. BH25 6NT

Parish priest: Father George Ngwa

Parish Office 01425 614968

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Our parish live streaming: <http://churchservices.tv/newmilton>

Website: [www.nfwp.org.uk](http://www.nfwp.org.uk) Church opening hours 7am to 7pm.

### Pentecost Sunday

### Year A

### 4 June 2017

## I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT THE LORD THE GIVER OF LIFE

God's Holy Spirit in us, as Christians, is our greatest gift from God as promised by Jesus after his Ascension. When we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit we receive the gift and the giver, because the gift is the giver. The Holy Spirit is our unity with God, our source of communication from God, and the guarantee that we are His children.

### The Divinity of the Holy Spirit

The third person of the Blessed Trinity, the Holy Spirit, is sometimes referred to as "the forgotten" member of the Godhead. He is, no doubt, the least spoken of among the three persons of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The study of the Holy Spirit, is probably the least developed, after the study of the Son and the Father. It is, therefore, no surprise to find many Catholics ill-equipped to deal with some of the more notable errors concerning he who is "the Lord and giver of life." Thus, studying the person and nature of the Holy Spirit, though sometimes neglected, is crucial for us as Catholics. The most common attacks on Catholic belief concerning the Holy Spirit generally come from sects and others who deny the central mystery of the Christian faith—the Trinity. Both the personhood as well as the divinity of the Holy Spirit are rejected by these groups. The Holy Spirit is spoken of as a "force," or as "power" emanating from God, rather than as God himself. As Catholics, then, we must be able to respond to these two key misunderstandings concerning the Holy Spirit. The truths about the Holy Spirit are that **1. He is a person – third person of the Blessed trinity, and 2. He is God.**

Speaking of the importance of context, the verse of Scripture used to "prove" the Holy Spirit to be an impersonal force actually demonstrates, when examined more fully, that the Holy Spirit is both personal and masculine. John 14:26 says: "But the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you." The Holy Spirit is clearly a person. Indeed, the Holy Spirit is referred to in personal terms by our Lord throughout the New Testament. Jesus says, *And I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor, to be with you forever, the Spirit of truth, who the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him; you know him, for he dwells with you, and will be in you.* In John 15:26-27, Jesus says, *When the Paraclete comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who issues from the Father, he will be my witness. And you too will be witnesses, because you have been with me from the beginning.* The Holy Spirit is revealed here to be both a person and divine. We Catholics realize when we recite the Nicene Creed every Sunday at Mass that we are clearly and concisely professing that: The Holy Spirit truly is "the Lord and Giver of Life."

Of all the gifts given to mankind by God, there is none greater than the presence of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit has many functions, roles, and activities. First, He does a work in the hearts of all people everywhere. Jesus told the disciples that He would send the Spirit into the world to "convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment". {cf. John 16:7-11}. Everyone has a "God consciousness," whether

or not they admit it. The Spirit applies the truths of God to minds of people to convince them by fair and sufficient arguments that they are sinners. Responding to that conviction brings men to salvation.

Once we are baptized and try to practice our faith, the Spirit takes up residence in our hearts forever, sealing us with the confirming, certifying, and assuring pledge of our eternal state as His children. Jesus said He would send the Spirit to us to be our Helper, Comforter, and Guide. The Holy Spirit takes up permanent residence in the hearts of believers. Jesus gave the Spirit as a “compensation” for His absence, to perform the functions for us which He would have done if He had remained personally with us.

## **THE SEVEN GIFTS AND THE TWELVE FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

At Baptism, we receive seven special gifts from the Holy Spirit. These gifts are freely given to us to help us live as followers of Jesus and to build up the Body of Christ, the Church. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit are sealed and strengthened within us at Confirmation. These **seven gifts of the Holy Spirit**, help us to respond to the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives, to make good choices, and to serve God and others.

**Wisdom** is the gift of knowing the right choices to make to live a holy life. The gift of wisdom helps you to avoid the things that could lead you away from God.

**Understanding** is the gift of comprehension, or the ability to grasp the meaning of the teachings of the Church. The gift of understanding helps you be tolerant and sympathetic of others. It helps you sense when someone is hurting or in need of compassion.

**Right Judgment, or Counsel**, is the gift of prudence. The gift of right judgment helps you make choices to live as a faithful follower of Jesus.

**Courage, or Fortitude**, is the gift that helps you stand up for your faith in Christ. The gift of courage helps you overcome any obstacles that would keep you from practicing your faith.

**Knowledge** is the gift of knowing and enlightenment. The gift of knowledge enables you to choose the right path that will lead you to God. It encourages you to avoid obstacles that will keep you from him.

**Reverence**, or Piety, is the gift of confidence in God. This gift of reverence inspires you to joyfully want to serve God and others.

**Wonder and Awe**, or Fear of the Lord is the gift of wonder and respect that encourages you to be in awe of God. The gift of wonder and awe moves you to so love God that you do not want to offend him by your words or actions.

### **The Fruits of the Holy Spirit**

When we cooperate with the graces and gifts we receive from the Holy Spirit, we grow as followers of Jesus. We see the effect of the Holy Spirit’s presence in our lives in special qualities and attitudes that we develop as we grow in faith. The Church identifies these qualities and attitudes as the fruits of the Holy Spirit. The **twelve fruits of the Holy Spirit** are signs that the Holy Spirit is alive within us and helping us live the Catholic faith in our daily lives.

**Love** ↔ We exhibit the virtue of charity, or love, by our unselfish devotion and care for God and our neighbour.

**Joy** ↔ We live with joy when we recognize that true happiness comes, not from money or possessions, but from knowing and following Christ.

**Peace** ↔ We are freed from worrying about trivial things because of the inner peace we experience with God in our hearts. We work and pray for peace throughout the world.

**Patience** ↔ We demonstrate patience by treating others with thoughtfulness and tolerance. We know that we can overcome the temptations and sufferings of life because God is always with us.

**Kindness** ↔ We live the virtue of kindness by treating others as we want to be treated.

**Goodness** ↔ We exhibit goodness when we honour God by avoiding sin and always trying to do what we know is right.

**Generosity** ↔ We demonstrate the fruit of generosity when we share our gifts and possessions with others.

**Gentleness** ↔ Gentle people act calmly and avoid actions that might lead others to anger or resentment.

**Faithfulness** ↔ We are faithful when we live out our commitment to the teachings of Jesus, the Scriptures, and the Catholic Church.

**Modesty** ↔ We exhibit modesty by being pure in our thoughts, words, and dress.

**Self-control** ↔ We exercise self-control by working to overcome the temptations we face and by trying always to do God's will.

**Chastity** ↔ We live the virtue of chastity when we use the gift of sexuality wisely, according to God's plan.

Fr. George Ngwa

### **Some Reminders**

**Glass doors.** There has been one "entry" so far. The display will start on 10/11<sup>th</sup> June in the Church Hall for 2 weeks. Thank you

**Parish Fete.** Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June between 11am and 4pm Tickets £1 for the raffle.

Holidaymakers and visitors WELCOME, to our lovely town where our church is open daily and the grotto is available for peaceful reflection. If you wish to know more about the church please contact the office. Please Note. On Our Lady's altar, there is a book for your special intentions. Enjoy your visit.

**IMPORTANT.** The weather is warmer now so the heating is off and the front door of the Church can be left open to attract people in. If you visit the church please make sure the inner doors are closed in case we have any cats or dogs straying in. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

### **Article from CAFOD about the election via the Diocesan e news**

Love is civic and political, and it makes itself felt in every action that seeks to build a better world.

Pope Francis, Laudato Si' #231

#### **1. Global poverty and aid**

Although there have been huge advances in tackling poverty, billions of people are still denied a life of dignity. Compassion rooted in love drives us to respond to their immediate needs. CAFOD believes international aid is a vital component in our response. Aid saves lives and must have as its sole focus the needs of the poorest people.

#### **2. Climate change and care for creation**

Pope Francis urges us to care our common home: the world we want to leave to future generations. To do so, we must act on climate change which threatens lives and livelihoods everywhere. The UK has strong cross-party support for climate action and has shown global leadership. CAFOD believes that to tackle poverty, we must tackle climate change. Climate change affects the poorest people first and hardest, despite the fact they have done the least to cause it.

#### **3. Britain's role in the world**

Pope Francis has warned against the 'globalisation of indifference'. In difficult or uncertain times we can turn inwards and forget our role in working for the common good. CAFOD believes that the UK should have an interest in and influence over what happens beyond our borders. We must hold our elected representatives to account, encouraging, praying for and challenging them to continue to work for the common good.

#### **4. Building strong communities in the UK.**

Social isolation is when someone lacks social ties, social integration or the sense of belonging to a community. As the human person can only flourish in community, we should seek to build a society in which communities can thrive. CSAN believes that policies should help communities to support older people, disabled people, homeless people, migrants – anyone living on the margins.

Sunday 4 June	<b>PENTECOST Sunday</b>	6pm <b>Vigil Mass</b> - Louis & Catherine d'Espagnac <b>10.00 Holy Mass</b> - Thomas Nixon RIP	Coffee and tea in Hall after Mass
Monday 5 June		<b>No Mass</b>	
Tuesday 6 June	<b>St Norbert</b>	6.00 Exposition 6.30 Rosary, 6.50. Benediction 7pm <b>Holy Mass</b> - 6 <sup>th</sup> Airborne Division & Canadian Colleagues	7pm Tap classes
Wednesday 7 June	<b>Feria</b>	9.00 Exposition, 9.30 Rosary, 9.50 Benediction, <b>10.00 Holy Mass</b> - Muriel & Tony McCourts RIP	Rosary intentions for the sick of the Parish.
Thursday 8 June	<b>Feria</b>	9.00 Exposition, 9.30 Rosary, 9.50 Benediction, <b>10.00 Holy Mass</b> – Pearl RIP	Rosary intentions for Peace in the world Polling Day
Friday 9 June	<b>St Ephrem or St Columba or Feria</b>	9.00 Exposition 9.30 Rosary 9.50 Benediction <b>10.00 Holy Mass</b> - Joseph RIP	Holy Communion Classes at 5pm in hall
Saturday 10 June	<b>Our Lady on Saturday or Feria</b>  <b>Most Holy Trinity</b>	9.30 Divine Mercy Chaplet and veneration of the relic of Sister Faustina <b>10.00 Holy Mass</b> - 6pm <b>Vigil Mass</b> – Thanksgiving Joseph & Lissa	.
Sunday 11 June	<b>Most Holy Trinity</b>	<b>10.00 Holy Mass</b> - Missa Pro Populo	Coffee and tea in hall after Mass

Prayer to St Michael, said at the end of Masses. St Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

For enquires about **Baptisms** please contact the office for forms, and for funerals please discuss dates first with the funeral directors and meet the parish priest with a date. Enquiries about weddings please email the office with your details. Copies of Baptism certificate £5

**COLLECTIONS for 27/28 May 2017. Loose £285.79 Gift aid envelopes £198.00.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection World Communications: Loose £113.80, Gift Aid £123.00 Thank you very much for your continued support.**

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

**After Wednesday and Saturday morning Mass and before Sat Vigil Mass at 5.45pm and on request**

Readers 3/4 June

Sat: C Barfoot, B Coyne

Sun: C Barrett, M Tanner

EMofHC

Sat: K Dempster, T Gearey, B Dempster

Sun: A Caneda, M Tanner, S Salinger

Readers 10/11 June

Sat: T Gearey, A Nash

Sun: H Fawcett, C Fradd

EMoHC:

Sat: B Petts, Ror M Yon, F Fallon

Sun: M Tanner, J Kurian, J Thomas

**Parish Priest: Father George Ngwa:**

**email: [gngwa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:gngwa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).**

**Emergencies only: mobile 07475753040**

**Parish Office: Mrs Johanna Thomas:**

**[lolnewmilton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lolnewmilton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)**

**Tel. 01425 614968;**

**OFFICE HOURS: Weds and Fri 10.45-12.00**

**Please leave any messages on answerphone or email.**

**Thank you.**

**Safeguarding: Katherine Dempster Tel. 01425 611643**

**Health and Safety: Lorenzo Bandonill**

**Hall Booking: via Parish Off**

