



Today, we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost (Whitsunday)

Pentecost (from the Greek pentekoste, 'fiftieth' of fifty days of celebration) has its roots in the

Jewish Feast of Weeks, which was completed on the fiftieth day after Passover. On the fiftieth day of Easter, God sends his Holy Spirit to empower the Church to perform the mission which the risen Christ has entrusted to it; and he inaugurates the messianic community of perfect communication.

Pentecost celebrates both the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Christian Church. After the Easter Vigil, the time of Pentecost was a preferred occasion for baptism in early Christian centuries and the services of Pentecost also reflect this baptismal theme. Christ's disciples are born again of water and the spirit.

Ascension and Pentecost are closely linked. The risen Lord is no longer present to the Church in the body of his flesh; the Church is now to be the new body of Christ, filled with his life through the gift of the Spirit.

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A reminder that under the Step 3 easement of COVID-19 restrictions, up to 30 people will now be able to attend weddings, receptions and commemorative events including wakes, as well as standalone life-cycle events. These can take place outdoors or at any indoor Covid-secure venue that is permitted to open.

The number of people able to attend a funeral will be determined by the number that can be safely accommodated in Church or at the Crematorium chapel with social distancing in place.

At Church we need to be kept safe and will continue to maintain social distance. Face coverings are to be worn (unless people are excused this requirement for health reasons), hand sanitiser is available on entrance and exit and the ability to 'check-in' using the NHS app and manual test and trace system are in place.

In spite of all this, if you're visiting with us today, we warmly welcome you to our beautiful church where there is still **no congregational singing** and where we are still encouraged to **leave the church directly** after the Parish Mass.

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The Archbishops' Anti-Racism Taskforce has published its report proposing a suite of changes to begin bringing about a change of culture in the life of the Church of England. **From Lament to Action** can be read here:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/media-and-news/news-releases/lament-action-archbishops-anti-racism-taskforce-calls-urgent-changes>

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A copy of the Southwark Diocesan ANTI-RACISM CHARTER is at the back of the church for your perusal. It

can also be downloaded from:

<https://southwark.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Southwark-Anti-Racism-Charter-1.pdf>

Welcome to the United Benefice of South Norwood Holy Innocents and St. Mark

Sharing God's grace and love in our community



23rd May 2021

Vicar: The Revd. Canon Roxanne F. Eversley

Asst. Priest: Mother Susan Wheeler-Kiley

Reader: Mrs. Cicelyn Hinds

The Feast of Pentecost

10am Parish Mass & Holy Baptism

President, Mother Roxanne * Preacher, Mother Susan

Acts 2.1-21 * Psalm 104 * Romans 8.22-27 * John 15.26-27, 16.4-15

Access online worship via

www.youtube.com/c/StMarksSouthNorwood

This week's diary

Thursday 27 th May	Feria	10.00am Mass at Holy Innocents
Sunday 30 th May	Trinity Sunday	8am BCP Mass 10am Parish Mass

CHURCH NOTICES

We especially welcome baby Noah who will be baptised during today's celebration Mass.

We of course, also welcome his parents Natalie and Kaine; godparents Patsy, Andrew, Angela and Andria; plus all other family members and friends present here today.

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Pastoral Care: Mother Roxanne is available on Tel. 020 8916 1830 or 07723 038215 or

mtrroxanne@gmail.com She is not available on Mondays or Mother Susan (07890 780572) on Fridays.

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

We pray: for Archbishops Justin and Stephen; Bishops Christopher, Jonathan, Richard and Karowei in this Diocese; the Bishops in our link Dioceses in Zimbabwe.

For St Mary the Blessed Virgin, Addington Deborah Forman (V) (AD); Barbara Gentilella (AsstP); Lindsay Ould (Reader); Patricia Heady (SPA); Karen Holloway (SPA); Peter Wilson (SPA) Royal Russell School – Henry Kirk (Chaplain)

For Anglican Communion Sunday. For the Bishops, priests and people of the Anglican Church of Melanesia.

For the sick – Enid, Alec, Richard, Helen & Peter, Jennifer & Reuben, Marie-Gabrielle, Sheila & Amanda, Rose, Allison, Caroline, Gillian, Sigi, Anecka, Monica, Shirley, Lynn, Dennis, Rosemary, CP, Joanne, Melanie, Ronald, Faye, Tommy, Ena, Adeline, Akos, Peggy and Rudolph.

For the bereaved – Doris and the Lawrence family; **the recently departed** – Murphy Lawrence; and **for those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.**

COLLECT

God, who as at this time
taught the hearts of your faithful people
by sending to them the light of your Holy
Spirit;
grant us by the same Spirit
to have a right judgement in all things
and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;
through the merits of Christ Jesus our
Saviour,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

(Alternative readings)

The reading from Acts must be read as
either the First or Second Reading.

Either **Acts 2:1-21**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the day of Pentecost had come,
they were all together in one place. And
suddenly from heaven there came a sound
like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled
the entire house where they were sitting.
Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared
among them, and a tongue rested on each
of them. All of them were filled with the
Holy Spirit and began to speak in other
languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.
Now there were devout Jews from every
nation under heaven living in Jerusalem.
And at this sound the crowd gathered
and was bewildered, because each one
heard them speaking in their native
language. Amazed and astonished, they
asked, "Are not all these who are speaking
Galileans? And how is it that we hear,
each of us, in our own native language?
Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents
of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia,
Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia,
Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging
to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both
Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs
— in our own languages we hear them
speaking about God's deeds of power."
All were amazed and perplexed, saying to
one another, "What does this mean?" But
others sneered and said, "They are filled
with new wine." But Peter, standing with
the eleven, raised his voice and addressed
them, "Men of Judea and all who live in
Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and
listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not
drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine
o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was
spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the
last days it will be, God declares, that I will
pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your
sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions, and
your old men shall dream dreams. Even

upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy. And I will show
portents in the heaven above and signs
on the earth below, blood, and fire, and
smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to
darkness and the moon to blood, before
the coming of the Lord's great and glorious
day. Then everyone who calls on the name
of the Lord shall be saved.'"

Or **Ezekiel 37:1-14**

PSALM Psalm 104:25-35. 37

R Send forth your Spirit, O Lord,
and renew the face of the earth.

O Lord, how manifold are your works!
in wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures. **R**

Yonder is the great and wide sea
with its living things too many to number,
creatures both small and great.
There move the ships,
and there is that Leviathan,
which you have made for the sport of it. **R**

All of them look to you
to give them their food in due season.
You give it to them, they gather it;
you open your hand and they are filled
with good things.
You hide your face and they are terrified;
you take away their breath
and they die and return to their dust. **R**

You send forth your Spirit and they are
created;
and so you renew the face of the earth.
May the glory of the Lord endure for ever;
may the Lord rejoice in all his works.
He looks at the earth and it trembles;
he touches the mountains and they smoke. **R**
I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will praise my God while I have my being.
May these words of mine please him;
I will rejoice in the Lord.
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
Alleluia! **R**

SECOND READING

(Alternative readings)

Either **Romans 8:22-27**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the
Romans.

We know that the whole creation has been
groaning in labour pains until now; and
not only the creation, but we ourselves,
who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan
inwardly while we wait for adoption, the
redemption of our bodies. For in hope we
were saved. Now hope that is seen is not
hope. For who hopes for what is seen?

But if we hope for what we do not see, we
wait for it with patience. Likewise the Spirit
helps us in our weakness; for we do not
know how to pray as we ought, but that
very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep
for words. And God, who searches the
heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit,
because the Spirit intercedes for the saints
according to the will of God.

Or **Acts 2:1-21**

GOSPEL John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

Jesus spoke to his disciples: "When the
Advocate comes, whom I will send to
you from the Father, the Spirit of truth
who comes from the Father, he will testify
on my behalf. You also are to testify
because you have been with me from the
beginning. I have said these things to you
so that when their hour comes you may
remember that I told you about them. I
did not say these things to you from the
beginning, because I was with you. But
now I am going to him who sent me; yet
none of you asks me, 'Where are you
going?' But because I have said these
things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts.
Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to
your advantage that I go away, for if I do
not go away, the Advocate will not come
to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.
And when he comes, he will prove the
world wrong about sin and righteousness
and judgement: about sin, because they
do not believe in me; about righteousness,
because I am going to the Father and you
will see me no longer; about judgement,
because the ruler of this world has been
condemned. I still have many things to say
to you, but you cannot bear them now.
When the Spirit of truth comes, he will
guide you into all the truth; for he will not
speak on his own, but will speak whatever
he hears, and he will declare to you the
things that are to come. He will glorify
me, because he will take what is mine and
declare it to you. All that the Father has is
mine. For this reason I said that he will take
what is mine and declare it to you."

POST COMMUNION

Faithful God,
who fulfilled the promises of Easter
by sending us your Holy Spirit
and opening to every race and nation
the way of life eternal:
open our lips by your Spirit,
that every tongue may tell of your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.