

Come HOLY SPIRIT

PENTECOST – THE HOLY SPIRIT IN OUR LIVES

I believe in the Holy Spirit. This proclamation of faith is made each time we gather to celebrate the Sunday Eucharist. Too often, we speak the words with little thought, or maybe even very unsure as to what they mean, or as to the importance of this belief in the Holy Spirit in the living of our Christian lives.

LORD AND GIVER OF LIFE

Belief in the Holy Spirit, 'the Lord, the giver of Life' is to confess faith in the Christian God, the God that is Trinity. Traditionally this has been expressed as 'three persons in One God'. This is not three 'people' in one God; but seeks to speak of the 'three-foldness' of God, a mystery theologians continue to struggle to speak of appropriately.

To believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord the giver of Life is to confess faith in the immanence of God. The Christian God has created everything out of nothing. We understand that God not only created all that is, but continues to hold all things in existence today, and every day. The second story of creation in the first book of the bible Genesis (2: 7) speaks of God breathing God's very breath into Adam, the earth creature. God breathes life into Adam, and into each one of us. God's self-gift is God's vivifying presence, it is life itself. God is closer to us than we are to ourselves. The Holy Spirit dwells within us, giving us life.

A WIND OF CHANGE?

This is a thought at once comforting, and disturbing. All creation pulsates to the heartbeat of the vivifying Spirit. God's Holy Spirit is intimate to every movement in Creation, the Holy Spirit animates all action, breathes everything into existence, maintains life and existence. This is the teaching of Christianity, and thus it is clear that we are called to be careful stewards of creation. Our faith calls us to be concerned about climate change, and the burning of rain forests; to monitor carefully our use of water, to recycle whenever possible, and to walk or cycle or take a bus and avoid using our private cars, whenever we can. God's Holy

Spirit calls us to be considerate in our use of the Creation vivified by God.

Belief in God's Holy Spirit is disturbing, for it calls us to disturb our comfortable way of living, and to acknowledge that the world is not in our control. To confess belief in the Holy Spirit is to pledge ourselves pliable to God the Spirit, the same Spirit that led Jesus to the Cross. Life in God's Holy Spirit is the life of God, the Holy One. Through the Holy Spirit holiness is rendered communicable. God comes close, touches, transforms, challenges. The whole of Christian living, all prayer, all action is permeated by the working of God's Holy Spirit.

IMAGINING THE SPIRIT

How do we visualise the Holy Spirit? As we seek to put a human face on the Spirit, so that we may better pray to the Spirit, this idea of the breath of life is helpful. The Spirit is God's very breathe in us; so rather than praying to the Holy Spirit all prayer is 'in' the Spirit.

St Thomas Aquinas, an important theologian who has contributed greatly to the life of the Church, sought a word which could be used to speak distinctively of the Holy Spirit. The term he came upon was 'gift'. Gift, he believed, is the nearest we have to a distinctive name for the Spirit of God's love. The Holy Spirit is the very givenness of God to us. To call the Holy Spirit "gift" reminds us of the giver of the Gift, God. God gives, and what God gives is nothing less than God.

Our life, as Spirit breathed is truly ours, yet still at every moment and in every detail of its being it has its source, it takes its life, in God, from God. ■

SoulSpace

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Season colour: **RED**

THIS WEEK:

Dr Fainche Ryan
explores the role of the
Holy Spirit in the life of
the believer

Today's readings:
Acts 2:1-11
Ps 103
1 Cor 12: 3-7, 12-13
John 20:19-23

**SUNDAY 15TH MAY 2016
PENTECOST SUNDAY**



'The Church was made manifest to the world on the day of Pentecost by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The gift of the Spirit ushers in a new era in the dispensation of the mystery - the age of the Church, during which Christ manifests, makes present and communicates his work of salvation through the liturgy of his Church "until he comes" '.

Catechism of the Catholic Church 1076

TODAY'S OFFERING FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE CLERGY

Today's collection is one of four each year to raise funds to pay the agreed salaries for the priests of the parish. We ask you please to support as generously as you can.

MONTH OF MAY The Rosary will be recited before the 10.30 a.m. daily Mass. All are invited to attend from 10.00 a.m. for this traditional prayer.

YOUTH MASS – EXAM PREPARATION Each Sunday during May our evening Mass at 7pm will be offered for all students undertaking Second & Third Level Examinations.

CHILDREN'S ROSARY In the Cathedral **Monday 30th May at 7p.m.**

STATION MASS Cummeen/ Strandhill Rd. Area in the home of Marian & Sean Martyn on Thursday 19th May at 8.00pm.



MASS FOR ADORERS - TUESDAY MAY 31ST

All adorers who visit and pray in the CHAPEL OF ADORATION are invited to join with their friends in this Celebration of the Eucharist on Tuesday, May 31st at 7.30pm in thanksgiving for God's care. All are most welcome to join us for a cup of tea afterwards in the Gillooly Hall.

CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

To facilitate the Corpus Christi Procession all evening Masses in the Town Parishes on the Feast of Corpus Christi, **Sunday May 29th** will be held at **6.30 p.m.** and the procession will follow immediately afterwards. This will be a chance for us to unite together in showing our faith, reverence and our gratitude.



JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY - POPE FRANCIS' WORDS

"What we say and how we say it, our every word and gesture, ought to express God's compassion, tenderness and forgiveness for all."

BAPTISMS We welcome into God's family KEELAN McDERMOTT and LOCHLAN McCaffrey recently baptised in our Cathedral.

SLIGO CATHEDRAL PARISH – 2200 FAMILIES

SUNDAY 8th MAY PARISH ENV: €2,337 PL/STAND. ORD: €1,398

THANK YOU for your contribution.

ST MARY'S PRESBYTERY ☎ 071 9162670 SACRISTY ☎ 071 9161261

BINGO - GILLOOLY HALL - TONIGHT APRIL 24th at 9.00 p.m.

This week's jackpot is €1,350.

**ELPHIN DIOCESAN CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE
CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

If you are celebrating the 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or other significant Anniversary of your Marriage this year, you are invited to join the annual Elphin Diocesan Celebration of Marriage that takes place in our Cathedral on **Sunday 19th June 2016**. Mass will be celebrated at 3:00 p.m. by Bishop Kevin Doran. Following the ceremony those who wish may join a meal with musical entertainment in the Sligo Southern Hotel. To book please contact St Michael's Family Life Centre on 071 917 0329 or e-mail stmichaelsfamilylifecentre@eircom.net



SLIGO PARISHES CLUSTER PILGRIMAGE TO LOUGH DERG 2016

Takes place on Monday 30th May. For booking please contact Sabrina Rooney on 071 914 5028 or call to St. Anne's Parish Office. Cost €40 for Lough Derg and €10 to €15 for the bus (numbers depending). *Please note a deposit of €25 is required at the time of booking.*



WILL YOU JOIN US?

Elphin Diocesan Jubilee of Mercy Pilgrimage to Lough Derg Friday June 10th to Sunday June 12th. All those in good health 16 yrs+ welcome. For more visit www.elphindiocese.ie/lough-derg or contact Frank 087 988 0690 or Justin 087 617 1526.

MAN HEALED IN LOURDES VISITS ST ANNE'S

Vittorio Micheli from Scurelle, Italy visited Lourdes in 1963 suffering from cancer of the pelvis. Within one year of his visit the tumour was gone and Vittorio was restored to full health. His cure was recognised by the Medical Bureau in 1976. Vittorio will visit St. Anne's on Thursday 19th May. Rosary, Mass, Testimony, Adoration of Blessed Sacrament and an opportunity to venerate the Relic of St. Bernadette will be part of the programme starting at 7:00 p.m. and concluding at 9.00p.m. All welcome.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK Lord, open my eyes to the revelation of salvation you have gained for us. Amen.

READINGS FOR SUNDAY NEXT 22ND MAY 1st Reading: Prov 8:22-31; 2nd Reading: Rm. 5:1-5; Gospel: Jn. 16:12-15.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK Mon 16th St Brendan, abbot; Weds 18th St John I, pope & martyr; St Carthage, bishop; Fri 20th St Berndardine of Siena, priest; Sat 21st St Christopher Magallanes, priest and companions, martyrs.

CATHEDRAL of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Upcoming **EVENTS**
THE WEEK AHEAD

Wednesday 18th **'Wednesday Tea'** Upstairs in Cathedral Sacristy immediately after 10:30 a.m. Mass
Saturday 21st **Confirmation** Scoil Éoin Naofa 11:30 a.m.
Confessions 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 22nd **First Communion** Scoil Ursula 10:30 a.m. Mass

Dates to remember

CHURCH GATE COLLECTION will be held this weekend for the Irish Society for Autism. Your support is greatly appreciated.

SCOIL URSULA CELEBRATING 50 YEARS 1966 - 2016 The school are seeking contributions for the special publication being produced to mark this special jubilee. Please spread the word among Scoil Ursula friends. E-mail photos or articles to info@scoilursula.com or post to the school's Facebook Page.

SCHOLASTIC LANGUAGES IRISH & FRENCH SUMMER CAMPS In Mercy College. Fun, activity-based camps for primary (7-12 yrs) & secondary school students (intensive exam prep). New Irish Cookery Academy for all and Mini-Camp for 5 & 6 yr olds www.scholasticlanguages.com 087 997 3346.

THE CHURCHGATE COLLECTION For next weekend, May 21-22 will be in aid The Hope Foundation in Kolkata (Calcutta) who work with street and slum children. Local Ann McPadden will return as a volunteer with the Foundation later this year. Your support will go to the most underprivileged children in India, to promote immediate and lasting change in their lives. Thank you.

YOUTH 2000 SUMMER FESTIVAL Thursday 7th – Sunday 10th July in Cistercian College, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary - a celebration of faith for young people aged 16-35. With an action packed programme of inspiring talks, workshops, testimonies, prayer, music, drama and much more. The festival is donation only. Free buses available countrywide. Book/info @ www.youth2000.ie or phone 01 675 3690.

HEALING & RENEWAL RETREAT With Noel Byrne; Aidan Byrne & Fr Tommy Johnston 9:30am to 6pm Sat 21st to Sun 22nd May in the Community Parish Centre, Rossinver, Co Leitrim. Retreat includes Family Tree healing seminars, Bible & C.C.H. study/teachings. For more contact Mary on 087 784 7304.

SLIGO SOCIAL SERVICES Currently seek reliable, flexible, friendly volunteers to work in their Thrift Shop for occasional and/or regular shifts (4 hours slots). If you would be interested in meeting new people, developing your retail experience and supporting the invaluable work Sligo Social Services provides, then please contact Faye Hayden on 071 914 7852 or e-mail faye@sligosocialservices.ie

ONE DAY RETREAT IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY In Donegal Town Parish Centre Sat. 28th May, 10am to 4pm. With presenter Fr Freddie Warner. Mass, Adoration, Confession, Talks & Rosary. Tea/Coffee supplied but please bring a packed lunch.

Anniversary & Remembrances

DAY	8.00 A.M.	10.30 A.M.
TUES 17 th	--	HENRY & MAY COLLINS
WEDS 18 th	MAY, JOHN & MICHAEL HOWLEY and BOLAND & HOWLEY Families	THOMAS & NORA LYNCH
THURS 19 th	--	PACKIE KEEGAN
FRI 20 th	MICHAEL & MARY LYNCH & Deceased Family Members	--
SAT 21 st	EDEL QUINN	--

Rest in peace Your prayers are asked for the repose of the souls of: SUSAN McCrory, Kilmacowen; MICHAEL (Mickey) ROBINSON, Treacy Avenue and MARGARET MARY KELLY, Strandhill & formerly of Wine Street.
May God grant them eternal rest and comfort and console their bereaved families and friends.