A close up of a logo

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**Newsletter for the week commencing 15th May 2022**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter (C)**

**Entrance antiphon: O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations, he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.**

**First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 14: 21-27**

**Psalm 144 Response: I will bless your name for ever, O God my King.**

**Second Reading: Apocalypse 21: 1-5**

**Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: ‘I give you a new commandment: love one another, just as I have loved you.’ Alleluia!**

**Gospel: John 13: 31-35**

**Communion antiphon: I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.**

**Father Behr writes:**

**Dear Parishioners**

**Sunday Obligation**

The Bishops of England and Wales have written to all the faithful regarding the obligation to attend Mass on Sunday.

From the 5 of June, Pentecost Sunday the faithful will be obliged to attend Sunday Mass.

In a statement the bishops of England and Wales said they believe “that the reasons which have prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation no longer apply”.

“Since the beginning of the Covid pandemic, until the present time, we have shared with you our judgment that the situation of the last two years has meant that the Sunday Obligation has been impeded and has needed to be fulfilled in other ways,” they said.

“We thank God that this situation has now changed.  The pressing challenges of the pandemic have lessened significantly. Most people have resumed the wide range of normal activities, no longer restricted by the previous Covid measures.”  However, “there will still be some members of our congregations who, for reasons of health, do not feel safe enough to return to Mass”.

“It has always been the understanding of the Church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation,” they said in their statement.

The bishops also confirmed that “virtual viewing” of Mass did not fulfil the obligation to go to Mass on Sunday.

This is very positive news and I hope that all those who have been away will feel ready to return. A warm welcome awaits all those who have been away for whatever reason.

*Quotes from Bishops of England and Wales sourced from Simon Caldwell at the Catholic Herald.*

Best Wishes

Father Behruz Rafat

**Your Prayers are asked for:**

**Those recently deceased: Nora Mary McMahon RIP** Funeral Mass is on Wednesday 25 May at 10am

**Those ill or infirm:** Mary Iglinski, Ailish Cantwell (Jones), Sylwia Dorosz, Joe Adams, Ellie Lawrence, Anne Bryant, Patricia Hook, Elena Peck (senior), Josie Payne, Pat Holland and all those who are unwell and in need of our prayers.

**Those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time:** Sarah Norris, Eleanore Lynes, Jane Goodman, Sophie Larson, Adrian Wyles, Jennifer Jorden, Doris Woodman, Henry Dowding, Percival Goulding, Anne Wardlaw, Teresa Hall, Harold Farris and John Nesbitt.

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| **This week’s services (14th – 21st May), Feasts and Mass intentions during the week.** |
| **Saturday 14th May St** Matthias, Apostle  10am Mass Barry *Griffiths RIP*  10.30 -11am Confession  6pm Vigil Mass Private *Intention* **Reader: James** |
| **Sunday 15th May Fifth Sunday of Easter (C)**  10am Mass *People of the Parish* **Reader: Frances**  12 Midday Traditional Latin Mass |
| **Monday 16th May Feria**  10am Mass the *Sanctity of Human Life* |
| T**uesday 17th May Feria**  10am Mass *Doner’s Intention* |
| **Wednesday 18th May St** John I, Pope & Martyr  10am Service of the Word and Holy Communion |
| **Thursday 19th May St** Dunstan, Bishop  9am-10am Adoration  10am Mass *Lucia Dienst (Christine)* |
| **Friday 20th May St** Bernardine of Siena, Priest, Religious, missionary  10am Mass *Mary Iglinski wellbeing (Doreen)*  10.30 – 11.30am Adoration |
| **Saturday 21st May Ss** Christopher Magallanes, Priest, and companions, Martyrs  **No 10am Mass –** Wedding of Rob and Isabella  6pm Vigil Mass *Marjorie Dumbleton RIP (Anniversary)* **Reader: Kathy** |
| **Sunday 22nd May Sixth Sunday of Easter (C)**  10am Mass *People of the Parish* **Reader: Peter**  12 midday Traditional Latin Mass |
| **Flowers: For 22nd May - Kathy** |
| **Readers: Saturday 21st May – Kathy/Sunday 22nd May - Peter** |
| **Cleaners: 21st May – Liz & David** |

**Congratulations to Rob and Isabella** who are getting married at St Andrew on Saturday 21 May.

**Confession**

Fr Behr is available for Confession every Saturday from 10.30am - 11am. He is also happy to visit those who are not able to come to church.

**Fatima**

‘A powerful and uplifting feature film that tells the dramatic true story of the apparitions of Our Lady in 1917 to three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal. The revelations from their visions inspired believers but angered both Church and government officials who tried to force them to recant their story. The children had to convince them of Our Lady’s appearances and of her urgent message to the world for prayer, penance and conversion.’

The Fatima film will be shown on two Tuesdays starting on 17 May with the first hour of the film and finishing on 24 May.

Tea, coffee and refreshments will be served from 10.30am with the film starting at 10.50am.  This is an ideal opportunity to invite friends and family to come and enjoy the warm hospitality of our parish.

Times: Tuesday 17 May at 10.50.

             Tuesday 24 May at 10.50.

Refreshments will be available on both days before the film.

**May Procession**

On Sunday 15 May we will have a procession in honour of Our Lady at the 10am Mass.  It would be great if some of

the children in our parish could take part.

**Saint Bernadette of Lourdes**

The Friars at Aylesford will be hosting her relics from Monday 24 October to Friday 28 October, 2022.

Monday - 7pm Welcome and Mass.

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday - 12 noon Mass; 3.30pm Exposition & Benediction; 5pm Mass followed by Torchlight Procession.

Friday - 12 noon Mass & Farewell.

Tel: 01622 717272 or [reception@thefriars.org.uk](mailto:reception@thefriars.org.uk)

**The Bethlehem Nativity Group TBNG**,

A missionary from Bethlehem, The Holy Land will visit us on the weekend 28th - 29th   May to briefly talk about the Holy Land and sell religious articles made out of Olive Wood from the Holy Land to help and support the poor Christian families, any help you could give to them it will be highly appreciated” (when you help the poor you help our Lord”.

**The Food Bank**

Thanks to everyone. who is contributing to the Food Bank collection box in the Church porch.

Your donations, however small are much appreciated by all the people in our area, who are experiencing increasing food poverty.

A statue of a person holding a cross

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