

**Pentecost Sunday**

**Sunday 23 May 2021**



Readings for  
this week:

Acts 2:1-11  
Galatians 5:16-25  
John 15:26-27, 16:12-15



Readings for  
next week

Deuteronomy 4:32-34,39-40  
Romans 8:14-17  
Matthew 28:16-20



## Liturgical Jotting

### Fire - part 1

From the old Testament fire had symbolic value: God's presence in the form of fire (Exod 3; 13: 19; Dan 9; Wis 7). It is also a symbol of life, holiness, and joy. In the New Testament: the Christ will baptise with the Holy Spirit and with fire; conveying the power of the new baptism. Later Jesus said "I came to set fire to the earth!" Luke 12:49. Fire is purifying and creative. The Holy Spirit appeared like tongues of fire at Pentecost.

We use fire at the Easter Vigil to dispel the darkness and light the Paschal Candle. Again on Pentecost in many places, including St Paul's in London, a globe of fire and bits of burning towel are let down from the roof to represent tongues of fire of the Holy Spirit. Some other churches have fire in a brazier.

## Focus on the Readings

As with the Ascension last week, the account of Pentecost is given in the first reading, the Acts of the Apostles. Again the event is steeped in mystery and drama. The Second Reading on the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the Gospel on the effects of the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Disciples: truth and glory complement our reading of the Pentecost event. It occurred in time but is timeless for our annual celebration.

By repetition St Paul emphasised the imperative to be guided by the Holy Spirit (verses 16, 18 & 26). Disciples must live accordingly showing the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control. This impressive list is in opposition to the tendencies of the flesh that St Paul also lists.

The Holy Spirit is called the Advocate, the Paraclete, the Witness. The overtones of the legal system is not lost on the reader and the apostles for many a time they faced tribunals, courts and the Sanhedrin to give witness and defence of their Christian faith. "Thanks to the Spirit, the Word is still living in the world, being poured out and raising up new disciples everywhere ... so that the kingdom may come."

## Words of Pope Francis

We need the Spirit to give us new eyes, to open our mind and our heart so as to face this moment and the future with the lesson we have learned: we are a single humanity. We cannot save ourselves by ourselves. No one saves him or herself alone. No one. Saint Paul said, in the Letter to the Galatians: "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus" (3:28), united by the power of the Holy Spirit. Through this baptism of the Holy Spirit that Jesus announces. We know it, we knew it, but this pandemic we are living through has made us experience it in a much more dramatic way Pentecost Message 2020

## Solemnity of Our Lady Help of Christians


Patron Saint of Australia is celebrated this Monday 24 May

## On the Lighter Side

A class was studying the fruits of the Holy Spirit as listed in Galatians 5:22. A child asked which of the fruits is the greatest? It is like the lawyer's question to Jesus: "What is the greatest commandment?" Jesus replied: "Love God, ... and love your neighbour ..." Love is the first listed and perhaps the greatest of the fruits of the Holy Spirit!

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	<b>Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving</b>	Carmel Trevaskis
	<b>For those whose anniversary occurs at this time</b>	
	<b>Our sick and their carers</b>	Kevin Geary,

<b>ROSTER</b>		
Date	Saturday 28 May	Sunday 29 May
Commentator	Carol Coulston	Rob Miller
Reader	Shelia Gregg	Debbie Worm


<b>Mass Timetable</b>	
<b>Week commencing 24<sup>th</sup> May</b>	
<b>Weekday Mass</b>	
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	No Mass
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	No Mass
Wednesday 26 <sup>h</sup> May	9:15 am Mass
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	No Mass
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	9:15 am Mass
<b>Weekend Mass</b>	
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	5:30 pm Mass
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	9:30 am Mass
<b>Reconciliation (4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the Month)</b>	
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 11:30 am	

**Sandhurst Youth Ministry – Position Vacant.**

Sandhurst Youth Ministry is seeking a vibrant youth worker to join the Diocesan team. The successful applicant will be required to support parishes, schools and youth ministry initiatives in the Diocese of Sandhurst (Bendigo). They will be able to present the values and ideals of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church to the young people of the Diocese. Previous experience in active youth ministry leadership, or in working with young people is a desired attribute. Youth Ministry Worker- download a copy of the position description  
<https://www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au/position-s-vacant/youth-ministry-worker-music-communications>  
 Applications close at 5pm, Monday 31st May and should be sent to [ruth.lawlor@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:ruth.lawlor@sandhurst.catholic.org.au)  
 For any questions please contact Ruth Lawlor on Ph 0458 585 200

**Schizophrenia Awareness Week – 23-29 May, 2021.**

People with schizophrenia are highly stigmatised and socially marginalised in our community. This week we hope to educate and lead our community to value those with a mental illness and treat them as equals. Health programs for this severe and persistent mental illness are now accessible through NDIS, hoping to bust myths about schizophrenia and reduce stigma.  
 M. Pianta. Disability Contact Coordinator.



**Festival of the Sacred**


**Thursday 17 June, 1pm**  
*St Augustine's College – Brigidine Centre*  
 Church St, Kyabram

**Featuring: Grade 5 and 6 students from**  
 Mooroopna, Tatura, Cobram, Rushworth and Nagambie

**Secondary Performance:**  
 Extract from St Augustine's College 2021 Production: *The Wizard of Oz*

**This is a FREE event for all parents & friends of our school communities.**

Bookings essential: [www.trybooking.com/BRLZQ](http://www.trybooking.com/BRLZQ)





## STRONGER TONIGHT (18th June)

Sandhurst Youth Ministry's next Stronger Rally is just around the corner and we are excited to again be able to invite Secondary School students and young adults to attend!!!

The event will be held on Friday, 18th June at St Bernard's Primary School, Wangaratta, from 6 – 9 pm. Arrive from 5:30 pm. This night will feature music by Gen Bryant, a talk from a guest speaker, and contributions from young people from the Diocese, as well as a dinner break (light meal provided) to give everyone a chance to meet new people.

Register here: <https://www.trybooking.com/BRIGX>. For group bookings contact [youth@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:youth@sandhurst.catholic.org.au) for more information. Follow Sandhurst Youth and Stronger Youth on Facebook

## 200 years of Catholic Education in Australia.

On Monday May 24, every Catholic Diocese in Australia will hold a Mass to commemorate 200 years of Catholic Education in Australia. The Sandhurst Diocese will gather at St Kilian's Church in Bendigo, the site of the first Catholic school in our diocese.

The Mass will be live streamed to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to experience this special celebratory Mass. You can join in the celebrations by clicking on the link below.

If you would like to attend please click this link to book your free ticket.

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=755614&>

## ST SEBASTIAN'S MERRIGUM REUNION

On **Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2021** all Merrigum ex-parishioners are invited to celebrate Mass at St Sebastian's Church, Merrigum at 11.30am.

Following Mass, there will be a luncheon at the Kyabram Club beginning at 1.00pm.

If you require further information or would like to attend the luncheon, please contact Joe Chant on 0428 552 466 by Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021.

## 500 YEARS OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE PHILIPPINES

The Filipino communities of the Diocese of Sandhurst invite everyone to attend the event dubbed: FROM THE SHORES TO THE GOLDFIELDS: Sandhurst Diocesan Celebration of 500 Years of Christianity in the Philippines on Saturday, 29 May 2021 at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo.

10:30 am: Holy Rosary and Coronation of Our Lady with Traditional Sagala;

11:00am: Holy Eucharist with Bishop Shane Mackinlay

#GiftedToGive #WeGiveOurYes

## Legion of Mary - Patricians talk.

"The Legion of Mary invite you to the Patricians talk and **discussion with a guest speaker** talking on "The Eucharist", on **Sunday 23rd May at 4.00pm at St Liborius Parish Centre.**

Inquiries John 0411434446

Sacred Heart Parish,  
Tatura. PO Box 110 Tatura VIC 3616,  
03 5824 1049, e: [tatura@cdos.org.au](mailto:tatura@cdos.org.au)  
The presbytery office is open on  
Wednesdays & Fridays from 9:00 am until 4pm

You cannot belong to Christ Jesus unless you crucify all self-indulgent passions and desires.

Since the Spirit is our life, let us be directed by the Spirit.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! / Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful / and kindle in them the fire of your love. / Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

Jn 15: 26-27; 16: 12-15

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

*The Spirit of truth will guide you into all the truth.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘When the Advocate comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who issues from the Father, he will be my witness. And you too will be witnesses, because you have been with me from the outset. I still have many things to say to you but they would be too much for you now. But when the Spirit of truth comes he will lead you to the complete truth, since he will not be speaking as from himself but will say only what he has learnt; and he will tell you of the things to come. He will glorify me, since all he tells you will be taken from what is mine. Everything the Father has is mine; that is why I said: All he tells you will be taken from what is mine.’

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

PENTECOST SUNDAY / B

23 MAY 2021

## THE EMPOWERING SPIRIT

If last week spoke of the transition between the time of Jesus' ministry and the time of the Church, then the feast of Pentecost gives us the opportunity to recognise that we have also been empowered for mission. It is a reminder that we are not alone and that the Spirit is with us to help us by giving us the means to confront the challenges before us. While there is a sense of transition there is a sense of continuity as well. The Gospel for today shows Jesus' taking great pains to prepare the disciples for the time of the Spirit that will come after his departure. On one level there is loss, and yet they are assured that what the Spirit will bring will be in harmony with what the Father had already entrusted to Jesus, and what Jesus had given them.

A great deal of Paul's energy was taken up with guiding fledgling communities as they learned to give voice, in their daily lives, to the experience of the Spirit. It is an experience that must lead to the bearing of very concrete and tangible fruits; fruits that ripen when we leave behind self-centredness and turn to our brothers and sisters in love. For Paul the gift of the Spirit is not only God's gift to us, it also contains a dimension of responsibility. In a sense, the invitation and challenge of Pentecost are always whether we can learn to speak in the language of love, a love that goes beyond oneself and reaches out to the other.

**Christopher Monaghan CP**

## FIRST READING

Acts 2: 1-11

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

*They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.*

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

## RESP PSALM

Ps 103: 1, 24, 29-31, 34. R. v. 30

**R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. (or Alleluia!)**

1. Bless the Lord, my soul! / Lord God, how great you are! / How many are your works, O Lord! / The earth is full of your riches. **R.**  
2. You take back your spirit, they die, / returning to the dust from which they came. / You send forth your spirit, they are created; / and you renew the face of the earth. **R.**



3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever! / May the Lord rejoice in his works! / May my thoughts be pleasing to him. / I find my joy in the Lord. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Gal 5: 16-25

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians**

*The fruit of the Spirit.*

If you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence, since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit, the Spirit is totally against such a thing, and it is precisely because the two are so opposed that you do not always carry out your good intentions. If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you. When self-indulgence is at work the results are obvious: fornication, gross indecency and sexual irresponsibility; idolatry and sorcery; feuds and wrangling, jealousy, bad temper and quarrels; disagreements, factions, envy; drunkenness, orgies and similar things. I warn you now, as I warned you before: those who behave like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. What the Spirit brings is very different: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control. There can be no law against things like that, of course.