

SUNDAY BULLETIN

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, MAY 24TH, 2020

<p>CATHOLIC CHURCH IN BURSLEM & TUNSTALL,</p> <p>The Sacred Heart Tunstall Queens Avenue ST6 6EE thesacredhearttunstall@gmail.com www.thesacredhearttunstall.org.uk</p> <p>Saint Joseph's Burslem Hall Street ST6 4BB stjosephburslem@gmail.com www.stjosephsburslem.org.uk</p> <p>Fr Stanislaus Chukwube CSSp Parish Priest parishpriestsht@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Parish Secretariat:</i> Carol Critchlow Office hours: Wed, Thurs and the Fri 10 am to 2pm 13 Queen's Avenue Tunstall ST6 6EE 01782 838357</p> <p><i>Safeguarding:</i> Mrs May Algar 07817212552 Mrs Ellen Churchill 07859916416</p>	MASS TIMES	Sacred Heart	Saint Joseph's		<i>Mass Intention</i>
	Saturday May 23 rd <i>Easter feria</i>			Mass in Private	People of the Parish
	7 th SUNDAY of Easter <i>World Communications Day</i>			Mass in Private	Charles and Florence Jackson RIP
	Monday 25 th <i>St. Bede the Venerable, Mem</i>			Mass in Private	Ann Platt RIP
	Tuesday 26 th <i>St. Philip Neri, Mem</i>			Mass in Private	World Peace
	Wednesday 27 th <i>St. Augustine of Canterbury, Mem</i>			Mass in Private	Special Intention
	Thursday 28 th <i>Easter feria</i>			Mass in Private	Ann Platt RIP (Funeral)
	Friday 29 th <i>Dedication, Solemnity</i>			Mass in Private	Ann Platt RIP
	Saturday 30 th <i>Easter feria</i>			Mass in Private	Special Intention
	PENTECOST SUNDAY <i>Day of Prayer for the Church</i>			Mass in Private	Ellen Kenny

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH FINANCIALLY

During this technical age, please consider setting up a **standing order**. It is very straightforward and simple to do and gives you control over how much you give and the frequency. It is a method of giving that can continue into the future, replacing the need to bring in your offertory donations when Masses resume. It is also the preferred means of depositing our offertory donations in the bank; and it also helps the Parish budget for the future, knowing that money is still coming in. We can still claim **Gift Aid** on your donations. If you don't have online banking, standing orders can still be set up, we can email you a form to print and fill in, just email the parish office.

Our websites now host a **Donate button**. This gives you the opportunity to help the parish during this time, with a **one-off donation**, once again, if you are online, it is a very quick and straightforward means of getting money into the parish accounts.

Parishioners can also save their offertory donations until restrictions are lifted and then bring them in. However, since the Parish still has continued financial commitments even during this lockdown, we are taking **cash and cheque** donations at the Presbytery.

Thank you for supporting our Parish at this difficult time.

POPE FRANCIS ADDRESS TO YOUNG ATHLETES

(who were to participate in May 21 international event called "We Run Together")

The Holy Father's Words:

I thank all of you for the work you do: each one does something for the community, for others. And this is joy. And people even offer their life for others: mothers for their children, fathers for their children, and many others ... to give something of mine for others. And you give beauty to others - the beauty of sport. This is something important: to understand how to give beauty. It is that motto of the Association that is so important: you are not detached from others, "You run together," together.

And there is always an attitude that we find in that passage of the Gospel, of the two disciples that ran to Jesus' sepulcher on the morning of the Resurrection (Cf. John 20:3-6). The youngest (John) arrives first, and then the older one (Peter) stayed behind, but there is always the respect of waiting for the other. And there is an ancient Medieval rule for pilgrims, for those that did pilgrimages to Shrines in the Middle Ages - they are also done today; we think of Santiago de Compostela, for instance - a rule that states: One must go in step with the one who is weakest, with the one who walks more slowly. "No, but I go first ... "No. One must keep up, as John did: yes, he arrived first, but he waited for the other. This is a very beautiful thing, which we must learn, as humanity: to walk in step with persons that have another rhythm, or at least consider them and integrate them in our step. Thank you all!

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL of Ann Platt whose burial is on Thurs 28th May 2020 and all those whose anniversary occur at this time.

BAPTISM AND MARRIAGE

For all enquiries for Catholic Marriage and Baptism, kindly contact the Parish Priest at the parish office.

PRAYER A DAY FOR VOCATIONS

Please email or Facebook Carol to choose a day in May to pray for vocations during the month on behalf of the parish.

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY

For Deacons: We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY

Today is World Communications Day and we pray for all those who work in the Media. The Pope's World Communications Day message focuses on storytelling, truth and who we are in God's eyes. He looks to the Bible as "the great love story between God and humanity" with Jesus at its centre. (For a full text of Pope Francis' message for the day please go to the Diocesan website or our parish websites / Facebook page).

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

You are invited to an online Lourdes pilgrimage, starting Sunday 24 May with Archbishop Bernard's opening Mass at 3pm live streamed from St Chad's Cathedral. The week features daily Mass, liturgy and Rosary 'processions'. Find the full programme on www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/lourdes-pilgrimage

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH THROUGH LOCAL LOTTERY

If you feel like supporting our parish and having a go on a local lottery please support our page. £1 a ticket, 50p a ticket guaranteed comes direct to the parish with a top prize of £25,000.

<https://www.pottolotto.co.uk/support/the-sacred-heart-catholic-church>

MAY DEVOTION

MAY is a special month of Mary. Daily recitation of the Rosary is highly encouraged. Pope Francis encourages "everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May."

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 1:12-14; Psalm 26; 1 Peter 4:13-15; John 17: 1-11

Message to My Daughter, is a 1973 moving story of Miranda, a completely disoriented teenage girl who saw the world as "meaningless, cruel and stupid." Her mother died when Miranda was barely two years old. She felt so unloved and insecure and thought nobody could ever love her. One day Miranda discovered a tape left by her late mother titled 'Message to My Daughter'. As she listened to this tape Miranda found out that her mother loved her so much and had noble thoughts about her. She then discovered that she was not the unloved child she thought she was. Actually, her mother loved and cherished her tenderly. This was a game changer as she changed the way she saw herself and could now positively relate with people around her. She became cheerful, put herself together, and was able to make good grades at school.

Today we read from the famous priestly prayer of Jesus in the Gospel of John 17: 1-11. The rest of the chapter will be read on Thursday. This prayer summarises the purpose of Christ's life on earth and his special prayer to the Father for his disciples. He says, "I pray for them, because they belong to you: all I have is yours and all you have is mine, and in them I am glorified." In this high priestly prayer of Jesus, we realise that he thought about us, not only his apostles. We belong to him; he loves us and commends us to the Father. Just as Miranda realised that her long dead mother loved her, whenever we read John 17, we know that Jesus loves us tenderly and cares about us. It makes a lot of difference for us to know that Jesus thought of us, that he had us in mind as he died and gave his life for the salvation of the world, that he actually prayed for us. We know that the Father always hears the prayers of Jesus. That is why as followers of Christ we must be assured that we are in the palms of his hand. Jesus is our strength. We must, therefore, not let anything or situation put us down. We are a blessed people.

On Thursday last week, exactly 40 days after Easter Sunday, the Church commemorated the great event of the Ascension of Jesus Christ to the Father. In our first reading today, we hear that, after the Ascension, the apostles together with several women including Mary, the Mother of Jesus, retired to the upper room and were engaged in continuous prayer. Prayer is the attitude of people expecting the coming of the Paraclete. Let us in this coming days preceding Pentecost, pray for a rekindling of the fire of divine love in the Hearts of all the faithful.

Come O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
And enkindle 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. Amen