

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH In NEW MILTON

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

15 Mount Ave, New Milton. BH25 6NT.

Parish priest: *Father George Ngwa*

Church opening hours 7.30- 5pm (from June 7-7)



PENTECOST SUNDAY Year B 20TH May 2018

“IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH” – JN. 4:26

"And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit gave them the ability to speak" (Acts:2:4). After he was filled with the Spirit, the apostle Peter preached his first sermon and urged the crowds to repent, to believe in Jesus Christ as their Messiah and to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Amazingly, over 3,000 people, both Jews and Gentiles, were "cut to the heart" and baptized that day, thus marking the birth of the early church.

For Christians, Pentecost is one of the most important days of the year. While it's not as well known as Easter or Christmas, Pentecost represents one of the most significant events to take place in the New Testament: The descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ.

The fulfilment of the promise of Jesus was the outpouring of the gift of the Holy Spirit on the disciples and, as Peter proclaimed, on all of God's people in this new era. Thus, the promises of the new covenant are ours through the indwelling Spirit: "Jesus did not end his work on earth with the ascension - he continues it now through his Spirit actively present in the church. We, therefore, can take fresh courage in Jesus's words, 'Behold, I will be with you always, even to the end of the age.'"

Second, the Pentecost launched the global proclamation of the gospel, The three thousand souls added to the church on Pentecost hailed from all corners of the Roman world. They, in turn, would carry the gospel to their families and communities. The narrative arc of Acts follows the Spirit-indwelt disciples as they carry the gospel from Jerusalem to the ends of the earth.

Third, Pentecost signals the coming of fuller restoration and a greater celebration. While Jesus' reign is secure and eternal, it has yet to come to its fullest expression on the earth. While death has been decisively defeated, it has yet to be put to a final end. Paul reminds us that creation longs for its final restoration and that even we ourselves, who 'have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies' (Romans 8:23). Pentecost is a reminder that salvation history is moving towards the restoration of all things in Christ Jesus.

Thus we can see numerous valuable lessons in the celebration of Pentecost.

The necessity of the Holy Spirit. We cannot preach the gospel without the Holy Spirit living in us, empowering us for the work of God. Jesus told his disciples to preach to all nations—but first they had to wait in Jerusalem until they were “clothed with power from on high” (Luke 24:49). The church needs power—we need *enthusiasm* (literally, God in us) for the work set before us.

The diversity of the church. The gospel goes into all nations and is preached to all peoples. God's work is no longer focused on one ethnic group. Since Jesus is the second Adam as well as the seed of Abraham, the promises are expanded into all humanity. The diverse languages of Pentecost are a picture of the worldwide scope of the work.

The focus on Jesus. The message now focuses on Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, bringing salvation and forgiveness to those who believe. The sermons in Acts rehearse the basic truths again and again; the letters of Paul give further explanation for the theological significance of Jesus Christ, for it is only

through him that we can enter the kingdom of God, and we do it by faith, and we enter it even in this life. We share in the life of the age to come because the Holy Spirit lives within us.

United in Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit unites all believers into one body, and the church grows through the message of Jesus Christ. The church is to be characterized not only by the gospel mission, but also by discipleship, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayer. We are not saved by doing these things, but the Spirit leads us into such expressions of our new life in Christ.

We live and work by the power of the Holy Spirit; it is God within us who brings the joy of salvation, perseverance in the face of persecution, and the love that transcends cultural differences within the church.

The Challenge for us Christians – you and me:

Here is the challenge. Christ is looking at us, as He did Peter, and in His eyes is the summons to follow Him, to become a disciple, one who wholeheartedly desires to walk in His footsteps and do what He taught and practiced. It is the opportunity to change your life—the opportunity to pull out of the issues and problems that entangles you in a world that has missed this summons of Christ to a new way of life—a tried and proven way that works. That way is based on God’s eternal law, found in the pages of your Bible.

Receiving this look from Christ requires a response. Peter melted in despair on the night of Christ’s arrest and ran. But the story doesn’t end there. He returned, learned from the experience, and went on to accomplish great things by the power of the living resurrected Christ within him—the power that is the Holy Spirit. Peter called on all of us to do the same. That message is before you right now. The challenge is to turn around, face Christ, and meet His gaze. Turn toward God and let your eyes meet Him in willing obedience and surrender of your life to Him.

Once we’ve received God’s Spirit, it’s His power in our life to change our life. It gives us the opportunity to draw closer to God, to have a spiritual relationship with Him, to understand more about what His will and His purpose for us is. God’s Spirit helps us to understand His Word so we can read the Bible with much deeper understanding. When we begin to do that, then we will see the need to change further, and where and what we need to change in our lives. We will see the shortcomings in our life, and through God’s Spirit we can overcome. The Holy Spirit is the power that helps us to truly change. It convicts us. It works with us. It helps us to see where we need to realign our lives with God’s way.

One of the most encouraging descriptions the Bible offers about the Holy Spirit is what Paul wrote in 2 Timothy 1:7, “God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” Obviously God’s Spirit is a serious gift—an uplifting, transformative gift. It is important, it is available, and it is something you need to think seriously about incorporating in your life if you’re ready for a true change—a change that involves God in your life. The day of Pentecost represents the only way we can really change our lives. We need the power of God’s Spirit working within us to be the kind of transformed people God wants us to be.

Remember Peter: With the help of God’s Spirit, he went from being an underachieving disciple to becoming a bold apostle of Jesus Christ and a representative of the Kingdom of God. ***We too can experience this change in our lives with the power of God’s Holy Spirit through the miracle that happened on the day of Pentecost!***

“Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me; Melt me, Mould me, Fill me and Use me.”

Father George Ngwa

Missio: Mission Team in the Diocese – Notice for Newsletters

Fr. Innaiah Maddineni, our Diocesan Director for Missio, is planning to establish a Missio Mission Team in the Diocese and he is looking for volunteers to join the team. Please contact Fr. Innaiah on 023 8086 2270 or email him at imaddineni@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Inter-religious information –Notice for newsletters: (from Bishop Philip)

JEWISH: 20-21st May: Shavuot/Feast of Weeks/Pentecost. A two-day festival which falls seven weeks after Pesach. It celebrates the revelation of the Torah to Moses on Mount Sinai, and marks the time when the first harvest was taken to the Temple. Synagogues are decorated with flowers and dairy foods are traditionally eaten. For Orthodox Jews work is not permitted throughout the festival.

Suggested Intercession for closest Sunday: *We pray for our Jewish brothers and sisters: may their celebrations of Shavuot (Pentecost) deepen their commitment in faith and their living out of the Torah given to Moses.*

BUDDHIST: 29th May: Vesakha Puja/Wesak/Buddha Day. Theravadin Buddhists celebrate the birth, enlightenment under the Bodhi Tree and final passing away of Guatama Budda.

Suggested Intercession for closest Sunday: *May all who celebrate Vesakha continue their living out of the enlightenment of Budda.*

PALS – Lunch Tuesday – those not going by bus, please meet in Church Carpark 11.45 a.m.

“Fr. George and his Holy Land Pilgrimage (1st June) : Since the Pilgrimage group did not get the required number (20) to enable Fr. George go on a free ticket as is the case in all pilgrimages, your help is needed toward the cost of Father’s trip. ANY donation LARGE OR SMALL will be gratefully received; The Fish and Chip supper profits next Sat 25th May will be added to the fund, and thank you to those persons who have already contributed.

Please make cheques payable to PRCDTR Our Lady of Lourdes or enclose cash in an envelope specially marked Father Holy Land Pilgrimage, as monies will go through parish accounts.

Many thanks to help fulfil Father’s dream in going to the Holy Land,
Susie Ramsay Finance Committee

Could you help the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph and their Chaplain?

The Dominican Sisters of St. Joseph at Sway are building new accommodation for their Chaplain, Fr. Richard Saksons, O.Praem as his present accommodation has been declared uninhabitable. They are therefore going to building him new accommodation and have raised some money but have a shortfall of £70,000. They are therefore appealing for help to raise this money. Any help would be most appreciated.

If you would like to contribute, please contact the Prioress Sr. Julie Marsh-Collis, OP., srjuliemc@gmail.com

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

Pentecost Sunday Year B 20 May 2018

Sunday	20	May	Pentecost Sunday	18.00 Vigil Mass 10.00 Holy Mass – Winifrede McQueen Peterson – RIP (1 st Anniversary)	Coffee & tea in hall after Mass
Monday	21	May	Feast of Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Christ & the Church	09.00 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary 09.50 Benediction 10.00 Holy Mass –	
Tuesday	22	May	St. Rita of Cascia	18.00 Exposition, 18.30 Rosary 18.50 Benediction 19.00 Holy Mass- <i>Misa Pro Populo</i>	
Wednesday	23	May	7 th week in ordinary time	09.00 Holy Mass – <i>Edmund Crittal (health & wellbeing)</i>	No Confessions after Morning Mass
Thursday	24	May	7 th week in ordinary time	18.00 Exposition, 18.30 Rosary 18.50 Benediction 19.00 Holy Mass – <i>Holy Souls</i>	
Friday	25	May	St. Bede the Venerable	09.00 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary 09.50 Benediction 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Gehane & Paul Gardelier (Wedding Anniversary)</i>	
Saturday	26	May	St. Philip Neri	09.30 Divine Mercy chaplet veneration of the relic of Sr Faustina 10.00 Holy Mass – 18.00 Vigil Mass of the most Holy Trinity - <i>Elza (RIP)</i>	Confessions after morning Mass & before Vigil Mass 7.00 p.m. Quiz & Fish & Chip Supper
Sunday	27	May	The Most Holy Trinity	10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Missa pro Populo</i>	Coffee & tea in hall after Mass

IMPORTANT: MASS OFFERINGS/intentions If you would like a Mass said for your intention then please take one of the envelopes on the shelf by the Confessional and fill in your details, add an offering and pop it into the general collection at one of the weekend masses. The next available day will be booked in the diary. If you wish a specific date, please give plenty of time and phone the office during opening times or call in to check the date is available. Thank you.

Collections 12/13 th May	
loose	£496.13
envelopes	£197.00
World Communications - £191.13	
Thank you for your continued support	

	Sat 19 May	Sun 20 May	Sat 26 May	Sun 27 May
Reader	K Dempster	C Fradd	T. Gearey	S. Ramsay
	J Marriott	C Fradd	A Nash	J. Thomas
EMHC	M Harwood	M Tanner	B.Dempster	M.Buckland
	C d'Espagnac	A Joseph	K.Dempster	S.Salinger
		J Nichols	T. Gearey	A.Caneda

Parish priest: Father George Ngwa

email: gngwa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk emergency mobile: **07475753040**

Parish office: 01425 614968 Hall Booking via Parish Office

lolnewmilton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Secretary: Lizzie Davies Wed & Fri 10.00h-14.00h from May 9th

Our Parish Live streaming: <http://churchservices.tv/newmilton>

Website: www.nfwp.org.uk

Safeguarding: Katherine Dempster Tel: **01425 611643** email: katherine.dempster@btinternet.com

**** Please note changes to Mass times on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday****