

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PARISH PASTORAL COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY 6TH JUNE 7PM

ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED
WITH REGARDS TO LIFE IN THE PARISH OF
ST MICHAEL'S, CAN BE PUT IN THE SILVER BOX
AT THE BACK OF CHURCH

FIRST COMMUNION SERVICE

10.30am, Sunday, 18th June

CONFIRMATION SERVICE

12 noon, Sunday, 9th July

THE THAMES CLEAN UP

THE BIG PLASTIC BLITZ

September

Parish Patronal Weekend and AGM

29th Sept—1st Oct, 2023

Thought for the week

28th May, 2023

Pentecost

Free Gifts on Offer...

Retailers know what they are doing when they put up banners and splashy signs with 'Free Gift!' as they try to tip us over the edge of indecision when we are contemplating a purchase. Quite often the free gift is something which is of questionable value! Unlike the abundance of free gifts which are on offer from the Holy Spirit. These are gifts of true value and yet, perhaps because they aren't placed before us in fluorescent yellow star shapes, we can forget that they are on offer to us all.

Who would turn down the gifts of Wisdom and Understanding: the ability to see into the heart of what is important and to judge wisely the things of earth? I am sure you can name the other Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Counsel (the acceptance of God's direction in spiritual matters); Fortitude (possessing a firmness of mind in doing good and avoiding evil); Knowledge (the ability to judge correctly matters of Faith); Piety (revering and worshipping God); and Fear of God (fear of separating ourselves from God). These Gifts are planted in our souls at our baptism and reinforced at our Confirmation. So why are we not all abounding in wisdom and fortitude and knowledge and understanding? Perhaps because our sins form a barrier which needs to be broken down in order to admit the Holy Spirit and unwrap the Gifts on offer.

If sometimes breaking down those sinful barriers seems a real struggle, remember that the Holy Spirit is also known as the Comforter and the Paraclete: a Helper, an Advocate who pleads our case before a righteous judge. In modern parlance: He's got our back!

Veni, Sancte Spiritus!



We ask you please, to pray for the following people who continue to ask for your prayers;

Please pray for Peter Halter's sister Jean who has macular degeneration and for her great grandson Rogan who is 10 and whose Leukaemia has returned. Rogan has to have a bone marrow transplant on June 1st so he continues to need our prayers.

Please Pray for Jim Hardiman.

Please Pray for Maria McNamara's niece who is undergoing chemotherapy. Her name is Alison Flynn née McNamara.

Please pray for Reuben Muston aged 17 (Theresa and Mike Muston's grandson) who has had his stem cell transplant to treat the Aplastic Anaemia. He still needs our prayers please for a successful outcome.

Please pray for Father Paul Rowan who continues to recover after chemotherapy.

Please pray for Beth Selwood.

Please pray for Savanna Clark (aged 2 with eye trouble).

Please pray for Shirley Trollop.

Please pray for Isobel Messenger (Vera Bird's great granddaughter) she has now had her operation to improve her hearing.

Please pray for Simon Keen who is recovering from an operation.

Please pray for Mary Hagger.

Please pray for Vivien Kear (Krissie's friend) who has cancer

Vera Bird has asked for our prayers for her Great, Great Grandson Harry.

Prayers please for Antonita's nephew Peppin who has long covid.

Please pray for the residents and staff of Abbeycrest and St Luke's.

Please pray for the pupils, teachers and parents of St Martin's school.



Please remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur at this time including;

Laddie Perl, Peggy Dodd, Patrick Keogh,
Eugene Lavalette, Claudina Rodrigues, Andy Tait,
Mary "Jo" Clay, Maurice de Silva, Basil Iwasyki,
Brenda Pearce, Arthur Burns, Ruth Coyne,
Margaret Hamilton Jones, Olive Ryan, Lucy Shurvell,
Sharon Ruddle, Sheila Smith, Maureen Kinnon.