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Parish website: www.Parishofthegoodshepherd.uk
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 A – 10th MAY 2026

Missal P314 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 P318**

PRIEST CORNER

FEAST OF PENTECOST SUNDAY: PARISH CULTURAL AND INTERNATIONAL DAY 24th MAY

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 SUNDAY 24th MAY AT 10AM ONLY. 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 yourselves and your family and join in the celebration.

There will be a second collection for Pentecost - Spiritans Priest Training on 24th May. This is in support of the Spiritans (Congregation of the Holy Spirit) and their vital work in training future missionary priests.

PENTECOST DECORATIONS. We are hoping to decorate the church and hall with beautiful decorations. We are calling all children and adults who enjoy colouring! Please take a sheet from the back of the church home with you, colour it in and return it next week, **Sunday 16th May.** Many thanks!



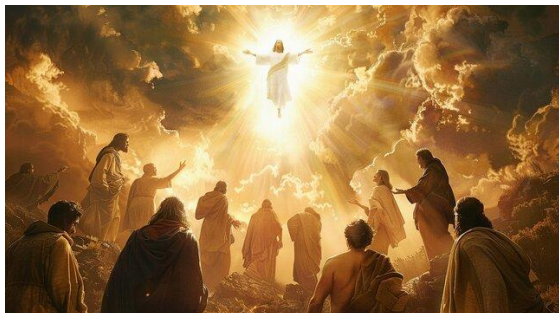
THE NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL START ON FRIDAY 15th MAY

It will be recited every day at Mass until Pentecost

<https://www.parishofthegoodshepherd.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/Pentecost-Novena-2026.pdf>



GOSPEL REFLECTION:



Jesus did not wish to keep his apostles in the dark regarding his death, resurrection and ascension into heaven, instead he promised them that at the end the Holy Spirit will be sent to be with them. What sustained the apostles and the entire Christian community is the stamina given by the Holy Spirit. Jesus by going back to the father left them with a promise that the Holy Spirit will descend and be with them always in their missionary work. It is with the power of the Holy Spirit that Philip preached Christ in Samaritan towns which drew lots of crowds to the point

that Peter and John had to go and pray for the Holy Spirit to descend on the people. By the community receiving the Holy Spirit, more people were added to those who share with the power of the Holy Spirit in the ministry of the gospel. We all have received the Holy Spirit through our baptism and are invited to continue preaching the mission of Jesus everywhere by our deeds and actions.



MARIAN PROCESSION AT ST PAUL'S. Last Sunday afternoon around 30 parishioners from St Paul's and Our Lady of Dover joined our Marian Procession. Thanks to those who organized and took part. We all enjoyed refreshments and ice cream in the parish hall afterwards.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Alan Corby, brother of Roger, who has passed away. May he Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory, Amen.

FAMILIA UNA Please note - No meeting this week.

SECOND COLLECTION next Sunday for World Communications Day.

This collection supports the Catholic Communications Network (CCN), the media office of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, helping share the Gospel and Church news through the media.

COLLECTIONS FOR APRIL: Cash & CollecTin £2737.69; Bankers Orders £2800.05; Easter Offering £3010.00; Second Collections: Peter's Pence £348.60; Priests Training: £357.62; Thank you for your generosity.

ROSARY FOR LIFE. Archbishop John Wilson is calling on all of us to join him in praying the Rosary for Life this May (Month of Mary). Together, we will pray through the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous Mysteries, each one offered for the most vulnerable facing growing threats to life: unborn children at risk of abortion, victims of war and persecution, people with disabilities, and the elderly and vulnerable. For video, audio and written versions of the Rosary for Life, visit rcaos.org.uk/rosaryforlife. **Pray the Rosary. Encounter Christ. Defend life.**

ST PAUL'S SCOUT GROUP Quiz night, **Tuesday 19th May, 7.30pm** at St Paul's Hall. Raising funds for the Scout Group. Tables of up to 6 available, £5 a head. Teas, Coffees and a small selection of nibbles will be provided, but please feel free to bring your own refreshments. Please email Dave at davymcr@gmail.com to book a table.

ST FINBARR'S CORNER. 1. **Fides Meetings in St Finbarr's May/June 2026:** Know your Faith - exploring the different understanding of the key teachings and practices between Protestant and Catholic Churches. You are all invited to attend our Fides Meetings which take place on a fortnightly basis on a Thursday. **Next meeting 21st May.** They will be led by Fr Jamie who will share with us from his wealth of knowledge of the faith and scripture. Our meetings are from 7pm - 8:30pm with teas and coffees from 6:40pm.

Session Two: 21st May Revisiting our understanding of the seven sacraments

Session Three: 4th June What is Catholic Marriage and holy orders? Often misunderstood in a secular western society.

Session Four: 18th June Reception into the Church - Baptism, Confirmation, RCIA

2. May Devotion- During the month of May which is dedicated to our blessed Mother Mary, we will be praying the rosary together as a church community **before Mass on a Sunday, starting at 10:30** please come along to honour Our Lady.

3. Marian Procession - Our Marian procession this year is scheduled for **Sunday 17th May** starting at 10am. We will take off from the church and process around the village carrying our lady's statue all the while praying and singing hymns. Those who participated last year will remember what a memorable event it was. Please come out in your numbers.

4. Church Spring Cleaning - It's that time of the year when we need to clear out and clean up in our church and its environs. We are calling on all who are able - young and not so young in the parish to come out en masse, bring your cleaning/gardening materials and equipment's along. It is scheduled for Saturday, the **16th May 2026 10am to 2pm.**



PILGRIMS HOSPICE CYCLE CHALLENGE. Mark and Lindsay completed their 125 mile bike ride, on Sunday 3rd May, in approximately 10 hours. They have raised £950 including gift aid so far. Thank you to everyone who has generously donated to this worthy charity. If anyone would like to add to this total the Just Giving Page is open a bit longer or please see Mark at Mass. [Lindsay Kennett-Hurford is fundraising for Pilgrims Hospices In East Kent](#)

SUMMER CELEBRATION OF ST. JUDE will be on **Saturday 30th May** in the grounds of the Carmelite Shrine of St. Jude, 34 Tanner Street, Faversham ME13 7JW. 11am Devotions with Anointing; 1.30pm Open Air Mass; 2.30pm Procession past the Shrine of St. Jude. All are welcome.

MASS IN CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE July 11th, 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 the middle of May**, providing the following details: your names in the format John and Mary Smith, your home address, your parish, and the anniversary you are celebrating, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited. Contact us at mflkent@rcaos.org.uk As the title of your email, please write your parish location e.g. Dover, Aylesham

THE DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE Recollection Day at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, on **Saturday 6th June 2026** from 10:30 am to 4:30 pm. The Recollection Day will include Holy Mass, Talk, Hour of Mercy with Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. Please call Millie on 07957 594646 for more information.

A NEW AGENDA is being pushed in Parliament, and it directly targets our children and degrades our institutions. If you feel able, please sign the petition https://citizengo.org/en-gb/fm/18013-Say-No-to-Labour-s--Summer-of-Sex-?_ref=157735853&campaign=EN_GB-2026_04_30-Summer_Of_Sex-ZRE-AA_NA-LO-FM-18013-L1-7EHNS-359770

Parish of the Good Shepherd Dover and Aylesham 'Called to Bear Fruit': Parish Renewal, 2026		
Mustard Seed Children's Liturgy	First and Third Sundays 11am 17th May	St Paul's Upper Hall, Dover
St Finbarr's Children's Liturgy	First Sunday of the Month 11am	St Finbarr's, Aylesham
Church Spring Clean	Saturday 16th May 10am	St Finbarr's, Aylesham
St Jude's Prayer Group	Third Monday 2pm – 3pm 18th May	St Paul's Hall, Dover
'Familia Una' Adult Youth Group	Sundays 6pm NO Meeting 10th May	St. Paul's Upper Hall, Dover
First Holy Communion Preparation	Saturdays 9.30am	St Paul's Hall, Dover
First Holy Communion Preparation	Sundays 9.30am	St Finbarr's, Aylesham
Fides Prayer Group St Paul's	Wednesdays 6:40pm for 7pm	St Paul's Hall, Dover
Fides Prayer Group St Finbarr's	Alternate Thursdays 6:40pm for 7pm 21st May	St Finbarr's, Aylesham
Marian Procession	Sunday 17th May 10am	St Finbarr's, Aylesham
Holy Rosary	Thursdays 9.30am	St Paul's, Dover
Bible Study	Thursdays 10.30am	St Paul's, Dover

CATECHISM - "I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT"

No one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God." Now God's Spirit, who reveals God, makes known to us Christ, his Word, his living Utterance, but the Spirit does not speak of himself. The Spirit who "has spoken through the prophets" makes us hear the Father's Word, but we do not hear the Spirit himself. We know him only in the movement by which he reveals the Word to us and disposes us to welcome him in faith. The Spirit of truth who "unveils" Christ to us "will not speak on his own." Such properly divine self-effacement explains why "the world cannot receive (him), because it neither sees him nor knows him," while those who believe in Christ know the Spirit because he dwells with them.

Please Pray for those who are unwell:

St Finbarr's: Charlotte, 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: Keely Cookson, David Underdown, Sr. Jennifer Sanders, Mary Mee, Carol Manton, Oliver O'Connor, Helen Scopes, John Doyle, Maria Frost, Roz & Rob Pain, Rosa Mazzitelli, Roselene Hindle, Sr Rani Xavier, Thanima Jayan, Janice & Livra Fernandes, Catriona Stark, Mary Pressnell, Gaby Anaya Amor, Pat Evans, Shirley Lazarus, Shirley Jefford, Gail White, John & Joyce Nix, Bailey Turner, Peggy Merrell, Ryan Whittall, Jean Ann Dowle, Norman Woolhouse, Ted Peel, Christopher Browne, Angela, Alice Wilson, Angela Henbrey, Madison Woodall, Elisa Gomez Melero, Ann Tomalak, Emin Jain, Pat & Patricia Sherratt, Chris Roy.

Please Pray for those whose death anniversaries occur this week:

St Finbarr's: Daniel Deary, Gerard Rodes, Simone Rodes, Monica Celilia Pereira, Anne Josephine McGowan.

St Paul's: John Quinlan, Christina MacKintosh, Tanya Harvey, Margaret Chalmers, Umberto Corbo, Fr Sean Rice, Patsy Hedges, Enid Carroll, James James, Elizabeth (Lena) Gammie, May Marsh, Jack Isaac Carr, William Sandell, Ellen McGurk, Edith Holmes, Elizabeth Wilmott, Michael Boston.

EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST. FINBARR'S			
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 10th May	9.30am 10.30am 11am	First Holy Communion Preparation Holy Rosary Mass for Sick Members of the Parish
OUR LADY OF FÁTIMA	Wednesday 13th May	10am	Mass for Ullas & Neena 15th Wedding Anniversary
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD A Holy Day of Obligation	Thursday 14th May	7pm	Mass for Sick and Retired Priests
	Saturday 16th May	10am	Church Spring Clean until 2pm
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 17th May	9.30am 10am 11am	First Holy Communion Preparation Marian Procession Mass for Holy Souls
EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S			
	Saturday 9th May	9.30am 10am 1pm 5pm 6pm	First Holy Communion Preparation in the Hall Mass in St. Edmund's Chapel for G/E Alex Junior Youth Group Film Show in the Hall Confessions in the church (until 5.45pm) Mass for Angelo Rodrigues RIP (Inocencia Freitas)
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 10th May	9am 11am 3pm	Mass for Mercy Jesudason Anniversary (Daniel) Coffee and Tea after Mass Mass for Jean Mackenzie RIP (Robert) Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet NO FAMILIA UNA MEETING THIS WEEK
THE ENGLISH MARTYRS	Monday 11th May	10am	Mass for Peter Grilli RIP
SAINTS NEREUS AND ACHILLEUS, OR SAINT PANCRAS OR SAINTS JOHN HOUGHTON, ROBERT LAWRENCE, AUGUSTINE WEBSTER & RICHARD REYNOLDS. MARTYRS	Tuesday 12th May	10am	Mass for The Spiritan Mission
OUR LADY OF FÁTIMA	Wednesday 13th May	10am 5.30pm 7pm	Mass for G/E Rose Alkali Exposition and Holy Rosary until 6.30pm Fides Prayer Group in the Hall - Refreshments from 6.40pm
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD A Holy Day of Obligation	Thursday 14th May	9.30am 10am 10.30am 7pm	Holy Rosary Mass for Sick & Retired Priests Bible Study Mass for Parish Volunteers
SAINT JOHN STONE, PRIEST AND MARTYR	Friday 15th May	10am	Mass for Eternal Life for Joseph Vincent (Nicy Vincent)
SAINT SIMON STOCK, PRIEST	Saturday 16th May	9.30am 10am 5pm 6pm	First Holy Communion Preparation in the Hall Mass in St. Edmund's Chapel for People in Care Homes Confessions in the church (until 5.45pm) Mass for NHS Workers
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 17th May	9am 11am 3pm 6pm	Mass for Hilda & Alf Smith RIP (The Smith Family) Coffee and Tea after Mass Mass for People of the Parish Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Faith and Life Sessions for Familia Una Youth Group in the Upper Hall

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES CONTACT EMAIL

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

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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

Readings for Sunday

10th May 2026

First Reading

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

'They laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.'

In those days: Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralysed or lame were healed. So there was much joy in that city.

Now when the Apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66(65):1-3a. 4-5. 6-7a. 16, 20. R1

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.
or: Alleluia.

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God, 'How wondrous your deeds!'

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.
or: Alleluia.

'Before you all the earth shall bow down,
shall sing to you, sing to your name!'
Come and see the works of God:
his wondrous deeds among the children of Adam.
Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.
or: Alleluia.

He turned the sea into dry land;
they passed through the river on foot.
Let our joy, then, be in him;
he rules for ever by his might.
Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.
or: Alleluia.

Come and hear, all who fear God;
I will tell what he did for my soul.
Blest be God, who did not reject my prayer,
nor withhold from me his merciful love.

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.
or: Alleluia.

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:15-18

'Being put to death in flesh but made alive in the spirit.'

Beloved: In your hearts honour Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defence to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behaviour in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.

Acclamation before the Gospel

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.

John 14:23

Gospel

John 14:15-21

'I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper.'

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

'I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.'

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.

Readings for Thursday

14th May 2026

First reading

Acts 1:1-11

'As they were looking on, he was lifted up.'

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the Apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, 'You heard from me; for John baptised with water, but you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?' He said to them, 'It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.' And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 47(46):2-3. 6-7. 8-9. R6

*God has gone up with shouts of joy.
The LORD goes up with trumpet blast.
or: Alleluia.*

All peoples, clap your hands.
Cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the LORD, the Most High, to be feared,
the great king over all the earth.

*God has gone up with shouts of joy.
The LORD goes up with trumpet blast.
or: Alleluia.*

God has gone up with shouts of joy.
The LORD goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God; sing praise!
Sing praise to our king; sing praise!

*God has gone up with shouts of joy.
The LORD goes up with trumpet blast.
or: Alleluia.*

For God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with a hymn.
God is reigning over nations.
God sits upon his holy throne.

*God has gone up with shouts of joy.
The LORD goes up with trumpet blast.
or: Alleluia.*

Second reading

Ephesians 1:16-23

'God seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places.'

Brothers and Sisters: I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power towards us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the Church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 28:19a, 20b

Alleluia, alleluia.

Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord.

I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 28:16-20

'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.'

At that time: The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshipped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'