

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth:
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

COLLECT

Grant, almighty God,
that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion
these days of joy,
which we keep in honour of the risen Lord,
and that what we relive in remembrance
we may always hold to in what we do.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of
the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

A reading from the Acts of Apostles.
Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, "Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved." This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.
Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them:
"The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by

the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell."

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 66

Response:

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

or

Alleluia!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)

2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for your rule the world with justice.
With fairness your rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. (R.)

3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

SECOND READINGApocalypse
21:10-14, 22-23

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse.

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! alleluia!

Jesus said: "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word,

and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him."

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 14:23-29

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples:

"If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we shall come to him
and make our home with him.

Those who do not love me do not keep my words.

And my word is not my own:
it is the word of the one who sent me.
I have said these things to you
while still with you;
but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit,
whom the Father will send in my name,
will teach you everything
and remind you of all I have said to you.
Peace I bequeath to you,
my own peace I give you,
a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you.

Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.
You heard me say:

I am going away, and shall return.

If you loved me you would have been glad
to know that I am going to the Father,
for the Father is greater than I.
I have told you this now before it happens,
so that when it does happen you may believe."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

(all bow during the next two lines)

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May our prayers rise up to you, O Lord,
together with the sacrificial offerings,
so that, purified by your graciousness,
we may be conformed to the mysteries of
your mighty love.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

If you love me, keep my commandments,
says the Lord,
and I will ask the Father and he will send
you another Paraclete,
to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty ever-living God,
who restore us to eternal life in the
Resurrection of Christ,
increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this
paschal Sacrament
and pour into our hearts the strength of this
saving food.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Sunday Message

22 MAY 2022

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE WORD

Year C • Psalter Week 2

A FAREWELL GIFT

(JOHN 14:23-29)



As Eastertide draws near to its close, our Gospel reading today introduces the theme of Jesus' departure, his return to the Father.

But the disciples will receive two gifts, distinct but related. First, the Paraclete will come from the Father and will continue Jesus' mission of teaching the disciples, leading them into an ever-deepening appreciation of his message as they remember all that Jesus has said to them. The Paraclete will maintain Jesus' presence among the disciples. The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, will be the second Paraclete, just as Jesus was the first, so that might help us to understand the role of the Spirit once Jesus is no longer physically present.

The second gift is that of peace, but it is Jesus' peace, something that the world cannot match. It is connected with the gift of the Spirit, the Paraclete, and is from God. It is not the absence of strife in human relations, but rooted in the Spirit of truth, and Jesus goes on to talk about how the disciples should not be distressed at his leaving them, as he is going back to the Father, an idea which we find only in the fourth Gospel. Jesus' departure may be marked by violence and malice on the part of his opponents, but he accepts this as his way of returning the Father's love for him. This should not be a cause of fear for the disciples, but rather one of joy. ■

REFLECT

The Easter event is not simply about the Resurrection of Jesus: the final act of the Paschal mystery is the conferring of the Holy Spirit on the disciples. In our Gospel reading today, we are invited to look forward to the consequence of Jesus' going back to the Father, which will be the giving of the Holy Spirit who will continue Jesus' presence among us and within us.

But we will not benefit from this gift unless we are open to the Holy Spirit and prepared to allow the Paraclete to influence our thoughts and actions. The peace – *shalom* – which Jesus promises flows from Jesus' union with the Father and our union with Jesus. The gift of peace was associated in the Hebrew scriptures with the Messiah.

Jesus is not promising a trouble-free existence for his followers (then or now) but rather a rooted way of being which can cope with the troubles which arise in human life. "Peace" in the Hebrew sense is more a matter of total well-being, of having a firm anchor of faith within ourselves which helps us face the problems which we encounter. This is one of the reasons for the giving of the Holy Spirit, the other Paraclete. But the Spirit can only function in our lives if we are open to the Spirit. Soon we will celebrate the feast of the Ascension of Jesus; we might ask ourselves in the next few days how we appreciate the ongoing presence of Jesus with us and what that means. ■

LEARN

The Easter mystery includes the events surrounding the Resurrection of Jesus, the Ascension and Pentecost.

The giving of the Spirit is the fulfilment of Jesus' promise to his disciples.

The word "Advocate" in today's reading is an alternative to the term Paraclete.

BAF

Abba, Father, send your Spirit, Glory, Jesus Christ

(Ginny Vissing)

DO

Try invoking the Holy Spirit the next time you are faced with a difficult situation and see what happens.



Sympathy: Our sympathy lies with the O Callaghan family on the death of Sean, son of Henry and Barbara RIP. His Requiem Mass takes place at St Augustine & Gregory RC Church Oxford on Thursday 9th June at 13:00h.

Learn to Pray, Learn to Live Workshop – January/April 2022 at St Clare's Church - Irache Millar writes:

Dear brothers and sisters, I would like to share with you a feeling of my immense gratitude. For the last 15 weeks a small group of parishioners from St Joseph's & Clare's have been faithfully attending the "PRAYER AND LIFE WORKSHOPS" every Monday night; I was one of them. Through meditation and prayer this workshop has been an inspiration to my life and has made me feel closer to God; It has been a life changing experience and it has strengthened my faith.

We had precious support and guidance from Father John who has shared the meditation experiences with the group. Sister Marcia from "PRAYERS AND LIFE WORKSHOPS" faithfully and patiently delivered the workshop every week.

Guardian Angels Parish/Thank You. You may have noticed the beautiful marble Baptismal font now in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel gifted to St Joseph's Church. At St Clare's, their tabernacle was also gifted, and is now available for viewing.

Later it will be taken to Ormsby's workshop in Lancashire and prepared for installation in St Clare's in August. We hope these two precious gifts will be a reminder while they worship with us in both churches both now and in the future. **Stain Glass Windows, Guardian Angels.** With the demolition of Guardian Angels church now eminent, we are considering the possibility of saving their stain glass windows and then reinserting them in St Clare's on the altar side windows. This is feasible but significant costs emerge reaching a final figure of £7500. Please see Fr John if you might be able to help here.

Deanery St John Fisher. Congratulations St Annes Wendover. Today we congratulate St Anne's parish Wendover on their golden jubilee, Bishop David visits them today for Mass and celebrations afterwards.

On Monday night 16th May, clergy and parish representatives from our deanery met to consider how we can address the needs and choices now facing our parishes in 2022. This was a high energy meeting with a lot of enthusiasm shown for building anew in a practical way. We focussed on Adult Formation, setting up a deanery team to provide an RCIA programme for enquirers for September 2022. We also looked at Youth Provision and what practical steps we might take here. The role of our catechists, as youth formers, was examined and how more support could be given here. Step by Step, we hope to begin the "Build Anew" - our response to those we serve by planning/sharing as deanery.

Date	Location	Mass	Intention	Psalter Week 2
Saturday 21 st May 2022	St Joseph's Church	The Sixth Sunday of Easter	13:00h-14:30h First Confession	St Clare
Sunday 22 nd May 2022	Readers.	Altar Servers	18:00h Parish	St Joseph
The Reroofing of St Clare's "The Gift Building" commences this coming week. It will be out of use for a fortnight. We look forward to its full use.	We now welcome new Readers and will provide training See Fr John, Dcn John at 09:15h on Sundays.	New altar servers are very welcome and will receive training each Sunday at 09:15h. Likewise, we welcome new altar servers at St Clare's each Sunday - see Fr John.	09:30h Mary & Thomas Parmley RIP	St Joseph
Monday 23 rd May 2022	St Joseph Church	The Fifth Week of Easter	11:15h Guardian Angels Family Mass With Children's Liturgy.	St Joseph
Tuesday 24 th May 2022	St Clare Church	The Fifth Week of Easter	11:30h Gloria Patalano RIP	St Clare
Wednesday 25 th May 22	St Joseph Church	The Fifth Week of Easter	10:00h Sean O Callaghan RIP	St Clare
Thursday 26 th May 2022	St Joseph Church	Ascension Thursday	13:30 Mass with KSC & Meeting	St Clare
Friday 27 th May 2022	St Joseph Church	St Bernardine of Siena	10:00h The Wilson Family RIP	St Clare
Saturday 28 th May 2022	St Joseph Church	St Matthias Apostle.	19:00h Legion of Mary	St Clare
Sunday 29 th May 2022	St Joseph Church	The 7 th Sunday of Easter	19:45h- 21:30h Living Waters Prayer	St Joseph
2 nd Collection today for Catholic Use of Media	St Joseph Church	The 7 th Sunday of Easter	10:00h The Pat Martin Family	St Joseph
	St Clare Church.		19:30h Parish Finance Meeting	St Joseph
			10:00h Parish	St Josephs
			12:30h The Britto Family RIP	St Joseph
			19:30h The Dignum Murphy Family RIP	St Clare.
			10:00h Agnes Fahy RIP	St Joseph
			10:00h - 11:15h Surgery	St Joseph.
			18:00h Conor Gilmore	St Joseph
			09:30h Paul Ivor Riordan RIP	St Joseph
			11:15h Guardian Angels Mass	St Joseph
			11:30h Parish	

Easter Parish Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ

By your Life, Death, and Resurrection

You call me to a New Life.

May I die to all my yesterdays?

So that I may arise to a New Today.

May I come to know the wonder of this Way.

As I embrace Newness of Life

and find that Peace, beyond all understanding,

that comes to all

who make their Home in You.

Amen.

Prayer to my Angel Guardian

For our own protection and all whom we may meet

O Angel of God,

My guardian dear

To whom God's love

Commits me here

Ever this day/night

Be at my side

To light and guard

To rule and guide

Amen

This prayer is said in all Masses/gatherings in Eastertide.

These words were found in an Aylesbury subway in Easter 2021 in beautiful handwriting.

"Show love, Have Hope, Give Thanks" Our motto for Eastertide 2022

May is the month of our Blessed Lady and a hymn to Mary will be sung in all our Weekend Masses. We will also pray the Rosary which she always asks us to pray.

"Only the Humble are truly Free" Prayer and Life Workshop St Clare January - April 2022

BBQ On Sunday 29th May at 13:00h 2022 at St Clare's Grounds. Our Deanery of St John Fisher invites parishioners of our Deanery to the above social event when we can gather, share, and enjoy ourselves. This all happens after the 11:30h Mass at 13:00h in the grounds of St Clare's Church, Elmhurst Road, Aylesbury, HP20 2EA next Sunday. If you can join us, please reply directly to Evan (evan.hatch@sd-solutions.com). If you are not online, ask a friend to email Evan on your behalf. This means we can contact you directly if inclement weather causes us to change plans. We look forward to seeing you there. As always, we have tasty food, good music and at times, dance. We can touch base with each other and know the joy of face-to-face meetings. The cut-off for applications is 18:00h on Sunday 22nd May 2022. To organize food/drinks etc- and avoid any waste, - please reply as soon as possible to Evan. All hoping to attend the event, whether a food supplier, tea maker, or helper of any kindly email Evan of this. This is in line with Health and Safety requirements and to ensure there is food/drinks for everyone and no waste. Bring along your own soft drinks. We are grateful for donations on the day to cover basic costs and help provide for future occasions.

Dates for Diaries. Venue St Joseph Parish Hall

Wednesday 8th June 19:30h Deanery Forum Meet - includes clergy and Parish representatives

Wednesday 15th June 19:30h Deanery Forum/RCIA Team /Getting Started with Deanery RCIA Team.

Monday 18th July 19:30h Deanery Forum/Catechists from Parishes and Schools Representatives.

Monday June 13th 20th, 27th July 4th 19:15h RCIA online training from Diocese see Diocesan website above for more details and how to register.

Character References/Job Applications.

While Fr John seeks to help by way of character reference there is a clear process which must be followed always.

An appointment must be made with him, which can be done through the Saturday morning surgery alerting him to your wishes and situation. Registration with our parish must be done prior to any reference application. Without adhering to this process, Fr John is unable to help here.

References are very important to both job seeker and employer so kindly follow the guidelines for best results.

Collections: Last week's collection realised £868-25 Electronic Giving since December 2021 £5821.64

Fr John