

THIS WEEKEND		Sixth Sunday of Easter		Year C
Sat 21st May	5.00pm	St O	Mary Jane & Fredrick Ainsworth B' Day Remembrance	
	6.30pm	St T	Charlotte Louise Conlon	
Sun 22nd May	8:30am	St O	Parishioners	
	9.30am	St T	Holy Souls, Parishioners	
	11.00am	St MM	Andrew Leahy (RIP) Fr T Cotter, Deceased relatives of the Hardman Family	
Divine Office Week 1				
Mon 23rd May	9.30am	St O	Priest's Intention	
Tues 24th May	9.30am	St O	Priest's Intention	
	7.00pm	St T	Holy Souls	
Wed 25th May <i>St Bede the Venerable</i>	10.00am	St MM	Frankie + Marie Bridge (A)	
Thu 26th May <i>Ascension of the Lord</i>	9.30am	St O	Maurice Wilson (A)	
	10.00am	St T	Theresa Benson (Birthday memory)	
Fri 27th May <i>St Augustine of Canterbury</i>	9.30am	St O	Priest's Intention	
	10.00am	St T	Stella Brown (RIP)	
NEXT WEEKEND		Seventh Sunday of Easter		Year C
Sat 28th May	12Noon	St MM	Marriage: Michael Durkin + Sarah Fradley	
	5.00pm	St O	Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life	
	6.30pm	St T	Parishioners	
Sun 29th May	8:30am	St O	Parishioners	
	9.30am	St T	May Tipping (A)	
	11.00am	St MM	David Laing B'day Remembrance Andrew Leahy (RIP) Gerard 'Gerry' Smith	



St Teresa's Webcam: <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-teresas-penwortham> or by scanning the QR code left.

## The CATHOLIC CHURCH

in PENWORTHAM + LONGTON

St Mary Magdalen, St Oswald, St Teresa

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# Sixth Sunday of Easter 22nd May 2022

**'A peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.'**

As we continue through Eastertide, the readings at Sunday Mass turn towards the Holy Spirit. In Jesus's Farewell Discourse to his disciples (**Gospel**), he announces that he is to return to his Father, and tells them not to be afraid or troubled: he will still be with them through the Holy Spirit. Jesus also bestows on them the gift of his peace.

In the **First Reading**, we see how, despite the differences between members of the early Christian Church, the community was guided by the Holy Spirit in coming to decisions.

The **Second Reading** shows the transformation that has been brought about by the death and resurrection of Christ; the new Jerusalem is in perfect order and needs no temple, because God is already in union with God's people, dwelling in them.

In a song of thanksgiving, the **Psalms** asks God to bless everyone, and for God's ways and saving help to be known to all.

This week, let us pray for peace for all nations, especially for the people of Ukraine, eastern Europe, Yemen, Syria and Palestine, as well as for ourselves. I may also ask that I share Christ's word with those I encounter through my actions.

Please adhere to guidelines when entering and leaving the church.

Face coverings are now optional for all those coming to a church service. Hand sanitising will remain in place as people arrive.

There will be an **SVP collection** this weekend 21st/22nd May, thank you for your continuing support.

#### **Weekday Mass time changes at St. Mary Magdalen + St. Teresa:**

From week commencing Monday 23rd May 2022 the new **weekday Mass** times at St. Mary Magdalen's and St. Teresa's churches will be...

· Monday:	No Mass	
· Tuesday:	St Teresa's	7.00pm
· Wednesday:	St Mary Magdalen's	10.00am
· Thursday:	St Teresa's	10.00am
· Friday:	St Teresa's	10.00am

**Food Bank—May:** Donations of soup will be appreciated. Also tinned tomatoes, cartons of passata and tinned potatoes. It would also be good to build up a small stock of generally useful ingredients to offer those who like to cook from scratch, including (but not limited to) tinned fried onions, coconut milk, black pepper, garlic purée or garlic salt, tubes of chilli purée, and jars of spice paste of one sort or another. Many thanks for your continued generosity.

**St Mary Magdalen + St Teresa Gift Aid:** Offertory envelopes for 2022 —2023 are now available for collection from outside the Romero Room. **Thank you for your continued support.**

**St Oswald's Gift Aid Envelopes:** Available in the porch before / after Mass.

**SVP Platinum Jubilee Afternoon Tea-** The SVP are arranging an afternoon tea to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on Thursday 2nd June at 1pm -3pm in St Teresa's Parish Centre. Please include your name, contact details and if transport is required on the list at the back of church, contact an SVP member or Catherine 740569. Numbers are limited to 60.

**Gospel Faith Sharing group** meets weekly on **Wednesdays 7.30pm** in the Romero room at St Teresa's, taking the Gospel for the following Sunday as our focus. All welcome.

**Pilgrimage to Medjugorje** (Our Lady queen of Peace) A special offer has been sent to me from Northern Star Travel. A Pilgrimage to Medjugorje for 5days, October 25th, staying at a 4\*hotel, half board. The cost is £450 sharing and £515 for a single. Flights from Manchester to either Dubrovnik or Split. This special price will be guaranteed until the end of May. If you are interested please ring Dorothy on 742927.

**Next weekend** there will be a second collection for World Communications.

**Ladies Association:** Summer meal at San Marco on Tuesday 7th June 12.30pm. If you wish to go, please contact Terry 01772 745569 or Sue 01772 741633. Everyone Welcome.

**Silent Prayer:** A warm invitation to the parishioners of our three churches to consider the wonder and beauty of silent prayer. Praying through the heart to be one with God, is a deeply moving spiritual experience, which carries over into daily lives, giving a calm serenity and peace of mind. Starting at 7:30 pm to 8:00pm on Monday 9th May and thereafter on the second Monday of each month, we will be meeting in St Teresa's Romero Room to discover the rewards of Contemplative Prayer. In contemplative prayer we seek to become the person we are called to be, not by thinking of God but by being with God. Simply to be with God is to be drawn into being the person God calls us to be.

Although we start our meetings at St Teresa's, further meetings can take place at St Mary Magdalene and St Oswald's so that we pray as one Christian Community.

#### **“The Eucharist makes the Church, and the Church makes the Eucharist.”**

It enables us to worship Almighty God, to support each other on our journey of faith, and to be a visible sign of faith in the world. This hallmark is supported and strengthened by the precept that our fundamental Christian duty is to worship God by participating in the celebration of Mass. Attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is the greatest of all privileges, sometimes referred to as “the Sunday Obligation.”

Since the beginning of the Covid pandemic, until the present time, we have shared with you our judgment that the situation of the last two years has meant that the Sunday Obligation has been impeded and has needed to be fulfilled in other ways. We thank God that this situation has now changed. The pressing challenges of the pandemic have lessened significantly. Most people have resumed the wide range of normal activities, no longer restricted by the previous Covid measures. We therefore believe that the reasons which have prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation no longer apply. We understand there will still be some members of our congregations who, for reasons of health, do not feel safe enough to return to Mass.

It has always been the understanding of the Church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation. Our Catholic people and parishes have benefitted during these difficult times from the online streaming of Mass and other services. “Virtual viewing” of Mass online does not fulfil the Sunday Obligation. It may, however, be a source of continual spiritual comfort to those who cannot attend Mass in person, for example those who are elderly and sick, for whom the obligation does not apply. In this context, we recognise gratefully the ministry of those who administer Holy Communion to the elderly, sick and housebound. We are grateful to our clergy, religious and lay faithful who have served our parishes, schools and communities with dedication and distinction throughout this pandemic.

Now we look forward with renewed faith and confidence. In the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Lord's Supper, the Lord Jesus entrusted to us the precious gift of Himself. **With humility, we glory in being a Eucharistic people for whom attendance at Mass is essential. Looking forward to the forthcoming feast of Pentecost, we now invite all Catholics who have not yet done so to return to attending Mass in person.**

Bishop of England & Wales May 2022

#### **Prayer for the Week - Communication**

Lord, teach us to move beyond ourselves,  
and to set out in search of truth.

Teach us to go out and see,  
teach us to listen,

not to entertain prejudices  
or draw hasty conclusions.

Teach us to go where no one else will go,  
to take the time needed to understand,

to pay attention to the essentials,  
not to be distracted by the superfluous,

to distinguish deceptive appearances from the truth.

Grant us the grace to recognise your dwelling places in our world  
and the honesty needed to tell others what we have seen. **Amen**

