

## PENTECOST SUNDAY – YEAR A – 30/31 MAY 2020



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**For those wishing to contribute to Stewardship or Priests' collection, the Parish account details are listed below for electronic funds transfer.**

1<sup>st</sup> Collection

**Account name: St Bede's Presbytery Account Presbytery**

**Account BSB: 083 347 Account no. 666017079**

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection

**Account name: St Bede's Church Account Church**

**Account BSB: 083 347 Account no. 458706734**

Please click on the link below after 5pm on Saturday, 30th May, to watch Pentecost Sunday, Online Mass, celebrated by our priests: <https://youtu.be/JQF3S7UjnPU>



### First reading

Acts 2:1-11

### They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak

When Pentecost day came round, they 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.

## Responsorial Psalm

**Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth**



Second reading

1 Corinthians 12:3-7,12-13

### In the one Spirit we were all baptised

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

The word of the Lord.



## **GOSPEL (John 20: 19-23)**

### **As the Father sent me, so am I sending you: receive the Holy Spirit**

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.

'As the Father sent me,  
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,  
they are forgiven;  
for those whose sins you retain,  
they are retained.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

### **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

**Celebrant:** Since God generously gives us the gift of his own life, by revealing the Holy Spirit, let us come to His divine presence with all our prayers and petitions.

1. We pray for the Holy Father and Bishops of the church; that they may be ever open to the challenges of the Spirit of God and be an inspiration to all who look to them for leadership.

***Let us pray to the Lord.***

2. For the peoples of the world; that they may know the reality of the existence of God, and that the Spirit of truth proclaimed to every nation may "renew the face of the earth."

***Let us pray to the Lord.***

3. For the outpouring of the Spirit of peace; that men and women may forgive one another and live in the light of the Holy Spirit.

***Let us pray to the Lord.***

4. For all the families of the parish of St Anne's, St Bede's and St Joachim's, and St Bridget's parish; that the Holy Spirit may bind them in love, unity and friendship.

***Let us pray to the Lord.***

5. That the Holy Spirit may inspire in each of us a desire for holiness and join us together as brothers and sisters in a community of love.

***Let us pray to the Lord.***

6. For all who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries occur about this time, especially **Justin Gartlan, Marcus Case and Margie Anderson**; that they will find eternal life in the name of Jesus Christ.

***Let us pray to the Lord.***

**Celebrant:** Heavenly Father, the Holy Spirit renewed the apostles, and began the Church. Help us to experience His presence in us and among us to begin a new life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **CHANGES TO THE STRUCTURE OF THE LOCAL PARISHES**

Since the beginning of the year, the Parish Priests of Deepdene/Camberwell, Balwyn North/Kew East and Greythorn/Surrey Hills have been discussing the future shape of the Church in the Eastern Central region of the Archdiocese, in response to Archbishop Comensoli's vision to redistribute priests across the archdiocese more equitably and into the areas of greatest growth and need.

The parish structure of our area was predicated on people walking to Mass, or going by public transport. Churches are close together and were planned in an era when Catholics were a greater percentage of the local population than now. Mass attendance was much higher, and there was a greater demand for Catholic education.

The situation now is very different. We still have vital and committed parishes, but our numbers are smaller and our age-distribution is skewed to the senior years. Yet we have maintained the same parish structure, and with it, the expectation that we need as many priests in the area.

Clearly, this cannot continue. We need to be realistic and unselfish in recognising that we are now small parishes, and have a far more favourable ratio of priests and Masses to choose from than most of the archdiocese. So rather than wait for the future to overtake us, we have begun to plan that we might take control of our future. That is not a task just for the priests of the area as parish leaders, but for all parishioners, who represent a wealth of skills, insights and vision for what we might be in the future.

On last Wednesday, a significant step was taken in this process of renewal, when Fr Mark Reynolds, formerly PP of Greythorn/Surrey Hills, was appointed to the Parish of Scoresby – a large and vibrant outer eastern suburbs parish. As a result, I have been appointed PP of Greythorn, and Fr Toan as assistant priest there, as well as continuing in our present positions. Fr Brendan Reed has been appointed PP of Surrey Hills/Wattle Park, as well as continuing as PP of Deepdene/Camberwell. Fr Trac Nguyen has been appointed as assistant priest of all these.

Whilst these are the canonical appointments, we are looking to collaborate together for all of these parishes to begin to work together to maximise the use of our human resources, and to coordinate our pastoral activity. We have nine church communities, and we will work to support and nurture each of these as local manifestations of our Eastern Central Catholic Parishes affiliation.

This is an exciting time for all of us, and I hope it will bring renewal and new possibilities to us all as the Church in this area. In the near future – as far as the current conditions allow – we will be starting an conversation to plan for the future.

Fr John Salvano

