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# CORPUS CHRISTI

**ST. ALPHONSUS AND ST. MARGARET RC CHURCH**

Margaret Road, Headington, OX3 8AJ

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH**

Crown Road, Wheatley, OX33 1UL

[www.corpuschristiheadington.co.uk](http://www.corpuschristiheadington.co.uk)

Birmingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees, Registered Charity No. 234216



Archbishop Sarah Mullally and Pope Leo in prayer

## Feast of Pentecost



Enamel plaque depicting Pentecost, ca 1150-1175  
Champlevé and translucent enamel on copper gilt  
Metropolitan Museum, New York

From today's Gospel, John 20:19-23

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.' And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.'

**Reflection** ... Our parish provides a fascinating resemblance to the international scene described in today's first reading from Acts. When the Holy Spirit descends upon the apostles, the divisions that normally separate people begin to fall away. The crowd is astonished because each person hears the message proclaimed in his or her own language. The Holy Spirit does not erase diversity; He transfigures it into communion. The Church herself, our Parish, is meant to become a living image of this Pentecost reality: many nations, many languages, many stories, yet one in Christ.

The small medieval enamel plaque shimmers through the use of gilding and richly coloured enamels laid over metal foil, the entire surface seems to flicker with light. Unusually, the Holy Spirit is not represented in the familiar form of a dove. Instead, we see rays of light streaming downward from the hand of God. The apostles below are gathered together, waiting, vulnerable, uncertain, as the heavens break open.

CLICK  
LEFT or  
use QR  
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## Week beginning

**Sunday 24 May 2026**

**YEAR A**

**Parish Priest: Very Rev. Canon Mervyn Tower** 88 Wharton Road, Oxford, OX3 8AJ. 01865 762433

**Parish Administrator: Mrs Leti Gomes** e: [corpuschristi.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:corpuschristi.oxford@rcaob.org.uk)

**Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Ruth Kennell and Pam Coote.**

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocesan policies & procedures at all times.

Ruth and Pam can be contacted at [sg.corpuschristi.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.corpuschristi.oxford@rcaob.org.uk). Alternatively contact the Diocesan Safeguarding team on 0121 230 6240 ([safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk)) if you have any concern.

## Solemnity of Pentecost

**24 May 2026**

**Saturday 6.00pm@ Our Lady of Lourdes;**

**Sunday 9.00am Alexandre Lucas Pajarillo RIP - anniversary**

**11.00am Susan Lagadi's Birthday**

**6.30pm Maria Da Cruz Pereira Doutel RIP**

## Weekdays

**Breviary Week 4**

Mon 25	9.15am	Thanksgiving Mass	Memorial of Mary, Mother of the Church
Tues 26	9.15am		St. Philp Neri, Priest
Wed 27	9.15am	Emil Benedicto (Thanksgiving)	St. Augustine of Canterbury
Thurs 28	No Mass		Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest
Fri 29	9.15am	Fr. John Baggley RIP Anniversary	The Solemnity of Dedication
	11.00am	Requiem: Alex Tweedie	
Sat 30	10.00am	Axel's Birthday	Feria
	12 Noon	Marriage	

## Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

**31 May 2026**

**Saturday 6.00pm@ Our Lady of Lourdes; People of the Parish**

**Sunday 9.00am Michael Gerard Coyne RIP (Birthday)**

**11.00am Gabriela da Cruz RIP**

**6.30pm**

**NEXT BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP - Saturday 6 JUNE after 10am Mass and afterwards on the first Saturday in the month after morning Mass.**

**NEXT FIRST FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP - Friday 5 JUNE, 7.30pm.**

**HONOUR OUR LADY:** After 9.15am Mass and the Rosary, we pray the Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help. This beautiful Novena honours Our Lady in prayer and in songs.

**Young Adults Group - 1st Sunday of month after 6.30pm Mass**

**Ecumenical Prayers by Zoom:** shared prayers from whoever is there. **Every Monday at 11.00 and 19.00 for 20 minutes.** For zoom link and details, please **CLICK HERE**

**Have you said YES to Gift Aid on DONA?**



## SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

in the Gospel of John, the Risen Lord breathes the Holy Spirit, the giver of peace and reconciliation, on his disciples in the Upper Room. in John's vision, the death, Resurrection and giving of the Holy Spirit are one unified reality (Gospel: John 20: 19-23). It is Luke in the Acts who gives the full account of the Day of Pentecost which transforms not only the disciples, but the whole Church (First Reading: Actd 2:1-11). St. Paul reminds the faithful of the total unity but wondering diverse gifts of the Spirit (Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13)

**Responsorial Psalm: 'Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, how great you are' (ps 104:1)**

## Scripture Readings for the week ahead

<b>Monday</b>	Gen 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14; Ps 86; John 19:25-34
<b>Tuesday</b>	1 Peter 1:10-16; Ps 97; Mark 10:28-31
<b>Wednesday</b>	1 Thessalonians 2:2b-8; Ps 95; Luke 10:1-9
<b>Thursday</b>	Gen 22:9-18 or Heb 10:4-10; Ps 39; Matth 26:36-42
<b>Friday</b>	From the common of Dedication Church
<b>Saturday</b>	Jude 17, 20b-25; Ps 62; Mark 11:27-33

## Prayer for the Preparation of Mass

**G**od our Father, you call us to gather for this Sunday Mass. Help us to draw strength from the Holy Scriptures and from the Holy Eucharist, so that we deepen our love for you.

**M**ay we be enlivened by the Holy Spirit to mirror the words and actions of your Son Jesus Christ and become more clearly your instruments of mercy to others.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## PARISH NEWS

### Suggestions for Parish Pastoral Council

The next meeting is on Saturday 6 June, if you have any suggestions that you would like the PPC to consider, please email them to the parish office by Sunday 3 May. [CLICK HERE](#)

### The charismatic prayer group is now to be called 'The First Friday Prayer Group'. ALL WELCOME

We ask the Holy Spirit to guide our prayers. The next meeting is on **Friday, 5th June at 7.30pm in the parish hall** and lasts for about 40 minutes. Please join us to pray for our parish or any concerns or thank you prayers you have.



Thank you to Parishioners of Corpus Christi and Our Lady Lourdes

### CAFOD SUDAN APPEAL

The Special Collection for the SUDAN APPEAL held weekend of 2/3 May raised a fantastic total of **£1286**.

### DO YOU HAVE DESKTOP PUBLISHING SKILLS? GOOD AT SPELLING AND GRAMMAR? PARISH NEWSLETTER EDITOR - VACANCY

I have been editing the weekly Parish Newsletter for the past 8 years or so but, reluctantly, ill-health is forcing me to retire. I spend approximately 1 day a week preparing the material and producing the final pdf for printing - and the interactive pdf for the website. I use the Adobe professional suite of programs but packages such as Canva would be perfectly suitable. If you have skills in this area and would like to assist the parish, please contact Fr Mervyn, John Kirwan ([johnkirwan1a@gmail.com](mailto:johnkirwan1a@gmail.com)), or me, John Guy, [CLICK HERE](#) ([corpus.OLL.news@gmail.com](mailto:corpus.OLL.news@gmail.com)) for initial discussion.

### Corpus Christi for a Fairer World

The Parish Justice & Peace Group are launching an appeal for the Gatehouse on the weeks of 17 and 24 May to support their work providing a drop in and support service for the homeless in A&A.

### We are appealing on their behalf for the following items

Men's socks      Men's clothing      Men's boxers Med. & Lrg  
Toiletries;      Baby wipes      Women's underwear sz 12/14  
Packets of tissues      Crisps      Tins of biscuits

Boxes will be provided at the back of Church.

Please become involved if you can.

**Finance Appeal - Thank you.** We appreciate the positive response to the Finance Appeal and thank those who have collected envelopes containing the Gift Aid declaration and Standing Order mandate forms. **Please remember to return all completed forms to the Parish office.**

For those with existing Standing Orders who wish to increase their monthly contributions, this can be done either through online banking or directly at your bank.

**CLICK HERE** to request details for setting up a new Standing Order and Gift Aid on line.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR...

**the sick and the housebound:** Antony Ayton, Patricia Barfield, Marian & Roger Biss, Margaret Bond, Alan & Rita Booker, Christopher Browne, Pedro Busette, Ranjith Dhan, David Diggins, Maureen Felix, Philomena Garvey, Yvonne Goonesekara, Antoinette Harvie, Sue Holbrook, Mario Kim, Michael and Esther Kuforiji, Theresa Johnson, Cynthia Lobendhan, Victoria Maceda, Carmel McGarry, R.J. Matava, Averil Nathaniels, Melani Parana, Celine Peiris, Eardley Perera, Maxwell Rogers, Angela Scott-Smith, Alba Thorning, Aileen Vangramberg, Diana Walden, Mary Wallace, Liz Ward, Mai Wick, Louise Williams, Dorren McDonald, Nalen Vuddamala, Ramona Brillo, John Guy, Michael Earnest.

**those who have died:** Alex Tweedie.

**those whose anniversary occurs this week:** Anne Bernadette Rea, Emidio Bianchini, James Moore, Fr. John Baggley, Maureen Jane Floyd, Paul Johnson..

**All those in the sick list must actively agree to their inclusion. The prayer list will be reviewed regularly - if names can now come off the list or if new names should be added please send an email to: [corpus.OLL.news@gmail.com](mailto:corpus.OLL.news@gmail.com).**

## CAFOD Recycling for Good Causes

A better world needs all of us

Thank you for your recycled ink cartridges - since we started collecting a little over year ago, we have raised £155 which has been donated to CAFOD.

## Pope at Audience: Liturgy sustains Church and expresses her faith



[CLICK HERE FOR FULL ACCOUNT](#)

"Christ Himself is the inner source of the mystery of the Church, the holy people of God, born from His side pierced on the Cross. In the holy liturgy, through the power of His Spirit, He continues to act. He sanctifies and unites the Church, His bride, to His offering to the Father."

Pope Leo XIV made this observation during his weekly General Audience in St. Peter's Square, as he continued his catechesis series on the Second Vatican Council, this week starting to reflect on the 1963 Dogmatic Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, Sacrosanctum Concilium.

Following Amy and Reuben's talk at Mass last Sunday...



... let's think about how it might affect us

TASTER 5th July

and join discussion on Sunday 5 July after 11 am Mass.



**Car parking:** We have had more complaints from neighbours about bad parking and driveways being blocked. Please park legally and courteously.

For items to be included in the newsletter, please email the editor at [corpus.OLL.news@gmail.com](mailto:corpus.OLL.news@gmail.com) BY TUESDAY EVENING before the weekend. [CLICK HERE](#)

## HAVE YOU SAID YES TO GIFT AID ON DONA?