



Marple Bridge

The Catholic Community Newsletter
for the parishes of
St Mary and **The Annunciation**
Marple Bridge and New Mills
with



New Mills



*I will make you
fishers of men.*

Ss. John Fisher & Thomas More
Chapel-en-le-Frith (serving Tideswell)



*God's Servant
first*

Clergy of the parishes
Fr. Kevin Gradwell (Tel 01298 813491)
Deacon Don Lavery (Tel 07928 540884)
2 Horderns Road, Chapel-en-le-Frith, High Peak SK23 9ST

Email: chapelrc@hotmail.com  Twitter: @ChapelRC Emergency Contact: 07919374997

SUNDAY 31ST MAY 2020
PENTECOST SUNDAY

We pray today:

Holy Spirit, Lord of Light,
From the clear celestial height
Thy pure beaming radiance give.

Come, thou Father of the poor,
Come with treasures which endure
Come, thou light of all that live!



Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow
Thou in toil art comfort sweet
Pleasant coolness in the heat
Solace in the midst of woe.

Come, Holy Spirit

Light immortal, light divine,
Visit thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill:

If thou take thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay
All his good is turned to ill.



Veni, Sancte Spiritus

Heal our wounds, our strength renew
On our dryness pour thy dew
Wash the stains of guilt away:
Bend the stubborn heart and will
Melt the frozen, warm the chill
Guide the steps that go astray.



Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and thee adore,
With thy sevenfold gifts descend:
Give us comfort when we die
Give us life with thee on high
Give us joys that never end.

PENTECOST SUNDAY

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Today we pray ...

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Jesus said:

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

We may be celebrating Pentecost – Fifty days after Easter ...

But, today's Gospel from John is set on Easter Sunday.

This is a useful reminder that the Christian Mystery is NOT a series of chronological distinct steps but a seamless whole where the Resurrection of Jesus and the outpouring of the Spirit are all part of the same action of God and the action is always NOW!

If you feel you can only think chronologically, then think of today as the Birthday of the Church when God gave us His greatest gift, the Holy Spirit to compliment his other greatest gift Jesus, the God made man ... and, for all the English teachers whose brains balk at the double superlative ... everything about God is the 'greatest'!

FIRST READING ACTS 2:1-11

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak

When people tried to ascend to God, by means of the tower of Babel, their languages were confused. Now, as God descends to people, by means of the Holy Spirit, that confusion of languages is overcome.

SECOND READING 1 CORINTHIANS 12:3-7,12-13

In the one Spirit we were all baptised.

Again, the Spirit is portrayed as the principle of unity. Whether it is in languages, or in the various tasks Christians are called to perform, the unifying force is the Spirit. A lack of unity points to heedlessness of the promptings of the Spirit.

GOSPEL JOHN 20:19-23

As the Father sent me, so am I sending you: receive the Holy Spirit

It is no small thing that the Lord's first greeting to his disciples is 'Peace be with you.' It is no small thing that this greeting is given twice. Peace, shalom, is the sum of all God's blessings. Only Christ can confer it in its fullness.

SEEING LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

1. Jesus comes into a room full of fear.
Sometimes it is fear itself that makes us close the door on others and on God.
Occasionally a person comes along with the gift of breaking through our closed doors, a person who comes to be with us in our fears.
Do you have memories of people getting through to you and being with you despite your closed doors?
Who brought you peace in a time of anxiety?
2. Jesus showed his wounds to his friends.
Moments of grace can occur when another shows us their vulnerable side, or when we do that with them.
Let your memories speak of such experiences to you.
3. As Jesus was sent by the Father, so he sent out the disciples.
This evokes images of receiving and handing on the things that give life: values, meaning, sense of purpose, love.
Who are the people who gave you life by what they handed on to you?
To whom have you handed on what is life-giving?
4. In our tradition, the final verse reminds us of the Sacrament of Reconciliation ... but its meaning is broader than that.
Spirit-filled people are people who forgive.
What difference has it made to you and others when you forgive rather than hold sins against others?

MASSES INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday	The welfare of Paul John Carroll
Tuesday	A family's Welfare
Wednesday	Audrey Martin RIP
Thursday	Father Richard Adam, OCSO, RIP,
Friday	Fr. Andrew Murdoch RIP (1982)

On Friday 22nd May, Father Richard Adam, OCSO, RIP, a Monk of the Community at Mount St Bernard Abbey, died peacefully in his sleep.

He was born in 1930 in Brighton, and entered Mount. St. Bernard Abbey in 1950, where he made his Solemn Profession in 1955, and was ordained a Priest in 1959. Father Richard was 90 years of age when he died.

The Bishop asks that we pray for the happy repose of his soul, as we keep the Community at Mount St Bernard Abbey in our prayers at this time.

Fr. Richard has kept us in his prayers for many years.

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

MONDAY

1ST JUNE ... MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

Mother of the Church (in Latin Mater Ecclesiae) is a title, officially given to Mary during the Second Vatican Council by Pope Paul VI.

Pope John Paul told us ... "Mary is present in the Church as the Mother of Christ, and at the same time as that Mother whom Christ, in the mystery of the Redemption, gave to humanity in the person of the Apostle John. Thus, in her new motherhood in the Spirit, Mary embraces each and every one in the Church, and embraces each and every one through the Church. In this sense Mary, Mother of the Church, is also the Church's model. Indeed, as Paul VI hopes and asks, the Church must draw "from the Virgin Mother of God the most authentic form of perfect imitation of Christ."

Here we see the close links Mary has not only with her son Jesus and the Holy Spirit but also with us.

Today, the seasonal Marian Anthem changes to the Hail Holy Queen, the Salve Regina, which will be sung at the end of every Sunday mass until Advent and which should be prayed daily, especially at the end of Night Prayer.

Salve Regina



Salve, Regina, mater misericordiae,
vita, dulcedo et spes nostra, salve.
Ad te clamamus, exsules filii Evæ.
Ad te suspiramus,
gementes et flentes

in hac lacrimarum valle.

Eja ergo, advocata nostra,

illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos

converte,

et Jesum, benedictum fructum ventris tui,

nobis post hoc exilium ostende.

O clemens, o pia, o dulcis Virgo Maria.

V. Ora pro nobis, sancta Dei Genetrix.

R. Ut digni efficiamur promissionibus Christi.

Amen.

Hail Holy Queen



Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of mercy,
our life, our sweetness and our hope.
To thee do we cry, poor banished
children of Eve.

To thee do we send up our sighs,

mourning and weeping

in this vale of tears.

Turn then, most gracious Advocate,

thine eyes of mercy toward us,

and after this our exile,

show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary!

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Amen.

The Angelus



The 31st May would have been feast of **The Visitation of The Blessed Virgin Mary**, had it not been this, the Feast of the Ascension. On this day, we remember and acknowledge the visitation of Mary, the Mother of God, to her cousin, Elizabeth.

“Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women!” (Luke 1:28) and

“Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.” (Luke 1:42)

Both quotations come from that story of the Visitation and are included in the Hail Mary; a prayer we include three times when we say **The Angelus**.

The visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary teaches us that we must recognize the Holy Spirit’s presence and trust everything that the Lord has promised.

Elizabeth was not only granted the grace to bear the forerunner of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Her son, John the Baptist, was also given the blessing of sanctification and cleansing of original sin.

The visitation teaches us that through faith, we can receive an extraordinary grace and live full of peace and joy in our lives. When we pray the Angelus, we pray the visit of the Holy Spirit to Mary and to us.

<p>Angelus Domini nuntiavit Mariae. Et concepit de Spiritu Sancto. <i>(Ave Maria)</i></p>	<p>The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary. And she conceived of the Holy Ghost. <i>(Hail Mary)</i></p>
<p><i>Áve María, grátia pléna, Dóminus técum; benedícta tu in muliéribus, et benedíctus frúctus véntris túi, Jésus.</i></p> <p><i>Sáncta María, Máter Déi, óra pro nóbis peccatóribus, nunc et in hóra mórtis nóstræ. Amen</i></p>	<p><i>Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.</i></p> <p><i>Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and in the hour of our death. Amen.</i></p>
<p>Ecce ancilla Domini. Fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum. <i>(Ave Maria)</i></p>	<p>Behold the handmaid of the Lord. Be it done unto me according to Thy word. <i>(Hail Mary)</i></p>
<p>[Genuflect] Et Verbum caro factum est. Et habitavit in nobis. <i>(Ave Maria)</i></p>	<p>[Genuflect] And the Word was made flesh. And dwelt among us. <i>(Hail Mary)</i></p>
<p>Ora pro nobis, sancta Dei Genitrix. Ut digni efficiamur promissionibus Christi.</p>	<p>Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.</p>
<p>Oremus. Gratiam tuam, quaesumus Domine, mentibus nostris infunde: ut qui, Angelo nuntiante, Christi Filii tui incarnationem cognovimus, per passionem ejus et crucem ad resurrectionis gloriam perducamur. Per eundem Christum Dominum nostrum. Amen.</p>	<p>Let us pray. Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.</p>

WEDNESDAY **3RD JUNE ... *SS. CHARLES LWANGA & COMPANIONS, MARTYRES OF UGANDA***

Many Christians, Catholic and Protestant, were killed by the Ugandan king Mwanga. Some of them were servants in the king's palace or even his personal attendants. Charles Lwanga and his twenty-one companions (the youngest, Kizito, was only 13) were executed for being Christians, for rebuking the king for his debauchery and for murdering an Anglican missionary, for "praying from a book," and for refusing to allow themselves to be ritually sodomised by the king.

They died between 1885 and 1887. Most of them were burned alive in a group after being tortured.

Within a year of their deaths, the number of catechumens in the country quadrupled. St Charles Lwanga is the patron of Catholic Action and of black African youth, and the Ugandan martyrs' feast day is a public holiday in Uganda

(Today is also the **Feast of St Kevin** who founded a monastery at Glendalough in County Wicklow, Ireland, which spawned a number of daughter monasteries. The 'city' of Glendalough later became a great centre of pilgrimage ... I'll let you guess where my Mam and Dad visited on their honeymoon!)

FRIDAY **5TH JUNE ... *SAINT BONIFACE OF CREDITON, BISHOP & MARTYR***

For the first forty years of his life Boniface was known as Wynfrith. He was born in Devon and educated at the monastery at Exeter, and then joined the Benedictine abbey at Nursling, near Southampton. He was a teacher and preacher, but he desired to preach the gospel in a foreign land. In 718, Pope Gregory II commissioned him to do so, at the same time changing his name from Wynfrith to Boniface.

Boniface left England, never to return, and took the gospel to the heathen tribes of Germany, where he had great success. He himself was created Bishop of Mainz, and he founded or restored dioceses in Bavaria, Thuringia, and Franconia. In his later years he worked with King Pepin the Short to reform the Frankish church, and then, over seventy years old, set out to evangelize Friesland (part of modern Holland) where he was set upon and murdered, on 5 June 754.

He is buried at Fulda, near Frankfurt, in the monastery he founded himself, and is honoured as the apostle of Germany.

I WAS ASKED ...

Why do you put the lives of the saints in the Newsletter? Is it just a page-filler?

The answers are:

1. Because I'm a bit lazy, want to make things easy for myself and I suppose that people will want to read what I want to read.

When it came to studying, as an adult I had choices that I could never have had at school or college. I chose to study Politics, History and Law because they interested me.

I like reading adventure stories and, in many saints' life there is adventure; all tend to be historical and the law and politics of the day often influenced their lives and deaths.

2. No, they are not just page fillers but, rather life reflectors and influencers.

As Christians, as Catholics, we should be making and reporting the news for all the best reasons. As I sit, typing and listening to the radio news, 'On-line child grooming' is growing rapidly and the NSPCC are calling for media regulations.

There are so many things demanding our positive involvement!

MARCH FOR LIFE 2020

When Sat, 13 June, 10am – 4pm

Where Westminster

Description More from the website [<https://www.marchforlife.co.uk/about-us/>]:

"March for Life UK is a national annual event which has a continuous year-long mission.

The event is a pro-life festival that consists of live music, family fun activities, educational stalls, Christian prayer and inspiring speakers. The highlight of the day is a joyous march through the heart of London proclaiming our central message of **"Life from Conception, No Exception."**

It's possible, if not probable, that the event will have to be abandoned this year but that is no reason, even if we did not intend attending, that we should not pray for all those mothers who feel they have a difficult decision to make. Perhaps, some of you could come up with innovative ideas which will inform the country just how valuable the gift of life is and make those ideas newsworthy.

CCRS (CATHOLIC CERTIFICATE IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES)


I have just realized that a New Testament module due to be delivered in a fortnights' time in Nottingham will, also, have been postponed or rearranged for delivery on line.

Have we currently any parishioner doing the course with Salford or Shrewsbury diocese? I did the course (I suspect) twenty years ago with Shrewsbury and, guess what, I really id enjoy the Church History modules. They were delivered by Fr. Rod Strange; then parish priest of Hyde who went on to be the Rector of the Beda College in Rome. He brought the history to live and every sentence grabbed the student's attention.

If you are on the course now, or thinking about it for September, give me a ring and I'll set you the task of gathering information with a view to getting other parishioners interested.

ORDINATION SEASON ... JUNE AND JULY:

They too have had to be postponed, or have they? It's in my diary that I intended to race down to the Cathedral for 1.00pm on Saturday 4th July for an ordination to the priesthood; concelebrate the ordination mass with the Bishop and race back for the 5.00 and 6.30pm vigil masses. Even if the ordination takes place, I might still have to remain at the house 'shielding'.

I first met Deacon Lim, Limnyuy Gamsi, in 2013 just before he commenced the propaedeutic year of his seminary training ... a quiet, shy and reserved young man ... or at least, that's what I thought. Well, over the years, he has developed much. I don't see him often but I do follow him on Twitter  LimGamsi where he displays both a great sense of humour and some magnificent spiritual insights into everyday life and will be well appreciated by the people to whichever parish the Bishop sends him

Please keep Deacon Lim and all our seminarians in your prayers.

STAY CONNECTED – SIGN UP FOR NEWS THROUGH LOCKDOWN AND BEYOND

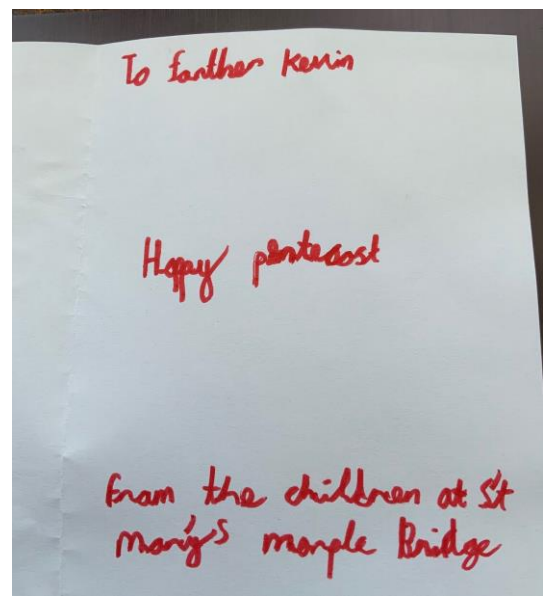
Grapevine e-bulletin: Grapevine is a new diocesan e-bulletin produced by Paul Bodenham and Diane Williams, with news from the Justice & Peace Commission and the Adult Formation Department. This will be distributed using the Mailchimp platform every two weeks or so during the pandemic, and potentially after this as well. If you have not received the Grapevine e-bulletin already, you can sign up to receive it on this page:

<https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/covid-19-guidelines-and-information/stay-connected>

(I'm sure 'Heard It Through The Grapevine' was a 1960's hit of the Supremes: my Spiritual Director at that time often used to play another hit of theirs, 'Reach Out And I'll Be There'. I think he was trying to tell me something. Was it the Supremes? I might look it up.)

AROUND OUR SCHOOLS:

Happy Pentecost



Yes, this is the card I received from St Mary's School at Marple Bridge on Thursday and it really did make me feel much better.

Sometimes, especially when our children have grown up, we fail to recognize just how much effort and energy our teachers and ancillary staff put into making our schools such a success. Throughout the close-down, our schools have remained open for the children of essential workers and have been busy planning and adapting the school for the return of other pupils.

This week, the Reception Class and Year 6 will be welcomed back. Whilst all that can be done for the return has been done, it is a worrying time for many.

Please keep all the staff, the children and their parents in your prayers.

AND FINALLY:

News on the ground is a little thin this week. I'm open to ideas and suggestions. If you come across anything you think might be worth sharing, drop me an email and I will try and include it.

Thank you for all, Fr. Kevin

Need a Priest in the High Peak? 01457 620272 Fr. Martin & Fr Daniel are on-call