



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for Pentecost Sunday

THE MEDIEVAL ARCHBISHOP, STEPHEN LANGTON AND THE FEAST OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

At Mass today, before the Gospel, we will recite the 'Pentecost Sequence' *Veni Sancte Spiritus* (Come, Holy Spirit) or *Holy Spirit, Lord of life* (according to the more modern translation). This poetic hymn has been part of today's Pentecost Liturgy, since 1570, when it was incorporated into the Missal of the Council of Trent, and it has been there ever since.



Not only has it a beautiful Gregorian melody, but it has been set to music by renowned composers like Palestrina (+1590) and William Byrd (+1623). Unfortunately, in many parishes it is neither said nor sung but simply ignored. Yet, it encompasses a beautiful spirituality of the Third Person of the Trinity. The words of the Sequence were written by the Englishman, Stephen Langton, one of the most prominent figures of the Thirteenth century Church.

He was born in 1150 in Lincolnshire, and studied at the University of Paris, where he became friends with Lotario dei Conti dei Segni (+1216), the future Pope Innocent III. He remained in Paris to teach Theology after he gained his doctorate. When Hubert Walter, Archbishop of Canterbury, died in 1205, Stephen Langton was chosen (eventually) as his successor and was consecrated by Innocent III at Vitberbo in Italy in 1207.

Besides writing *Veni Sancte Spiritus* and being Archbishop of Canterbury, he had two other claims to fame. Perhaps Langton's most prestigious role was in acting as lead negotiator between the tyrannical King John (+1216) and the nobles of England. The deal he reached secured the independent rights of the noblemen and limited those of the King, known as the *Magna Carta* (literally the 'Great Charter'). Published in 1215, it put into writing for the first time the principle that the king and his government are not above the law. With the biography of King Richard I (Richard the Lion Heart) (+1199) which he penned, Langton was not popular with King John, and was for a while exiled to France, at the King's request, by Pope Innocent III. But he was restored as Archbishop of Canterbury later in his life when both the King and the Pope died the same year, 1216!

He was a teacher of the Bible and had the idea of breaking the text of the Latin translation of the Bible into more manageable sections, about the size of paragraphs, which he called *chapters*. The word *chapter* in English comes from the French *chapitre*, which comes in turn from the Latin *capitulum*, a diminutive of *caput*, meaning *head*. He did this for the entire Bible, and his system of chapter division was immediately recognised as a great help for Bible study. The Langtonian chapter divisions, were adopted by the sixteenth-century printer Robert Estienne (+1559), when he introduced a system of *verse* numbering into the Bible. This chapter-and-verse system has become the standard way of quoting Bible passages down to our own time. Langton died in 1228 and is buried in Canterbury Cathedral.

Father McGachey

TODAY IS PENTECOST SUNDAY

Today is the fiftieth day after Easter Sunday, and the Solemnity of Pentecost, when we recall the coming of the Holy Spirit on Our Lady and the Apostles, recorded by Saint Luke in the Acts of the Apostles. The Pentecost event is closely linked with the Sacrament of Confirmation, for this reason we will renew our Confirmation promises at Mass.



At the end of all Masses today we will offer an anointing with the Oil of Gladness. This anointing is mentioned in the Prophet Isaiah when he says, "To grant those who mourn in Zion, giving them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning." In the Old Testament this anointing was considered as a powerful means of transmitting the gift of God's Spirit.

The Oil of Gladness brings spiritual, mental, emotional and physical healing. All of us can benefit. I hope that many of you will come to receive this blessing.



MAY DEVOTIONS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY

There was a great attendance again at our May Devotions on Monday evening - despite there being a big Mass in honour of Our Lady of Fatima in Carfin. We will have once again traditional May Devotions: a prayerful recitation of the Rosary, the Litany of Loreto with its beautiful titles of Our Lady, Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, and the traditional hymns in honour of Our Lady. Please make a special effort to attend and honour Mary, the Mother of God.

On Monday mornings during May, there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 9.15am to 10am. The Rosary will not be recited.

SAVE THE DATE...

Saint Bride's Church celebrates this year the sixtieth anniversary of its opening. To mark the occasion, Bishop Toal has confirmed that he will join us for a Mass of Thanksgiving on Monday 16th September at 7pm. We will invite the clergy who served in the parish in the past, and the Motherwell Diocesan Choir have confirmed that they will provide the music at the liturgy on that evening. I hope you will let your family members, as well as former parishioners, know about this celebration, and that you will save the details in your own diaries so that you can be present too. More details to follow.

DIARY DATES

- **THE MONTH OF JUNE - MONTH OF DEVOTION TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS** - We will recite the Litany of the Sacred Heart after the Rosary each morning.
 - **SUNDAY 3RD JUNE - FEAST OF *CORPUS CHRISTI* (THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST)** - Vespers or Evening Prayer for the Feast with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.
 - **FRIDAY 7TH JUNE - SOLEMNITY OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS** - 10am Mass with organ and incense. At the end of Mass, we will say the prayer of Consecration to the Sacred Heart.
 - **THURSDAY 13TH JUNE - MASS FOR THE SICK** at 10am. After Mass, we invite you to join us for a light breakfast in the Parish Centre.
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200 CLUB

This week's winner is Frank Gordon. Please collect your cheque from the Sacristy.

CALENDAR

On **Monday** we celebrate the memorial of **Mary, the Mother of the Church**. Pope Francis decreed in 2018 that the ancient devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, under the title of Mother of the Church, be inserted into the Roman Calendar, the day after Pentecost. Pope Saint Paul VI, at the conclusion of the Third Session of the Second Vatican Council in 1964, declared the Blessed Virgin Mary as "Mother of the Church, "that is to say of all Christian people, the faithful as well as the clergy, who call her. He established that "the Mother of God should be further honoured and invoked by the entire Christian people by this tenderest of titles."

On **Tuesday** we remember **Saint Christopher Magallanes** who was joined in martyrdom by twenty-one diocesan priests and three devout laymen, all members of the *Cristeros* movement, who rose up in rebellion against the anti-Catholic Mexican government during the 1920s. **Saint Rita of Cascia** is remembered on **Wednesday**. After eighteen years of married life, her husband Ferdinand died. The following year both her sons died. Some months later she was admitted to the Augustinian convent in Cascia. Her devotion to Our Lord's Passion was so intense that she shared in it through the mystical experience of a wound in her forehead, which looked as though she had been pierced by a crown of thorns. The wound continued for fifteen years and could not be healed. She died in 1457. Like St Jude, she is invoked as patron saint of hopeless cases. Both in life and after death she has worked many miracles! She is also a patron of couples with marriage difficulties.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT BRIDE'S

THE CHURCH IS OPEN DAILY, EXCEPT FRIDAYS - from 9am to 6pm

HOLY MASS - Sundays: Vigil 4.30pm, 9.30am with Children's Liturgy and 11.30am

CONFESSIONS - 4pm-4.20pm and after the Vigil Mass

MONDAY-FRIDAY - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am

TUESDAY-SATURDAY - The Holy Rosary with the Litany of Loreto 9.35am

WEDNESDAY - The Litany of Saint Joseph at the conclusion of the Rosary

MONDAY-SATURDAY - Holy Mass 10am

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL - Tuesdays after Mass

PRO-LIFE ROSARY - Wednesdays after 10am Mass

When there is Requiem Mass, there will be no Exposition or Rosary

FIRST COMMUNIONS AT SAINT BRIDE'S

Congratulations to the children of Saint Kenneth's Primary School who made their First Communion yesterday.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

As Sunday 26th of May is a holiday weekend there will be no Children's Liturgy, but we will be back on Sunday 2nd of June.

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PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Clare (Slorach) Keane, Drew and Monica McShane, Amanda Sherwood, Mary Easton, Pat McElroy, Jean O'Neil, Mary Connor (Canada), Margaret Rose McMahon, Richard O'Donnell, Owen O'Donnell, Jean Lafferty, Frank Kirk, Mary O'Brien, Margaret Murphy, Father Pierre Potie (France), Father Bill Tollan, Brian Ewing, Alan MacDonald, Jan Milligan, Catherine McLean, Nessie McFadyen, Noreen Lockhart .

RECENTLY DEAD - Catherine Berkovich, Catherine Weir, Catherine Norris, John O'Connor
ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Thomas Burns, Eleanor Stirling, Kathleen Cassidy, George MacLellan, Annie McShane, Elio Faccenda, John Kennedy, Neil McTaggart, Michelle McKechnie, John Geraghty.

FUNERALS

Catherine Berkovich - details to be confirmed

WEEKLY OFFERINGS - SINCERE THANKS

Sunday 12th May - £2555. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. You may wish to make a one-off donation to the Parish or take out a Standing Order in favour of the Parish. Offerings can be made by Bank Transfer, the details of which are as follows: St Brides Parish 10246966 and 80-12-97.

CATHOLIC TEACHER APPROVAL

Those wishing to teach in the Catholic sector are reminded that it is first necessary to obtain approval from your Parish Priest to show that you accept and live Catholic Faith. For those living in Saint Bride's, this means from Father McGachey. This applies to those about to enrol in the teacher training Course, those about to start as probationary teachers and all those applying for teaching posts (promoted or otherwise) within the Catholic Sector. If you have any questions, please speak to Father McGachey.