

# OUR LADY'S AND ST JOHN FISHER RC CHURCHES – Newsletter

Leach Green Lane, B45 9BQ and Cofton Road, B31 3QT – Birmingham.

**Parish Priest:** Fr Srinu Bonthu - [fr.srinu.bonthu@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.srinu.bonthu@rcaob.org.uk) , 0121 453 3452

**Residence Address:** 1 Quarry Walk, Leach Green Lane, Rednal – B45 9BQ, Birmingham, UK

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour (OLPS)	St John Fisher (SJF)
Parish Office : <a href="mailto:ol.rednal.bham@rcaob.org.uk">ol.rednal.bham@rcaob.org.uk</a> , 0121 453 3452	Parish Office: <a href="mailto:stjohn.fisher.wheath@rcaob.org.uk">stjohn.fisher.wheath@rcaob.org.uk</a> , 07419581916
Parish Safeguarding : <a href="mailto:sg.ol.rednal.bham@rcaob.org.uk">sg.ol.rednal.bham@rcaob.org.uk</a>	Parish Safeguarding : <a href="mailto:sg.stjohn.fisher.wheath@rcaob.org.uk">sg.stjohn.fisher.wheath@rcaob.org.uk</a>
Parish Hall: <a href="mailto:olhallbooking@gmail.com">olhallbooking@gmail.com</a> , 0121 453 3452	Parish Hall: <a href="mailto:bookings.stjohn.fisher.wheath@rcaob.org.uk">bookings.stjohn.fisher.wheath@rcaob.org.uk</a>

## SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST– 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Readings: Acts 2:1-11, Psalm 103; 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13; St John 20:19-23

**Psalm Response:** Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth

Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> May Solemnity of Pentecost	4:00 pm Our Lady's	Linda Bennett Intentions
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> May – School Thanksgiving Mass Solemnity of Pentecost	9:00 am St John Fisher 11:00 am Our Lady's 1:30 pm Our Lady's	For the intentions of Betty McKeivitt +Thomas Coyle (Anniversary) Grace Nicole Jiggins-Selby
Baptism		
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> May - First World Day of Children Alpha/RCIA course	10.00 am St John Fisher 7.00 pm Our Lady's Hall	+Romana Pates Anniversary (RIP) ALPHA Taster Session
Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup> May First World Day of Children	10:00 am St Columba's	+Nora Hall 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary (RIP)
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> May First World Day of Children St Thomas Aquinas Secondary School	9:15 am Our Lady's 1:30 pm St Thomas Aquinas	+Rev. John Darnaby (RIP) <b>Year 13 Thanksgiving Mass.</b>
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> May - Baptism Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity	11:00 am Our Lady's 4:00 pm Our Lady's	Aaliyah May (Maria) Blagrove - Clarke Joe O'Connor Intentions.
Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. First World Day of Children	9:00 am St John Fisher 11:00 am Our Lady's 1:30 pm Our Lady's	For the intentions of Pat Curley +Steve Sloane, May Procession St James School Rebecca Love Child
Baptism		

Please pray for those whose Anniversaries occur around this time: 19 Christopher Byrne, Charles Hill, Margaret Higgins, 20 Mary Coleman, Albert Boughton, Harry Salmon, Patrick Lavery, Charlie Whelan, Maxine Glass, Frances Barlow, Teresa Cooling, Annie Ross, Mary Kinsella, 21 Edith Duffy, Peter Darby, 22 Margaret Hackley, Thomas Maguire, 23 Graham Hill, Fr Percy Winder, 24 Thomas Williams, 25 Emily Houghton, Theresa Ormsby.

**Please Pray for those who are Sick:** Margaret Owen, Carol Spooner, Dave McGrath, Mary Smallwood, Margaret Cooper, Trisha Forest, Fr Tony Rohan, Ann Docherty, Nancy Witcomb, Maz Boyce, Lily McKenna, Mary and Victor, Margaret Izon, Carl Brookes, Sheila Cox, Peter Flanagan, Pat Farrell, Jan & Mark Hurley, Peter Rafferty, Jackie Hurley, Helen Ingram, Mary Molloy, Andrea Byrne, Linda Simms, Rita Fitzpatrick, Christina Cooper, Fr Gerry Lennon, Ann Glenn, Mary Markley. Pat Curly, Linda Bennett, Jo MacAleenan and Margaret Smythe, Ben Jackson, Jackie Whitehead.

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour (OLPS)		St John Fisher (SJF)	
Gift Aid £163.00	<u>Total £545.40</u>	Gift Aid £181.00	<u>Total: £611.71</u>
Loose Money £382.40 Contactless £0.00		Loose Money £430.71	
Catholic Communications £48.38. Second collection this week Christian Aid	Parish Social £525.20	Catholic Communication: £143.75 Second Collection this week is for Christian Aid	

**Deaths:** Please pray for Mary Markley who died on Friday. May she rest in peace. Please pray too for **Mr Francis Joseph McKeever (Known as Mac)** whose Funeral Service will be on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024 at 2:00 pm in Redditch Crematorium and Pray for **Elizabeth Mary Bagguley** whose Funeral Service takes place on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June at 11:00 am in Our Lady's Church – Rednal** and followed by Burial at Stapleford Cemetery. May they rest in Peace. Amen.

Warm welcome to all the First Communicants, Families, Friends and Staff from St John Fisher School and Children studying in Non – Catholic Schools for joining with Parish Family to **offer thanksgiving Mass and to celebrate the blessings of God on this Sunday at 9:00 am in St John Fisher Church.**

All the Families, Staff and Students from **St James's Primary School** will be joining the Parish Family to lead us with May Rosary Procession after Mass at Our Lady's Church – Rednal on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2024. All are welcome to join us this Annual Event and to pray for everyone. We shall begin the Procession from the Church and walk toward the Prayer Garden in St James School Grounds while reciting the Holy Rosary.

**Our Lady's Parish Hall:** New bookings email: [olhallbooking@gmail.com](mailto:olhallbooking@gmail.com) and Phone: 0121 453 3452

**Dates for your diary:** Quiz Night Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June 7:00pm-10:00pm. If there is enough demand, we could look at a monthly Quiz night.

**Family BBQ Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July 12pm-3:00pm at Our Lady' Parish.**

**Baptism Dates:** The next meeting is on Saturday 01<sup>st</sup> June 2024 at Our Lady's Church on Leach Green Lane, B45 9BQ at 5:30 pm and Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 5:00 pm in St John Fisher Church – West Heath.

**SVP:** Dear Friends, many thanks as always for your generous donations of non-perishable food items. **OUR NEXT FOOD PARCEL IS ON THURSDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> May** Please, drop off your donations to your usual drop off point or bring them to Our Lady's Parish Hall on **THURSDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> May** between 10:15am and 11:15am. Please donate any new/ used carrier bags for the food parcels. (One of our parishioners is happy to take broken 'bags for life' back to supermarkets to exchange for new ones!) It is by working together that we can make a difference. If you have any queries, please contact Pauline on 07810 557197.

**First Holy Communions: On Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2024- St James and St Columba School at St John Fisher Church).**

Have you heard about a weekend for all the family? **Celebrate Joy** is to be held on the weekend of 21/22 September. It is a national event being held at St Thomas Aquinas School. Its focus is on family with specific activities for children and young people. The weekend will include worship, prayer and reflection, children and youth groups, Mass each day, and various talks to support us with our faith journey. For further details and to book go to: - [www.celebratetrust.org/joy](http://www.celebratetrust.org/joy) As there will be many volunteers to facilitate this event, we have been asked to support the accommodation needed for the weekend. Have you a spare room to offer a bed to someone? If you could or would like some more details, please contact Angela Vince on 07958 726783.

[Petitions/Prayers for Lourdes](#) - If you wish to send a prayer to Lourdes this year please put it in the box in Our Lady's Chapel. There is a box in both Church's. The boxes will be emptied on Sunday 26th May, ready to be taken.

**COULD YOU BE A SEED OF HOPE?** The Archdiocese of Birmingham is inviting enthusiastic individuals to create a network of **Environment Champions**. To celebrate Laudato Si week (19-26 May), please help us get as many parish/cluster/deanery Environment Champions as we can. <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/seedofhope>

**ALPHA introductory session on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 at 7:00pm. Venue: Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Parish Hall on Leach Green Lane, B45 9BQ.**

# THE ALPHA COURSE

**explore the meaning of life!**



## The sequence for Pentecost, the "Veni, Sancte Spiritus"

Come, Holy Spirit; shine in us with the heavenly light of Your own radiance.

Come, Father of the poor, come, Gift-giver, come, Light of hearts.

You, gentle Guest of the soul, are the surest Consoler, cooling our fever-heat.

You are Rest when we labour, relief in searing heat, Solace when we weep.

O most blessed Light! Fill the secret inward spaces of the hearts that turn towards You.

Without Your mysterious glory, nothing in human spirits is free from poison.

Wash what has become soiled in us; moisten what has dried out; heal whatever is wounded.

Make supple what has stiffened, melt what is frozen in us, straighten what has become bent.

To us who believe in You, who trust in You, give Your seven-fold gifts of healing.

Grant, as Your gift, the fruits of virtue; grant, as Your gift, salvation at the end.

may Your gifts bring undying joy. Amen, alleluia!

## What does the name "Pentecost" mean?

It comes from the Greek word for "fiftieth" (*pentecoste*). The reason is that Pentecost is the fiftieth day (Greek, *pentecoste hemera*) after Easter Sunday (on the Christian calendar). This name came into use in the late Old Testament period and was inherited by the authors of the New Testament.

## How is the Holy Spirit symbolized in the events of the day of Pentecost? Acts 2 records:

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. This contains two notable symbols of the Holy Spirit and his activity: the elements of wind and fire.

Wind is a basic symbol of the Holy Spirit, as the Greek word for "Spirit" (*Pneuma*) also means "wind" and "breath."

Although the term used for "wind" in this passage is *pnos* (a term related to *pneuma*), the reader is meant to understand the connection between the mighty wind and the Holy Spirit. Concerning the symbol of fire, the Catechism notes:

While water signifies birth and the fruitfulness of life given in the Holy Spirit, fire symbolizes the transforming energy of the Holy Spirit's actions.

The prayer of the prophet Elijah, who "arose like fire" and whose "word burned like a torch," brought down fire from heaven on the sacrifice on Mount Carmel.

This event was a "figure" of the fire of the Holy Spirit, who transforms what he touches. John the Baptist, who goes "before [the Lord] in the spirit and power of Elijah," proclaims Christ as the one who "will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire." Jesus will say of the Spirit: "I came to cast fire upon the earth; and would that it were already kindled!"

In the form of tongues "as of fire," the Holy Spirit rests on the disciples on the morning of Pentecost and fills them with himself. The spiritual tradition has retained this symbolism of fire as one of the most expressive images of the Holy Spirit's actions. "Do not quench the Spirit" [CCC 696].

Alone we are only a spark, but in the Spirit we are a fire.

Alone we are only a string, but in the Spirit we are a lyre.

Alone we are only an anthill, but in the Spirit we are a mountain.

Alone we are only a feather, but in the Spirit we are a wing.

**MAY THE MIGHTY HOLY SPIRIT ANOINT EACH ONE OF US AND RENEW OUR LIVES TODAY AND EVERYDAY OF OUR FAITH JOURNEY. HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH.**