

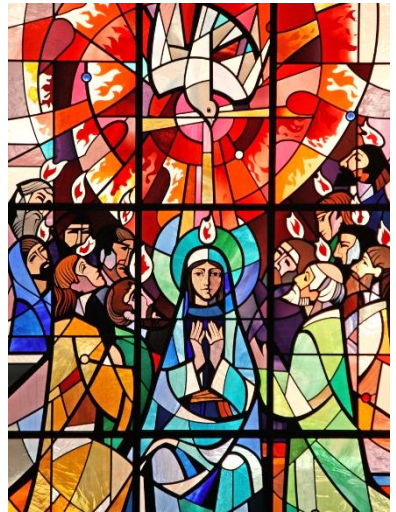


## **Marriage: a covenant of love**

The sacrament of matrimony is a reflection of God's love for His people. God calls husband and wife to reflect the love that Christ has for His bride, the Church. This is no easy task! Let us pray for married couples, and for all who are preparing to enter into marriage later this year.

## **FOCUS ON... Pentecost Novena**

A novena is nine days of prayer, perhaps for a specific intention or asking the intercession of a particular saint. The idea comes from Scripture: between the Ascension and Pentecost, the Apostles and the holy women, including Our Lady, spent nine days "in continuous prayer" (Acts 1:14) awaiting the coming of the Holy Spirit. Why not think about how to spend those days this year? Between the Ascension and Pentecost, say a prayer to the Holy Spirit each day, asking for a renewal of His gifts in your life. You could use any prayer to the Holy Spirit; here is a suggestion:



**Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth.**

**O God, who has taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that by the gift of the same Spirit, we may be always truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolation. Amen.**

For a more extended Pentecost Novena, see the CTS booklets in the narthex.

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## MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass Book Page 266

Office: Psalter Week 2; Sundays: Year B; Weekdays: of the Easter season

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup>	6pm (vigil)	<b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	Lena Thompson RIP
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am		Ellen Catterall RIP
	6pm		Leslie and Rita Burns: 60 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary
Monday	<b>10am</b>		Michael Hampson RIP
Tuesday	7pm		Private Intention
Wednesday	9:15am	<b>THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (Holy Day of Obligation)</b>	Jack Burton RIP
	7pm (vigil)		O'Neil Family
Thursday	9:15am		Marie Wareing (sick)
	7pm	Carol McCarthy RIP	
Friday	12noon		Sophia Morris RIP
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup>	6pm (vigil)	<b>SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	Romeo Pereira RIP
	7pm		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am		People of the Parish
	6pm	May Hargreaves RIP	

**LATELY DEAD:** Please remember in your prayers **Annie Green** and **May Hargreaves**, whose funerals took place last week, **Helena Jackson**, whose funeral will take place here on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 12:15pm, and all who have died recently.

### EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday-Friday 7am-8am; Saturday 10:30am-12noon.

Sundays 4-5pm during Eastertide, ending with Benediction.

**CONFESSIONS:** Saturday 11am-12noon and on request.

**SUNG VESPERS (EVENING PRAYER):** Sundays 4:30pm during Eastertide.

**ROSARY:** Mysteries of Light prayed after 9:15am Mass and before 12noon Mass.

**ST ANTHONY:** money donated in the wall box during May will go to Survive-MIVA, a charity which provides transport for medical and pastoral needs overseas.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Mary Clague, Barbara McCann, Thomas Lupton, Moira Dias, Mary Alice Jackson, Alice Hull.

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR MAY:** That the lay faithful may fulfil their specific mission, by responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today.

**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD:** This Thursday is a Holy Day of Obligation, on which we are to attend Mass, as on a Sunday. There is a vigil Mass on Wednesday at 7pm and Mass on Thursday at 9:15am and 7pm. Come and celebrate this great feast.

**BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY:** Mass at 10am. No hospital Mass this week.

**PETITIONS FOR ASSISI:** any intentions for prayer, asking the intercession of St Clare; please place in marked envelope and hand in. They will be taken to Assisi this week.

**MESSY CHURCH:** Activities, games and Bible stories for young children and their families. All ages and denominations welcome. Next Saturday in the hall, 1:30pm.

**FRANCISCAN CROWN:** a beautiful devotion, similar to the Rosary, which invites us to meditate on the seven Joys of Mary. We will pray this devotion as a parish on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm in church. Come and pray with Our Lady and St Francis.

**CENACOLO COLLECTION:** next Sunday (12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup>).

**HOLY COMMUNION/CONFIRMATION GIFTS** will be on sale in the narthex after all Masses next weekend and the following weekend. Proceeds from these sales will go to ACN to support our families in Syria. Thank you for your support.

**CTS BOOK CLUB:** Next meeting is on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm. The book for this month is "The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit"; copies are now available from Fr A.

**SUNDAY HOLY HOUR:** During Eastertide, Sundays at 4pm, Exposition and a scripture reflection followed at 4:30pm by sung Vespers (evening prayer) and Benediction.

**NCW ANNUAL CATECHESIS:** Christ came so that we may have life and have it to the full. Do you want a renewed, personal encounter with Jesus Christ? Come and listen, no commitment. No one is excluded from the Lord's joy.

**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK (13<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> May):** Collectors are urgently needed for the St Clare's "patch", which is mainly the roads off Sherwood Way. Please call 01772 717376 or 07803 071936 if you think you can help.

**CHURCHES TOGETHER PILGRIMAGE:** To Lancaster Cathedral and St Peter's in Heysham. Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September. £26 including transport and evening meal. Booking forms and details in the narthex. Early booking is appreciated.

**MILES FOR SYRIA:** The overall total for Syria now stands at over £15,000. Visit [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/milesforsyria](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/milesforsyria) to donate online.

**SCOUT LEADER REQUIRED:** for more details please see the notice in the narthex.

**HCPT LOURDES: NURSE OR DOCTOR** required for a trip to Lourdes (Hosanna House), 31<sup>st</sup> August-7<sup>th</sup> September. Families also welcome. Speak to Fr Andrew.

**LAST SUNDAY:** Attended: 535; Collection: £1143.16. Thank you.

**SPECIAL COLLECTION:** next Sunday (12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup>) for Catholic Media.

## Events this week (one off/occasional events in bold type)

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	After-Mass tea and coffee	Parish Hall
	4pm	<b>Exposition and Reflection</b>	Church
	4:30pm	<b>Sung Vespers and Benediction</b>	Church
	7pm	Anointed/Sent Groups (years 7-11)	<b>Narthex</b>
Mon-Fri	9am	Pre-school	Parish Hall
	3:20pm	After-school club	Parish Hall
Monday	6pm	Cubs	Parish Hall
	6:50pm	<b>Baptism Preparation (1)</b>	Chapel
	7:30pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	<b>NCW Catechesis (7)</b>	Chapel
Tuesday	7:30pm	Prayer group	Chapel
Wednesday	9:45am	After-Mass tea and coffee	Narthex
	6pm	Seekers (school years 4-6)	Parish Hall
Thursday	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	<b>NCW Catechesis (8)</b>	Chapel
Sat/Sun	At Mass	<b>Cenacolo Collection</b>	House porch
Saturday	10:30am	Spanish Class	Parish Hall
	10:30am	<b>Confirmation Preparation (6)</b>	School
	1:30pm	<b>Messy Church</b>	Parish Hall
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	<b>Holy Communion Preparation (7)</b>	Parish Hall
	10:30am	After-Mass tea and coffee	Parish Hall
	4pm	<b>Exposition and Reflection</b>	Church
	4:30pm	<b>Sung Vespers and Benediction</b>	Church
	7pm	Anointed/Sent Groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall

### Advance Diary Dates:

20<sup>th</sup> May: Pentecost Sunday; Next meeting of the CTS Book Club, 7pm

25<sup>th</sup> May: May Procession, 1:45pm

1<sup>st</sup> June: Feast of the Dedication of St Clare's church, Mass at 12noon

3<sup>rd</sup> June: Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

8<sup>th</sup> June: Parish Corpus Christi procession, 1:45pm

9<sup>th</sup> June: Day of Renewal

**OUR LADY & ST EDWARD'S LADIES' GROUP:** this Thursday: a 'Beetle Drive' in the OLSE parish centre at 8pm. Admission £2.