



24 May 2026: Pentecost (A)  
Extraordinary Form: Pentecost

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of Pentecost, commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and our Blessed Mother nine days after Our Lord's Ascension into heaven. The impressive account given of Pentecost by St Luke in the Acts of the Apostles (chapter 2) stirs us each year as we hear the record of a unique event – the formation of the Church as the Body of Christ and the Temple of the Holy Spirit – an event which is at the centre of Christian Faith but also among the most important events in the history of the world.

In his encyclical letter *Dominum et Vivificantem*, issued also exactly forty years ago, St John Paul II stated: "The mystery of the resurrection and of Pentecost is proclaimed and lived by the Church, which has inherited and which carries on the witness of the Apostles about the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. She is the perennial witness to this victory over death which revealed the power of the Holy Spirit and determined his new coming, his new presence in people and in the world." (No. 58) Pentecost is not simply a biblical and an historical event: it is a living truth which here and now calls us to shape our lives and societies according to the Spirit of God and the Gospel of salvation. This takes place in and through the Church in which Christ's victory over death and sin is always active in the lives of those who profess belief in him.

St Philip Neri, our own saint and founder, is one of the great witnesses to this ongoing and life-giving power of the Holy Spirit. As we prepare for his feast on Tuesday (and do try to join us for Mass on this great day! – see below) let us ask God that, like St Phillip, we may become ever more vessels of the Holy Spirit, and, in our times, marked by uncertainty and conflict, may be faithful witnesses of God's truth and love – which alone can "renew the face of the earth".

Yours in Christ,

*The Fathers of the Oratory*

### Solemnity of St Philip Neri

Tuesday (26<sup>th</sup> May) is the Solemnity of St Philip Neri, Apostle of Rome and Founder of the Oratory. Masses are at 06:30, 08:30, 13:10 (Extraordinary Form, Latin) and *the sung solemn Mass at 17:30 followed by a festive reception in the hall*. Please do join us for our great annual celebration of our father, founder and holy patron!



*"St Philip [was] a man of joy and forbearance. God grant that each of us may also be able to enjoy this joy which springs from a convinced and lived Christian faith."* (St John Paul II, 26<sup>th</sup> May 1979)

**Church Schedule:** Saturday: Mass 8:30; Exposition & Confession from 17:00; Benediction at 17:40; Vigil Mass 18:00 **Sunday:** Exposition at 17:00; Benediction at 17:40; Confession from 17:30; Mass 7:00, 8:30, 10:00 (EF) and 18:00 **Monday to Friday:** Mass 6:30, 8:30 daily. Rosary daily at 9:00. **Parish Office:** Open weekday mornings from 09:00 - 10:00. Kindly call or WhatsApp Ann on 073 247 1316 (09:00 - 12:00) to arrange appointments outside these hours. **Pastoral Care:** Call 073 247 1316 or 082 925 2549.

## GROW - SERVE - GIVE

**Readings:** Daily Missal – 586; Sunday Missal – 285

**Psalm Response:** Lord, send forth your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Liturgical Week	Mass Intentions
Sat	18:00 Ints of Angela Camp
Sun <i>Pentecost</i>	7:00 Pro Populo; 8:30 Debbie Darné RIP; 10:00 Ints of the Confirmation candidates (Jonél Roos); 18:00 Ints of Petra Acho
Mon <i>Our Lady, Mother of the Church</i>	6:30 In reparation for abuses of political power; 8:30 For Mufaro Muserere
Tue <i>St Philip Neri</i>	6:30 For Fr Phillip on his Feast Day (The Oratory); 8:30 Ints of Fr Arinze (Venske family); 13:10 Andrée Desterbecq RIP; 17:30 Ints of the Oratory
Wed <i>Feria / St Augustine of Canterbury</i>	6:30 For the conversion of poor sinners, especially those at the hour of death; 8:30 Ints of Fr Lewis
Thu <i>Feria</i>	6:30 For Enric Bathfield; 8:30 Ints of Moire Clarke on her 90th birthday (CWL)
Fri <i>Feria / St Paul VI; Bl. Joseph Gerard</i>	6:30 Special Int.; 8:30 Ints of Br Simon (The Oratory)
Sat <i>Feria / Mass of our Lady</i>	8:30 Ints of Kirsten Miller; 18:00 Ints of Nikki Bendeman (Her family)
Sun <i>Trinity Sunday</i>	7:00 Pro Populo; 8:30 Ints of Francesca Bekker; 10:00 For deceased members & associates of the Shields & Bonnett families; 18:00 For those on our Pious List

### Parish Notices

**Special Collection:** There is a special collection next weekend (30/31 May) for the Catholic Women's League Charities and the Bishop's Seminary Fund.

**SVDP Blanket Drive:** On behalf of the St Vincent de Paul Society, we extend our sincere gratitude to the members of our parish for your continued generosity and support. We have launched our annual blanket drive and kindly request that all donations be dropped off before 1 June.

**CWL Cake Sale:** Thank you to everyone who contributed to our cake sale, whether by donating, buying, or doing both! We were thrilled to put up a 'Sold Out' sign and are most grateful for your generosity.

**CWL Raffle:** Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported our raffle. Fr Lewis kindly did the draw and congratulations to Gayle Gerber who won the stunning crocheted blanket. The real winner is our St Bernadette's St Vincent de Paul Society as all the proceeds from our raffle have been donated to SVDP to assist them with their ongoing invaluable work.

**Save the Date:** We invite the parish community to a farewell celebration for Kirsten Miller on Saturday 30 May at 09:15 in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to bring and share; tea & coffee will be provided. We thank God for Kirsten's vocation to the Missionaries of Charity and her witness of faith and generosity. May we support her with our prayers as she begins this beautiful vocation of service and devotion.