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Newsletter for the week commencing 25th May 2025

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)

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.

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 15: 1-2; 22-29

Psalm 67(66) Response: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Second Reading: The Book of Revelation 21: 10-14; 22-23

Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him. Alleluia.

Gospel: John 14: 23-29

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 forever, alleluia.

Father Behr writes:

Dear Parishioners,

On Thursday 29 May we celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension of Our Lord. It is an Holy Day of Obligation and we have holy Mass at 10am and 7.30pm.

In an age of rapid technological change and great social unrest the Ascension reminds to keep our eyes and our hearts firmly fixed on Heaven which is our true home.

A great way to prepare for the great feast of Pentecost is to begin the novena on Ascension day. Here is the classic version.

<https://www.ncregister.com/cna/pentecost-novena-here-s-how-to-pray-the-first-novena>

Fr Behr

Your Prayers are asked for:

Recently deceased: Andrew Czaykowski RIP

Those ill or infirm: Sophie, Lady Wyn McWilliams, Michael Payne, Roger Styles, Mary Basher, Paul Lane, Mara McDermot, June Munton, Ailish Cantwell (Jones), Joe Adams, Ellie Lawrence, Patricia Hook, 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: John Browne, Lawrence Appleton, Clare Kirschen and Elsie Hulse.

The Requiem Mass (TLM) for Andrew Czaykowski RIP is on Monday 2 June at 2.30pm here at St Andrew.

Masses and services for the week (25 th May – 1 st June), Feasts and Mass intentions.	
Saturday 24th May Feria	No public Mass am 6pm Vigil Mass <i>People of the Parish</i> Reader: Pat
Sunday 25th May SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)	10am Mass <i>Brian Lawrence RIP (Bridget)</i> Reader: Collette 12 Midday Traditional Latin Mass
Monday 26th May St Philip Neri, Priest	10am Mass <i>In Reparation (Margaret)</i>

Tuesday 27th May St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop, Apostle of England	10am Mass <i>David Colquhoun RIP</i>
Wednesday 28th May Feria	
Thursday 29th May THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD	HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION 9am Adoration 10am Mass <i>People of the Parish</i> 7.30pm Mass <i>Intentions of Jesus and Mary</i>
Friday 30th May Feria	10am Mass <i>Holy Souls (Margaret)</i> Adoration 10.30 – 11am
Saturday 31st May The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	No public Mass am 6pm Vigil Mass <i>People of the Parish</i> Reader: Rachel
Sunday 1st June SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)	10am Mass <i>Sylwia and Family in Thanksgiving</i> Reader: TBA 12 Midday Traditional Latin Mass
Flowers: for 1st June - Pat	

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.

Children's Liturgy Children's Liturgy at the 10am Mass is on the first Sunday of every month. All children who have not made their First Holy Communion are welcome to attend. The next lesson with Lorraine is Sunday, June 1st

Parish WhatsApp Our parish has a WhatsApp group. We will post parish events including social events, special occasions and requests for help in the parish as well as general parish news. If you would like to join please get in touch with Fr Behr.

This Sunday we have a May procession in honour of Our Lady. At the end of Mass we will process around the church singing a hymn to Our Blessed Mother and then crown our statue of the Virgin Mary.

Our **Tuesday Coffee Morning** gatherings

will be exploring a spiritual "Pilgrimage to Pentecost" starting with coffee at 10.30am.

Our Lady and the Apostles prepared together for the first Pentecost in prayer and

reflection. Why not do the same this year, by taking part in the archdiocesan

Pilgrimage to Pentecost course? Starts the Sunday after Easter, with daily Scripture

reflections in a specially written course booklet, six weekly filmed talks pre-recorded at diocesan Jubilee shrines and churches and the closing Mass at the Jubilee. <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/news-events/news/pilgrimage-to-pentecost-course-a-huge-hit/>

Congratulations to Charlotte, Gio, Margaret, Paddy, Penny, Santi, Victoria and Szymon who made their First Holy Communion last weekend and big thank you to Pat Sargent for preparing the children.

Diocesan Jubilee Celebrations

7th June 2025 10am - 5pm

The Friars, Aylesford

A day of joy for the whole Archdiocese!

Archbishop John is inviting all of us to the Southwark Archdiocesan Jubilee Celebration at The Friars, Aylesford on Saturday 7 June 2025. It promises to be a great day.

Fun for families - Saints Treasure Trail for kids of all ages, Children's Rosary, pre-bookable KS1-4 ministry sessions. Nourishment for the soul - Adoration, Rosary Way for groups and families, Confessions, Veneration of Relics, CAFOD icon, Carlo Acutis Exhibition Food for thought - talks, book and other

stalls, Diocesan History Exhibition. Refreshment for the body - music stages, picnics, BBQ and refreshments

Closing Mass - Archbishop John Wilson

presiding, music led by Diocesan Choir

and much, much more! If you would like to go but need a lift please put your name and number on the sheet in the porch.

If you are willing to gift a lift please let me know. Fr Behr

Hope in Adoration. As part of the Jubilee Year, Archbishop John is encouraging people to turn to the Lord Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration and have their hopes "fulfilled by Christ".

The campaign, Hope in Adoration, will share testimonies from parish priests and laity

throughout the year on how Eucharistic Adoration has helped them build a closer

relationship with the Lord Jesus. Resources will also be made available for free and there is a comprehensive list of times of Eucharistic Adoration in parishes across the Archdiocese. Find out more about the campaign at rcaos.org.uk/hopeina. We have two opportunities for Adoration in our parish. On Thursday mornings from 9am and on Friday mornings from 10.30am.

Children's Liturgy at the 10am Mass on the first Sunday of every month. All children who have not made their First Holy Communion are welcome to attend. The next lesson with Lorraine is on June 1.

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Events planned for 2025 - add these dates to your diary!

Saturday 15 November will see the return of our Advent Fair

Saturday 29 November we will host a 'Pot Luck Supper' to celebrate the feast day of St Andrew

Catechetical Institute. Thanks to the generosity of the [Archbishop's Appeal](#) and the Franciscan University, every parishioner, catechist, parent and teacher in our schools and parishes will now have **free access** to over 120 high-quality workshops from the Catechetical Institute. Each parish features on the [Franciscan platform](https://franciscanathome.com/southwark) (<https://franciscanathome.com/southwark>). It's simple to sign-up, with a short video on the Agency page (<https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/franciscan>) to guide you through. This offering is free to everyone until September 2025.

Mass in Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage

July 12th, 2025, at St George's Cathedral

If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th + wedding anniversary this year, please let us know as soon as possible, and no later than the middle of May, providing the following details: your names in the format John and Mary Smith, your home address, your parish, and the anniversary you are celebrating, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited. Contact Carole at mflkent@rcaos.org.uk. As the title of your email, please write your parish location e.g. Maidstone, Dover

We Believe. Celebrate the Jubilee at WeBelieve, a festival of Catholic Life gathering the Church to share the hope that we have in Christ. From 25th-28th July, join us for four days of music, keynotes, conversation & worship at St Mary's College, Oscott, Birmingham. Featuring Dr Gianna Emanuela Molla (daughter of St Gianna Molla), Fr Paul Murray, Msgr Michael Nazir-Ali, AnMari, Fr Toby Lees & many more. Early Bird Tickets available now at www.webelievefestival.com

Relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis visiting St George's Cathedral - 26-29 June. St George's Cathedral will be visited by a relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis. On Thursday 26 June, an evening of **adoration** and **veneration** of the relic for young adults is taking place. On Friday 27 June, **Archbishop John** will preside at the **6pm Solemn Mass** of the Sacred Heart, which will include the veneration of the relic. On Saturday 28 June, there will be a "**morning with Carlo Acutis**", which will include Mass, adoration, rosary and a talk on the relic. An **exhibition** will also be on display at the Cathedral from 19 June to 7 July. Visit: stgeorgescathedral.org.uk for more information.

Evangelium 2025 conference - 15-17 August. A conference on Catholic faith, life and culture to help make faithful young Catholic adults effective for Mission. Over the years, hundreds have ignited their faith through Evangelium. Guest speakers include Fr Marcus Holden and Fr Marcus Wharton. Book and more details: saintant.com/product/evangelium-2025 & [poster here](#).

Alone or bored in your marriage? Considering separation or are already divorced? If you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. We have helped thousands of couples get back on track. Call to find out more www.retrouvaille.org.uk +44 797 338 0443

Maidstone Deanery Confirmation Programme 2025

Applications are invited from School age young people in **Year 9 or above**, to join our 2025 Deanery Confirmation programme, who live in the parishes of Maidstone Deanery (St Francis', Maidstone/ St Peter's, Bearsted/ Holy Family, Park Wood, /St Thomas More, West Malling/ St Theodore's Cranbrook/ St Andrew's, Tenterden / Sacred Heart, Goudhurst).

The programme will run on mainly Sunday evenings at St Francis' Church, Maidstone, beginning in June, a break throughout the summer holiday, continuing through September - October, with the **Confirmation Mass scheduled for Saturday 25th October, 2pm.** (Venue TBC)

Applicants must be Catholics, who have made their First Holy Communion.

Applications must come from the candidate themselves.

Applicants will commit to attending all of the sessions.

Applicants must also be willing to participate fully in all aspects of the programme.

To request an application form, which also gives details of dates and times of sessions, please email:

confirmation@stfrancisparish.org.uk

The closing date for applications is **Monday 9th JUNE 2025**

Any other questions can be raised either through this dedicated confirmation mailbox, or by contacting Deacon Ian.