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 Parish Giving: www.Parishofthegoodshepherd.uk/giving/
 St Paul's Mass Live Streaming: www.churchservices.tv/dover
<https://www.youtube.com/@stpaulsdoverstfinbarrsayle7499/streams>

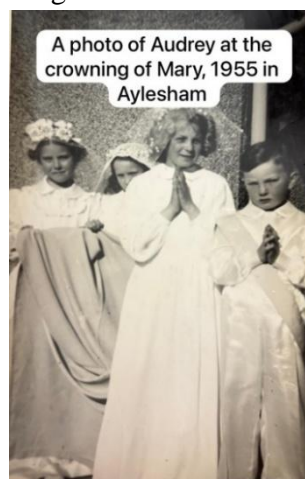


SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR C - 25th MAY 2025

Missal P400 Order of the Mass P470

THURSDAY IS THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD AND A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
MASS IN ST. PAUL'S 10AM & 7PM; MASS IN ST. FINBARR'S 7PM MISSAL P404

PRIEST CORNER: I would like to thank all those who made efforts to join the Marian Procession at St. Finbarr's Church last Sunday. It was a beautiful moment of Prayer and evangelization. One Fascinating story was the one



Shared by Audrey Bryan. She has crowned the Blessed Virgin Mary about 70 years ago; she came to Church with her photo and she recited for the Church the lovely Marian prayer she had memorized before that crowning, seventy years ago. We were all delighted and for me, it was more than any



sermon last Sunday. We should not be shy or ashamed of showing our faith publicly especially in our Society today that needs God; needs so much faith. The people we met along the way were blessed and many reminded of their faith which needs re-awakening. More processions will be coming up at different times, always join us. To view the Video of the Procession, kindly click on the link:

<https://youtu.be/NvBho0SiwcM?si=VqWyx-FFZRg-QHH>

GOSPEL REFLECTION: THE HOLY SPIRIT ABIDES WITH US.

Today's readings show us the effects of the abiding presence of God in His Church and of His indwelling in each one of us. The first reading, taken from the Acts of the Apostles, tells us how the Holy Spirit, dwelling in the Church, helped the apostles to solve a major doctrinal problem, which shook the very foundation of the early Church. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 67) prays that all the nations on the earth, not just Israel, may recognize their God and praise Him. The second reading, taken from the Book of Revelation describes the Church as the Heavenly Jerusalem, a city united in love, with the victorious Jesus, residing in it and in each of its members, replacing the Holy Presence of God in the *Holy of Holies* of the Temple in Jerusalem. The Gospel passage reminds us that the Holy Spirit abiding within us is our teacher and the Source of all peace. The passage offers a vision of Hope. Jesus promises his followers that the Holy Spirit will come and instruct them in everything they need to know.

WARNING - EMAIL SCAM: If you receive an email from Fr Leo or any of the clergy saying they are in a meeting and need help please don't respond as it is a scam. Let the parish office know doover@rcaos.org.uk so it can be reported.

NEXT WEEKEND THERE WILL BE A SECOND COLLECTION FOR WORLD COMMUNICATIONS. This supports the Catholic Communications Network (CCN) – the media office of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The CCN helps share the message of the Church through news, podcasts, and media. It supports the bishops and trains Church spokespeople to speak clearly on important topics. The CCN also handles national media questions and works to make the Church's voice heard in the public square. Thank you for helping the Church communicate the Gospel in today's world.

YOUNG ADULTS' SYCAMORE COURSE: Fellowship BBQ after the 11am Mass today at St Paul's.

CHURCH CLEANING: St Finbarr's will have their cleaning day next **Saturday 31st May at 10am.** Bring your cleaning tools like rakes, chain saw- if you have one and other garden equipment. Come with hand gloves too.

FEAST OF PENTECOST SUNDAY: PARISH CULTURAL AND INTERNATIONAL DAY 8th JUNE

Pentecost is the birthday of the universal church and has special meaning for us as a Spiritan parish in Dover and Aylesham. The celebration will commence with Mass in both churches on that day and be followed by a parish social celebrating the diversity of our parish family. **At St Paul's we will have one Mass on that Sunday at 10am. St Finbarr's will have 11am as normal.** Please join us and come dressed in your national costume, and bring some food to share, ideally reflecting your cultural heritage. Scots, Welsh, Irish, Italian, Polish, Indian, African, Asian, Latin-American 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. 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. God bless, Fr Leo.

CONFIRMATION AT ST PAUL'S continues every **Saturday in the upper room of the parish hall from 10am to 11am.** The Bishop will lead the confirmation ceremony in the Autumn.

ROSARY AND BIBLE STUDY ST PAUL'S: The next pre 10am Mass rosary and post Mass bible study will take place on **Thursday 29th May.** OT Book of Exodus.

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP/MUSTARD SEEDS/FHC CRAFT AFTERNOON. There will be an afternoon of craft-making and decorating the church ready for Pentecost on **Saturday 7th June, St Paul's Church Hall, 2:00-4:30pm.** There will be drinks and snacks. All children need to be accompanied by an adult. If any families wish to stay longer to help put the decorations up, it would be most welcome! Any questions, please speak to George or Laura.

DOVER: A PLACE OF SANCTUARY & HOPE. Sunday 15th June 2pm-4pm. St Mary's Church Hall, Cannon Street, Dover CT16 1BY Come along and mark the start of Refugee Week 15-21 June as we celebrate our refugees and the communities who have accompanied them. Jointly hosted by Caritas Southwark, Cliffs of Sanctuary and other local groups and charities. For further information contact caritassouthwark@rcaos.org.uk or pick up a leaflet at the back of church.

MORE ABOUT THE BOY FROM NAZARETH This family Christmas play is written by two Catholics. Mike Gannon, a well-known musician and songwriter from Manchester, and Jeremy Rowe, a retired lecturer in Drama and English. It is an ecumenical project, and we hope there will be participants from other local churches. It is a play about two beginnings, the Nativity and the Resurrection, and it begins and ends with a Christmas tree. The action is seen largely through the eyes of Mary, while her Son appears only as a baby. **A preliminary meeting at: St. Finbarr's, June 14th. 10:30am-12:30pm; at St. Paul's Main Hall; July 5th, 10:30-12:30.** An agenda will be provided for each meeting ahead of time. If you have any questions that need to be answered before the meetings, please email Jeremy Rowe on jeremyhcrowe@btinternet.com

DAY FOR LIFE Every year the Church in England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland marks the Day for Life, as a reminder of the need to respect and protect the inherent value and dignity of each life. This year it will be celebrated on **15th June, Trinity Sunday.** Ahead of the Day for Life, we invite the faithful in all three conferences to join in prayer through the Novena for Life. This will run up to the Feast of the Visitation, between the **23rd and the 31st of May.** Prayers for each day can be found on the Day for Life page of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales' website. <https://prayforlife.ie/> On the website you can also find a special message from the bishops and more prayers and resources.

THE NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL START ON FRIDAY 30TH MAY

It will be recited every day at Mass until Pentecost

<https://www.parishofthegoodshepherd.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Novena-Prayers-Holy-Spirit-.pdf>



*Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And You shall renew the face of the earth.*

*O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful,
grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations.
Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.*



Parish of the Good Shepherd Dover and Aylesham 'Called to Bear Fruit': Parish Renewal		
	May / June 2025	
Mustard Seed Children's Liturgy	Every Third Sunday 9am (Next 15 th June)	St Paul's Upper Hall, Dover
St Jude's Prayer Group	Every Third Monday 2pm – 3pm (Next 16 th June)	St Paul's Hall, Dover
First Holy Communion Preparation	Every Saturday 9:30am (not 24 th or 31 st May)	St Paul's Hall, Dover
First Holy Communion Preparation	Every Sunday 9:30am (not 25 th May or 1 st June)	St Finbarr's, Aylesham
SYCAMORE Course, Fides & Bible Study, all combined session	Every Tuesday 7pm	St Finbarr's, Aylesham.
Confirmation Preparation	Every Saturday 10am	St Paul's Upper Hall, Dover
The Ascension of the Lord	Thursday 29 th May	St Paul's, Dover 10am & 7pm St Finbarr's, Aylesham 7pm
Archdiocese Jubilee Celebration	Saturday 7 th June 10am – 5pm	Aylesford Priory
Pentecost Sunday Celebration (Both Churches)	Sunday 8 th June	St Paul's, Dover 10am St Finbarr's, Aylesham 11am
First Holy Communion (Both Churches)	Sunday 22 nd June 11am	St Paul's, Dover St Finbarr's, Aylesham
Parish Family Day	Saturday 28 th June Sunday 27 th July	St Paul's Dover St Finbarr's Aylesham

CATECHISM: WHAT DO CATHOLICS BELIEVE ABOUT "APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION"

In Matthew 16:18 Christ tells Peter that he is the rock on which He will build His church. When Catholics use the term apostolic succession, they are referring to the line of bishops that stretches all the way back to the apostles—to Peter—the first Pope. Apostolic tradition (the authentic teaching of the apostles) was handed from Christ to the apostles, and from them to their successors. This unbroken line of popes (the bishops of Rome) and all other bishops have guided the Church for the past 2,000 years, just as Christ intended (Matthew 28:19-20). Christ sent His apostles out into the world with authority to teach and heal (Luke 9:1-2) and to forgive sins (John 20:23). This God-given



authority is exercised by the bishops within the Catholic Church to this day. The role of apostolic succession in preserving true doctrine is illustrated in the Bible. To make sure that the apostles' teachings would be passed down after the deaths of the apostles, Paul told Timothy, "*What you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also*" (2 Tim. 2:2). In this passage he refers to the first three generations of apostolic succession—his own generation, Timothy's generation, and the generation Timothy will teach. "[The apostles] founded churches in every city, from which all the other churches, one after another, derived the tradition of the faith, and the seeds of doctrine, and are every day deriving them, that they may become churches." Tertullian 200 AD).

- http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/cti_documents/rc_cti_1973_successione-apostolica_en.html

Please Pray for those who are unwell:

St Finbarr's: Audrey Stitt, 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: John Doyle, Maria Frost, Roz & Rob Pain, Rosa Mazzitelli, David Meadows, Roselene Hindle, Sr Rani Xavier, Thanima Jayan, Janice & Livra Fernandes, Catriona Stark, Mary Pressnell, Gaby Anaya Amor, Fr John Ryan, Pat Evans, Shirley Lazarus, Shirley Jefford, Clare Quigley, 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, Elisa Gomez Melero, Ann Tomalak, Cathy Huntley, Emin Jain, Pat & Patricia Sherratt, Chris Roy.

Please Pray for those whose anniversaries occur this week:

St Finbarr's: Patrick Herve, John Golden, Ivy Ann Canning, James Breen, Bob Maguire, Kathleen Simpson

St Paul's: Alfred Smith, Gertrude McMillan, Reg Stopher, Mary Richards, Desmond Hughes, Fr. Gary Gill, Ivy Couzens, Maureen Houghton, James N Healy, John Sibley, Catherine Overington, Victoria Fletcher, Grace Clayton, Betty Gavigan, Linda Ann Leighton, Lyn Heynen

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES CONTACT EMAIL

Stephen Carton for St Finbarr's ayleshamsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Keith Wells for St Paul's doversg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Zoroaster Bordios for St Paul's doversg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

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.

A Parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark CIO Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050

EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST FINBARR'S			
	Saturday 24 th May	4pm	Syro Malabar Mass
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 25 th May	11am	NO First Holy Communion Preparation in Church Mass for Peace in Sudan
Saint Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop, Apostle of England	Tuesday 27 th May	7pm	SYCAMORE Course Fides & Bible Study Combined
	Wednesday 28 st May	10am	Mass for School Children taking Exams
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD	Thursday 29 th May	7pm	Mass for Children in Gaza
The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Saturday 31 st May	4pm	Syro Malabar Mass
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 1 st June	11am	NO First Holy Communion Preparation in Church Mass for Troubled Immigrants
EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST PAUL'S			
	Saturday 24 th May	10am 10am 5pm 6pm	Eucharistic Service in St Edmund's Chapel Confirmation Preparation in the upper hall NO First Holy Communion Preparation Confessions in the Church (until 5.45pm) Mass for G/E John Doyle (Andrea)
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 25 th May	9am 11am 3pm	Mass for Hector del Rio RIP (Ileana) And Antoine Aime RIP (James) Coffee after Mass Mass for Mary Richards RIP (Mary) Followed by Sycamore for Young Adults Fellowship BBQ Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet
Saint Phillip Neri	Monday 26 th May	10am	Mass for Maureen Houghton RIP (1 st Anniversary) (Fr Jamie)
Saint Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop, Apostle of England	Tuesday 27 th May	10am	Eucharistic Service
	Wednesday 28 th May	10am 5.30pm	Mass for Maureen Houghton RIP (1 st Anniversary) (Keith & Theresa) Exposition and Holy Rosary (until 6.30pm)
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD	Thursday 29 th May	9.30am 10am 10.30am 7pm	Holy Rosary in the church Mass for People of the Parish Bible Study in the hall OT Book of Exodus Mass for Pregnant Mothers
The Novena to the Holy Spirit for the reunion of Christendom begins today	Friday 30 th May	10am	Mass for Jean MacKenzie RIP (Robert)
The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Saturday 31 st May	10am 10am 5pm 6pm	Mass in St Edmund's Chapel for People with Disabilities Confirmation Preparation in the MAIN hall NO First Holy Communion Preparation Confessions in the Church (until 5.45pm) Mass for Prisoners
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 1 st June	9am 11am 3pm	Mass for G/E Ann & Malcolm Fisher (Keith & Theresa) Coffee after Mass Mass for The Homeless Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet

READINGS FOR SUNDAY 25TH MAY 2025

First reading

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

‘It has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements.’

In those days: Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, ‘Unless you circumcised according to the custom of Moses you cannot be saved.’ And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to the Apostles and the elders about this question.

Then it seemed good to the Apostles and the elders, with the whole Church, to choose men from among them and send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They sent Judas called Barsabbas and Silas, leading men among the brothers and sisters, with the following letter:

‘The brothers, both the Apostles and the elders, to the brothers and sisters who are Gentiles in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia, greetings. Since we have heard that some persons have gone out from us and troubled you with words, unsettling your minds, although we gave them no instructions, it has seemed good to us, having come to one accord, to choose men and send them to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, men risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have therefore sent Judas and Silas, who themselves will tell you the same things by word of mouth. For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements: that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.’

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 66(67): 2-3, 5-6,8

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Or: Alleluia

May God be gracious and bless us
and let his face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your salvation.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Or: Alleluia

Let the nations be glad and shout for joy,
with uprightness you rule the peoples;
you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Or: Alleluia

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

May God still give us his blessing

that all the ends of the earth may revere him.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Or: Alleluia

Second reading

Revelations 21:10-14, 22-23

He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.

The angel carried me away in the spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the son of Israel were inscribed – on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, stones, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord GOD the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him. Alleluia.

Gospel

John 14:23 29

‘The Holy Spirit will bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.’

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples: ‘If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father’s who sent me.

‘These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, “I am going away, and I will come to you.” If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe.’

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.