

ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN

19th May 2024, Pentecost/Whit Sunday



Readings for today: Acts 2 vs 1-21; John 15 vs 26-27, ch 16 vs 4b-15

Dear Friends,

Pentecost is often thought of as the birthday of the Church, when we remember the Holy Spirit coming upon the first followers of Jesus with fire and wind and amazing linguistic gifts. As a result, literally thousands were baptised (Acts 2.41). What a wonderful birthday to celebrate!

This year Pentecost just so happens to coincide with my own birthday the day before. I hope it isn't just me, but I've occasionally wondered whether I really want to celebrate getting older, as each year I lose more hair, my joints start to creak, and it seems to take me longer to get up in the morning ...

The Church too may appear to be getting more frail and more fractious with age, especially when we compare our experience in the West today with dramatic stories such as that in Acts 2. Could it be that our hearing and our eyesight aren't what they used to be? Our ability to dance for joy or run the race set before us hampered now by our weak knees and arthritic hands?

In other parts of the world, however, the Church is growing fast, and growing younger, just as we pray it will here. And thanks to the gift of the Spirit at Pentecost, we have "a treasure in clay jars", as Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 4, and "so we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day." (2 Cor 4.16)

I've often said there must be something in the water in Evington as I've met so many fit and active folk in their nineties and beyond! When I ask if there is a secret, it is usually more about growing a thankful heart than sticking to a special diet or routine.

In the end, I do want to celebrate my birthday, just as I want to celebrate Pentecost, because I want give thanks for the amazing things God has done for me in the past 47 years. Not only that but I also want to give thanks for the promise of all that he will do in the coming year by the grace and power of his Holy Spirit.

Every blessing, **Anthony**

COMING UP AT ST DENYS THIS WEEK:

Friday 17th 10am Musical Toddlers meet in the parish centre

Sunday 19th 10am Pentecost Holy Communion with Bishop Martyn in church and on Zoom, ID: 820 0369 6332 (password from Qyan)

Monday 20th 8am Private Booking in the parish centre

Monday 20th 7pm APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) in the parish centre

Tuesday 21st 8am Private Booking in the parish centre

Tuesday 21st Lily House Bereavement Support Group in church & parish centre

Wed 22nd 7pm Journey in Faith (JiF) Course in the parish centre

Thursday 23rd 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group meet in the parish centre

Thursday 23rd 12pm Private Booking in the parish centre

Morning Prayer Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday, 9am in church.

Holy Communion (BCP) (said) 10am in church

Open Church 9am—12noon Free wi-fi, refreshments, chat! All welcome.

PENTECOST SUNDAY 19th May at 10am The Bishop of Leicester, Martyn Snow, will be joining us to preside and preach on Sunday. Pentecost is a wonderful celebration of the day the Holy Spirit fell upon the disciples in Jerusalem and the crowds of people of different faiths, cultures and languages all heard them speaking in a way that spoke directly to their hearts (Acts 2). Don't miss this special service and the chance to hear from our diocesan bishop. Please wear something red, orange or yellow if you can!

'Together With' Return Visit to Leicester Cathedral This coming Sunday 19th May, St. Denys are the invited guests of the Cathedral for Choral Evensong beginning at 3.30pm. This will then be followed by refreshments and a tour of the newly re-opened Cathedral. Please do attend if you possibly can in response to this special invitation to us. All are welcome. Please note that there will not be an Evensong service in St. Denys Church. **Qyan**



*Come Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
And lighten with celestial fire
Thou the anointing Spirit art
Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart*

**Words of the hymn by: John Cosin (1594—1672)
after Rabanus Maurus (c.776-856)**

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will be held in church on Monday 20th May at 7pm. This is an important meeting to which everyone, *including those on the Electoral Roll* are all invited to attend. We review the life and activities of St. Denys for the year past, and look ahead to the future, particularly the forthcoming year *and important discussions in relation to the formation of Minster Communities.* Please do come along if you possibly can. Please note that you will only be able to vote on various matters, *including the elections of the churchwardens and PCC members,* if you are on the Electoral Roll and are present at the meeting in person, not online. Please remember to bring any papers and copies of annual reports with you to the meeting. Thank you.



Coffee, Cake and Fellowship will not take place this month on Tuesday 21st. With apologies for any inconvenience caused **Kate Riley**

Diabetes Coffee Morning the next coffee morning will be held in the parish centre on Saturday 25th May at 10am. This is for anyone who suffers from Diabetes or anyone who knows people who do, a time for chat, friendship and supporting each other.



Chester Cathedral, Revd Anthony's Installation

On the 27th July, we have a coach booked to take us to Chester for the day leaving St. Denys lay-by at **09.00**. There are still places available! Upon arrival, there will be time for yourselves before we walk up to Chester Cathedral for Choral Evensong and Anthony's Installation. The coach will leave Chester to return to St. Denys at **19.30**. There will be a comfort stop on the way, and on the return journey. The cost for the coach will be £21.00 per person. Please pay all payments by 29th June 2024 to either myself or Michael White our Treasurer. Please sign up on the list at the back of St. Denys. Alternatively, you can email me at: janpears13@aol.com by **29th June 2024**.

O thou who camest from above, the fire celestial to impart, kindle a flame of sacred love, on the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn, with inextinguishable blaze, and trembling to it's source return in humble prayer and fervent praise. **Charles Wesley**

Faith and Friendship Group continue to meet and enjoy being creative and making friends across different religious traditions within our community.



There is a Whatsapp group where details of meetings are shared as well as film trips and visits to art exhibitions. We will be having a Bollywood-themed get together with food on Saturday 1st June. For details or to get onto the Whatsapp group, please speak to Anthony.



Thy Kingdom Come As this special time of prayer between Ascension and Pentecost comes to an end, it is important we keep praying. Some really good short videos can be found on our Facebook page introducing different types of prayer and there are plenty of booklets left at the back of church, providing bible

readings and reflections for any time of year so please do take one and pass them on to others. On Sunday 19th May at 5.15pm pray the Lord's Prayer and join with thousands of teenagers across the country.

Collect for Pentecost/Whit Sunday Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pray for the sick: Brenda Bedingfield, Pat Davies, Ann Dixon, Zak Gardner, Marion Heygate, Alison Kedditly, Roy Lee, Kishor Nathwani, Janette Pearson, Barbara Pinder, Sian Rigby, Jessica Saul, Dr Margaret Steel, Andrew (Andy) White **Pray for those who mourn including family and friends of Pat Ofield**

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(not Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Fridays)

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St. Denys website, including the Giving Links for Church and Youth Work:

www.stdenys.org.uk

