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Parish Giving: www.Parishofthegoodshepherd.uk/giving/
St Paul's Mass Live Streaming: www.churchservices.tv/dover

Sunday 5th May 2024

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Mass Book page 270)

TODAY THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL 2ND COLLECTION FOR
ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SVP)

Thursday in the Feast of the Ascension and a Holy Day of Obligation
Masses in St Paul's 10am & 7pm; St Finbarr's 7pm

GOSPEL REFLECTION: LOVE:

Every human person is made of love; we are created from love and we can only be fulfilled in love. No matter how many times we talk about love; it is inexhaustible. Love is our origin and love is our destiny. In our gospel on this Sunday, Jesus clarifies his summary of the Torah's Ten Commandments, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself," as one short sentence "Love one another," with an added, specific and intimidating parameter, "as I have loved you." "As I have loved you," means a selfless, sacrificial, forgiving, and serving love. It is not the feel-good self-indulgent love that TV commercials push, but a selfless, self-giving love — the kind of love that God has shown for us, the kind of love that led Jesus to the cross for us. If we are conscious of just how much love Jesus has showered upon us, the only appropriate response is to love in return, and to love by following His example. He is both our inspiration and our role-model. Fr. Leo

IF YOU WANT
TO CHANGE
THE WORLD,
GO HOME
AND LOVE
YOUR
FAMILY.
- Mother Teresa



PENTECOST NOVENA 2024: The Novena to the Holy Spirit in preparation for the Feast of the Pentecost will commence on the 10th of May, Parish wide in all the Masses. You can also do a private Novena to the Holy Spirit with your family or pray privately in your office. E-mail the Parish office if you would like to request the electronic copy; you may also download your favourite version from the internet. Fr. Leo

FEAST OF PENTECOST SUNDAY: PARISH CULTURAL AND INTERNATIONAL DAY

Pentecost is the birthday of the universal church and has special meaning for us as a Spiritan parish in Dover and Aylesham. Specific details of Mass times and locations are in the parish dates table. Regardless of whether you and your family will be celebrating either at St Paul's or at St Finbarr's the celebration will commence with Mass and be followed by a parish social celebrating the diversity of our parish family.

Please join in the spirit, sorry for the pun, and come dressed in your national costume, and bring some food to share, ideally reflecting your cultural heritage. Scots, Welsh, Irish, Italian, Polish, Indian parishioners etc. have national dress and traditional food. England may not have a general national dress, so why not consider wearing something; red, white and blue. Or, maybe a bowler hat, or a waist coat. As to ideas about what food to bring to share then what about mini individual 'toad in the hole' (first made in England in the 18th century!) or sausage rolls, scotch eggs, scones, or victoria sponge cake. Regardless of what you wear, or what you bring to eat, the most important thing is to bring yourself and your family and join in the celebration.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024: PRAYER SPONSOR'S PRAYER. Dear Parishioners, in the period leading up to the children of St Paul's and St Finbarr's making their FHC on Sunday 2nd and 9th June respectively. Please support the children by saying sponsors prayer:

Dear God, As our children prepare to come to your altar on and after the feast of Corpus Christi to receive nourishment, not with bread, but with Yourself, the true Bread of eternal life, help each child, their family, and our parish community to recognise and celebrate your presence every day in their lives. Walk with our children on their journey of faith as you once did with the disciples on the road to Emmaus. Amen.

WEEKEND PILGRIMAGE TO ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX, FRANCE – Led by Fr Leo Illah CSSp. Friday 6th to Sunday 8th September 2024. £355 per person based on 2 sharing plus £20 single supplement. A non-refundable deposit of £250 per person is required at the time of booking. Travel insurance is £37 per person if required. Places are limited so please book early. Closing date 30th June 2024. Contact Mary dover@rcaos.org.uk or call/text 07936 573155 to request a booking form. A poster with further information can be found in the porch of both churches or on our website <https://www.parishofthegoodshepherd.uk/events/>

INVITE TO THE WHOLE PARISH FROM ST JUDE'S PRAYER GROUP. We would very much like to invite you to a meeting on **Monday 13th May at St Paul's Church** to a talk being given by Br. Paul O'Carm from the Shrine of St Jude at Faversham. This is to partly celebrate that the Prayer Group will be going into our 10th year in September/October. He will speak about how he became a Carmelite, the Shrine, and also about St Jude. Refreshments will be served after the talk and a chance to meet him. Everyone is welcome to join us.

BIBLE STUDY AT ST. FINBARR'S: It will be wonderful to start a Bible study group at St. Finbarr's, starting in the first week of May. We already have a Bible study group in Dover for years, it will now also start at St. Finbarr's. This will be an opportunity to deepen our knowledge of the Bible with Lectio Divina and other forms of praying with the Bible. This is being planned to start on **Tuesday 7th May at 7pm**. If you are keen to know more about the Bible, please come along and learn more. God bless. Fr. Leo

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY. There will be a second collection for World Communications Day next weekend. This collection supports media office of the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales (CCN) in promoting the Gospel through the media on current issues. The CCN seeks to develop the public profile of the Church and its teachings and trains its spokesmen and women.

MARIAN PROCESSION and Crowning of Our Lady's statue. 1st Communion children and Mustard Seeds particularly welcome. **Sunday 12th May at 3pm** starting at the church car park, followed by light refreshments in St Paul's Parish Hall. Please bring a small posy of flowers to lay round Our Lady's Statue.

COLLECTIONS FOR MARCH: Cash & CollecTin £3704.91; Bankers Orders £2205.67; Poor Parishes £115.55; Gaza Special Collection £2809.54; Easter Offering £1910.13.

COLLECTIONS FOR APRIL: Cash & CollecTin £2998.06; Bankers Orders £2926.67; Priest's Training £307.32; St George's Cathedral £307.32. Thank you for your generosity.

ROSARY AND BIBLE STUDY AT ST PAUL'S. The next Thursday's pre-Mass rosary and post Mass Bible study will take place on Thursday 9th May.

CRISIS IN SUDAN – A MESSAGE FROM CAFOD. The people of Sudan need our help urgently. The situation has gone from serious to desperate very quickly. The UN is calling it 'the world's worst displacement crisis.' At least 8 million people have had to flee their homes; famine looms. Families are already going hungry. This crisis threatens to become the worst in living memory. If you are able, please donate using the following link <https://cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/sudan-crisis-appeal> or donate through our CollecTins or website <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/e8b66750-4ea0-478c-9ff7-53f823fdc306> Thank you and God Bless.

CONFIRMATION CLASS for 2024: Our confirmation preparation will be starting on **Saturday 18th May**, 10am to 11am at the upper hall room at St Paul's. If you want your teenage children from the age of 12 years old to join this programme, kindly e-mail the parish or call the parish office to register your slot. We are looking forward to welcoming the Bishop in Dover by November, 2024 for the confirmation ceremony. God bless.

FIDES PRAYER MEETING: The next Fides meetings for the Month of May will be focused on the Holy Spirit as we celebrate the gift of the Pentecost. At St. Paul's will be Wed 15th of May at 7pm and St. Finbarr's Tues 21st of May, at 7pm. Everyone is invited. Come and listen inspiring talks and prayer together.

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER If you don't already subscribe to our Newsletter by email please consider doing so by emailing dovernewsletter@rcaos.org.uk so we can reduce the copies we print each week.

MASS IN CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE July 13th, 2024 at St George's Cathedral. If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th + wedding anniversary this year, please let us know as soon as possible, and no later than May 31st 2024, providing the following details: your names in the format John and Mary Smith, your home address, the anniversary you are celebrating, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited. Email us at mflkent@rcaos.org.uk As the title of your email, please write your parish location e.g. Dover or Aylesham. Or contact the parish office with your details dover@rcaos.org.uk

KNIT 90: DOVER STREET PASTORS. Saturday 11th May 2-4pm, St Mary's Church Parish Centre. Come and knit, for 2 x 45 minutes, to raise money to support the work of Dover Street Pastors. <https://streetpastors.org/locations/dover/> All knitting will be made up into blankets for charity. Please ask your friends and family members to sponsor you either a) per row or b) an overall amount. Please contact dover@streetpastors.org.uk for further information and sponsorship forms. Participants will need to bring with them 1) size 8(4mm needles and 2) double knit wool. Prizes on offer with free refreshments for knitters. #There will be musical entertainment too.

CHARLTON CHURCH IS GOING TO HOLLYWOOD THIS SUNDAY 5th May at 3pm. Penelope Turner from Brussels and pianist Helen Crawford will perform songs by Kurt Weill and other composers of his time (1920s-1950s). The programme will include Cabaret, Mack the Knife and Youkali. Sit at tables and enjoy some refreshments afterwards. Bring your own supplements if you wish! You can book here using this link <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-peter-and-st-pauls-charlton-church-dover> or just turn up on the day (cash). £8 adults, £4 children.

Parish of The Good Shepherd Dover and Aylesham 'Called to Bear Fruit': Parish Dates MAY 2024		
YOUTH ALPHA FOR ALL FROM 16 YRS UP SPECIAL HOLY SPIRIT DAY EVENT.	EVERY SUNDAY (EXCEPT 5TH MAY) 4TH MAY, 11AM TO 3PM	6PM AT ST. PAUL'S UPPER HALL. 11AM- 3PM (UPPER HALL OR IN THE CHURCH)
PARENT'S EVENING (FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN'S PARENTS)	WED 8TH MAY AT 6.30PM – 8PM	ST. PAUL'S UPPER HALL DOVER.
JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP- MEETING AND SPORTS DAY. 11TH MAY. GATHER AT ST. PAUL'S AT 12PM- TRAVEL TOGETHER TO DOVER LEISURE CENTRE. ENJOY GAMES, PIZZA, AND PRAYERS. BRING YOUR FRIENDS.	JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP EVENT. 11TH OF MAY. 12PM	COME AND LET'S ENJOY WITH JESUS. (FR. LEO AND FR. GODWIN TO JOIN THE GAMES).
ROSARY PROCESSION FOR THE MONTH OF MAY.	ST. PAUL'S, 12TH MAY, 2024	STARTING AT 3PM FROM THE CHURCH CAR PARK- THROUGH TASWELL STREET- GODWYN ROAD WITH ROSARY AND SONGS TO THE CHURCH. END WITH TEAS AND COFFEE AT THE HALL, DOVER
CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF THE PENTECOST. WE SHALL CELEBRATE IT AS THE PARISH CULTURAL AND INTERNATIONAL DAY. (SPIRITAN FEAST DAY)	AT ST. PAUL'S: SUN 19TH MAY. ONE SINGLE MASS AT 10AM FOLLOWED BY CELEBRATIONS IN THE HALL (NO 9:15AM OR 11AM MASS). Dress according to your cultural heritage. Please bring your cultural food to share.	AT ST. FINBARR'S – 26TH MAY- AFTER THE 11:15AM MASS. Dress according to your cultural heritage. Please bring your cultural food to share.

Please Pray for those who are unwell:

St Finbarr's: Elisabet Sulianti, Gabriela le Bohec, Charlie Golden, Tina Isaacs, Ray Deverson, Lucy Purbrick, Amanda Dennis, Jadon Michael Kalp, Denise Mastro, Tara Conklin & Jamie Chitwood.

St Paul's: Mary Pressnell. Cecilia Maza, Gaby Anaya Amor, Danielle Sutton, Fr John Ryan, Pat Evans, Fr Jeff Cridland, Shirley Lazarus, Shirley Jefford, Clare Quigley, Barbara Monclus, Maureen Houghton, Gail White, Neil Stevens, John & Joyce Nix, Bailey Turner, Peggy Merrell, Ryan Whittall, Iris (Tilly) Ball, Jean Ann Dowle, Norman Woolhouse, Ted Peel, Christopher Browne, Angela, Alice Wilson, Angela Henbrey, Madison Woodall, Julie Balston, Elisa Gomez Melero, Ann Tomalak, Cathy Huntley, Mary Nelson, Emin Jain, Pat & Patricia Sherratt, Chris Roy.

Please Pray for those whose anniversaries occur this week:

St Finbarr's: John Donnachie, Frank Rush, Terence Edmund William Clark, Arthur Duck, Peter Mulligan, Daniel Deary, Gerard Rodes, Simone Rodes.

St Paul's: Stella Broom, May Gertrude Holder, Charles (Jimmy) Green, Pat Ward, Modesta Mercedes Blummers, Margaret Belsoy, Arthur John Evans, Bob MacDougal, John Doyle, Maria Hilton, Eric Leonard Bowden, Margaret Henneker, Mabel Gill, Nora Ryan, Alex Easton, Tony McGurk, Frederick Walter Hodgson, John Quinlan, Christina MacKintosh, Tanya Harvey, Margaret Chalmers.

EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST FINBARR'S			
THE ENGLISH MARTYRS	Saturday 4th May	4pm	Syro Malabar Mass
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 5th May	11.15am	Mass for Kingsley Ero Divine Healing (Esiri) Fr Leo
	Tuesday 7th May	7pm	Bible Study in the church
	Wednesday 8th May	10am	Mass for Ruckley Abudu Mordi Divine Healing (Esiri) Fr Jamie
THE ACENSION OF THE LORD	Thursday 9th May	7pm	Mass for All those in Prison Fr Leo
	Saturday 11th May	4pm	Syro Malabar Mass
THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 12th May	11.15am	Mass for Maureen Houghton Divine Healing (Esiri) Fr Godwin
EVENTS THIS WEEK AT PAUL'S			
THE ENGLISH MARTYRS	Saturday 4th May	10am 5pm 6pm	Mass in St Edmund's Chapel for Sheila's Family (Sheila) Fr Godwin Confessions in the Church (until 5.45pm) Fr Leo Mass for Pat Ward 'F' Fr Leo
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 5th May	9.15am 9.15am 11am 3pm	Mass for Maureen Collins RIP (Anne & Peter) Fr Leo Mustard Seeds in the hall Coffee in the hall after Mass Mass for Dawn Wells RIP (Keith & Theresa) Fr Jamie Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet NO Youth Alpha Course today.
SAINT JOHN PAINE	Monday 6th May	10am	Mass for Antonio Melone RIP (Sheila) Fr Leo
	Tuesday 7th May	10am	Mass for Sheila's Friends (Sheila) Fr Godwin
	Wednesday 8th May	10am 5.30pm	Mass for Emily Broughton Yonder 'F' Fr Leo Exposition and the Holy Rosary until 6.30pm
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD	Thursday 9th May	9.30am 10am 10.30am 7pm	Holy Rosary in the church Mass for The Church in England Fr Jamie Bible Study Mass for Parish Plans Fr Godwin
SAINT JOHN DE AVILA	Friday 10th May	10am	Mass for Catherine O'Brien 'F' Fr Godwin
	Saturday 11th May	10am 12noon 5pm 6pm	Mass in St Edmund's Chapel for Maureen Collins RIP (Sheila) Fr Leo Junior Youth Group Sports Event (meet at St Paul's) Confessions in the Church (until 5.45pm) Fr Godwin Mass for The Elderly of the Parish Fr Godwin
THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 12th May	9.15am 9.15am 11am 2pm 3pm 6pm	Mass for Anastasia & George (George Adenivan) Fr Jamie Mustard Seeds in the hall Coffee in the hall after Mass Mass for the G/E of Mary Ann Hart (Anne & Peter) Fr Leo Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Marian Procession starting in the Church car park. Youth Alpha Course in the Upper Hall

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES CONTACT EMAIL

Stephen Carton for St Finbarr's avleshamsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

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For a newsletter emailed weekly, or to suggest articles/additions, contact the Editor: dovernewsletter@rcaos.org.uk
 Newsletter items received after 6pm Thursday may not be included that week. The Editor reserves the right to edit articles.
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READINGS FOR SUNDAY 5TH MAY 2024

First reading Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48

The Holy Spirit has been poured out on the pagans too.

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said 'I am only a man after all!' Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.' While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

Responsorial Psalm 97(98):1-4
The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.

Second reading 1 John 4:7-10

God is love.

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.' Alleluia!

Gospel

John 15:9-17

A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me: no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another.'

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.