

## The Ascension of Christ

*I AM with you always, to the end of the age.*

*Matthew 28:20*

**CHRIST'S** going to the Father is at once a source of sorrow, because it involves His absence; and of joy, because it involves His presence. And out of the doctrine of His resurrection and ascension, spring those Christian paradoxes, often spoken of in Scripture, that we are sorrowing, yet always rejoicing; as having nothing, yet possessing all things. This, indeed, is our state at present; we have lost Christ and we have found Him; we see Him not, yet we discern Him. We embrace His feet, yet He says, "Touch Me not." How is this? it is thus: we have lost the sensible and conscious perception of Him; we cannot look on Him, hear Him, converse with Him, follow Him from place to place; but we enjoy the spiritual, immaterial, inward, mental, real sight and possession of Him; a possession more real and more present than that which the Apostles had in the days of His flesh, *because* it is spiritual, *because* it is invisible. We know that the closer any object of this world comes to us, the less we can contemplate it and comprehend it. Christ has come so close to us in the Christian Church (if I may so speak), that we cannot gaze on Him or discern Him. He enters into us, He claims and takes possession of His purchased inheritance; He does not present Himself to us, but He takes us to Him. He makes us His members. Our faces are, as it were, turned from Him; we see Him not, and know not of His presence, except by faith, because He is over us and within us. And thus we may at the same time lament because we are not conscious of His presence, as the Apostles enjoyed it before His death; and may rejoice because we know we do possess it even more than they, according to the text, "whom having not seen (that is, with the bodily eyes) ye love; in whom, though now ye see Him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls."

[1 Peter 1: 8, 9]

**Blessed John Henry Newman (1801-1890)**

**Excerpt from *Parochial and Plain Sermons*, volume 6, no. 10**



St Edmund Campion Deanery, Old Berkshire-  
Thames ISIS Pastoral Area  
www.thamesisis.org.uk  
**EAST HENDRED CATHOLIC PARISH**  
St Mary's Church, East Hendred  
St Patrick's Church, East Ilsley

hendred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk  
Parish Priest: The Revd Mgr Andrew Burnham  
01235 835038 or 07976 437979  
aburnham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD</b> Mass: 9.30am St Mary's Mass: 11.15am St Patrick's Baptism: 11.30am St Mary's Baptism: 12.30pm St Mary's	<b>Year A: Week 2</b> [white] Pro populo Pro populo
<b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<i>Of the Seventh Week of Easter</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary's	[white]
<b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<i>Of the Seventh Week of Easter</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary's	[white]
<b>Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> Adoration: 11.45am St Mary's Mass: 12.15pm St Mary's	[white]
<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>	St Justin, Martyr Mass: 9.15am St Mary's	[red]
<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	<i>Of the Seventh Week of Easter</i> Mass: 8.30am Hendred House Adoration: 3pm Hendred House	[white] Holy Souls
<b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	St Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs Mass: 9.15am St Mary's [Latin] Confessions: 10am	[red] FM Marguerite Raab 1943
<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>PENTECOST SUNDAY</b> Mass: 9.30am St Mary's Mass: 11.15am St Patrick's Mass: 6pm Milton Manor	<b>Year A: Week 2</b> [red] Pro populo Pro populo
	<b>Confessions: Sundays at 8.45am or by appointment</b> <b>www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</b>	

### **CARMELITE DAY AT BOARS HILL**

The next Carmelite day at Boars Hill is on **Wednesday 31st of May** after the 9:30 mass. It will be led by Sue Pacey OCDS and the title is 'Pauline: the spiritual mother of St. Therese of Lisieux'.

### **NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT**

The Great Feast of Pentecost will soon be upon us, when we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit given to Mary and the Apostles, and so also to the early Church. After Ascension, those first disciples were told by Jesus not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there "for what the Lord had promised" (Acts 1:4). We too, then, are invited to "wait for what the Lord has promised us", namely the Holy Spirit. Please would you consider offering a Novena to the Holy Spirit from **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May to Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** for the New Evangelisation in our diocese.

### **PENTECOST VIGIL LIVE FROM ROME**

Join us on **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** from 3pm at St Edmund's Parish Centre, Abingdon OX14 3PL. Pope Francis has invited Christians worldwide to join him in the Circo Massimo to celebrate 50 years of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal. We shall be streaming the event live in the Parish Centre. All welcome, come for all or part. Refreshments provided. Please see more details in poster at the church.

### **GATHERING TOGETHER IN CHRIST**

At our next meeting on Tuesday **June 6<sup>th</sup>**, we continue our study of the story of David in the Old Testament and will be using excerpts from chapters 23, 24 and 25 of the first book of Samuel to help us discuss and pray together. All are welcome. We start with coffee and biscuits in the parish rooms at about 7.15 pm for a 7.30 pm. start; the normal finishing time is about 8.30 - 45.

### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2017**

This year the First Holy Communion Mass will be on **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June** at 11.30am at St Mary's . There will be a vigil Mass at St Patrick's on **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June** at 6.30pm and the usual 9.30am Mass at St Mary's on Sunday.

### **WEBSITE DESIGNING SKILLS?**

Can you help us designing a website? Please talk to Fr Andrew or email the office.

### **PARISH COLLECTION**

Last Sunday's collection raised a total of £890.02 of which 82% was Gift Aided. Today there is second obligatory collection for World Communications.

### **FUTURE COLLECTIONS**

Day for Life: 18<sup>th</sup> June  
Peter's Pence: 25<sup>th</sup> June



**NEWSLETTER** | Please send all notices for next week's Newsletter to Maria at [hendred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:hendred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) by **Wednesday 10 am**



### **BAPTISM AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

**We remember in our prayers** those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

### **THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED**

**We remember in our prayers** *Kathleen Doyle, Sr Catherine, Diana Tuson, Mary Wallace, Brenda Paddon, Alfie Bartlam, Jenny Ayres and Jadyga Adasko* . Names remain for four weeks. Please request further inclusion.

### **THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED**

**We remember in our prayers** those who have died recently and those with anniversaries at this time: *Charles John Mulford, Elizabeth Wilkinson, Edward Murphy, Thomas More Eyston, Margaret Rose Raab, David Rogers and Eva O'Connor*.

### **HOLY FATHER'S MAY INTENTION - CHRISTIANS IN AFRICA**

That Christians in Africa, in imitation of the Merciful Jesus, may give prophetic witness to reconciliation, justice, and peace.

### **REBUILDING MARRIAGE, EMBRACING THE DIVORCED. BEHIND POPE'S FRANCIS AMORIS LAETITIA**

Talk and Q&A with Austin Ivereigh on **16<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm** at the Church of Our Lady & St Edmund, Abingdon. Pope Francis's groundbreaking apostolic exhortation. 'The Joy of Love' was released last year following a two-part bishops' synod in 2014 and 2015 that sought a new pastoral response to the collapse of lifelong marriage across the western world. The document is a bold attempt by Pope Francis to put the Church at the forefront of the renewal of marriage while reaching out to Catholics devastated by divorce. How does the new approach affect parishes preparing and supporting marriage? What does it mean for divorced and remarried Catholics barred from the sacraments? What's new and what isn't? And what will it mean for the next generation?

### **ST EDMUND CAMPION PILGRIMAGE**

The annual St Edmund Campion Pilgrimage through the Thames Valley starts on 3<sup>rd</sup> June and ends at Tyburn with a Mass on **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July** at 4.00pm. The Saint's relic is carried from church to church through the Thames Valley with over 50 Masses celebrated on the journey from Lyford Grange near Wantage, where he was captured, to Tyburn where he was put to death. Further information from John Lynn, KSC Pilgrimage Coordinator (01628-636668)

### **ADMINISTRATOR REQUIRED**

A vacancy has arisen for a part-time Administrative Secretary to work for Fr Phillip Harris, Parish Priest at the churches of English Martyrs, Didcot and St John the Evangelist, Wallingford. The successful applicant will be located at the parish office in the Presbytery at Didcot. The post is for 28 hrs per week, each day to be agreed. Salary £9.19-11.34 per hour. Experienced Administrator with excellent secretarial skills, computer literate, skilled in word processing, desktop publishing, spreadsheets, database management, book-keeping, knowledge of accounts and website management (training will be given). Self motivated and flexible, ability to work on own initiative and without supervision, able to cope with change and work under pressure. Deadline for applications **5<sup>th</sup> June**. Applications are available from [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/vacancies](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/vacancies) or from the parish office.