

ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN 8th June 2025, **Pentecost,** **Whit Sunday**



Readings for today: Acts 2 vs 1-21; John 14 vs 8-17 [25-27]

Dear Friends, how energised are you in your faith? Are you vibrant and alert? Excited to preach the good news of Christ and to bring others to know him? Active in the belief and study of his word? Burning with desire to worship him in church with others every week and in your own time every day, wherever you are?

It would be wonderful if each of us were like that all the time, individually and collectively, truly living out our faith as we are called to do as Christians. But of course, as humans we often fail and are lacklustre, mediocre and apathetic in our calling for the sake of Christ and the gospel. Indeed, the Church of England itself in large part, with its well publicised difficulties and internal uncertainty, is cracking at the seams as it gets older, appearing to be getting weaker and weaker, failing in its ability to practise and promote the faith to any great extent. Certainly, in the West, the church cannot say that it is as emboldened for Christ fully and sincerely, as definitely is the case in some other parts of the world, where the church is growing quickly in many ways including with the young! (By the way, for those of us that love the Church of England, that is difficult to bear!)

So how can we as individuals and as a church, people who declare ourselves as Christians, be far more effective for Christ? I suggest that that first Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came upon the first followers of Jesus with fire and wind and incredible gifts, can teach us a lot. Vast numbers of people were baptised. Imagine the excitement and wonderment at this turn of events at that time. Whilst we may not experience all gifts of the Holy Spirit continually, we need to learn to open our hearts more and engage, with trust, in our Lord and Saviour, using the gifts of the Spirit as he bestows. Serving Christ isn't meant to be easy, we cannot do it only in our own strength, but it is he that gives us the strength to do his will, if only we would trust in him sincerely, and a great deal more.

2 Corinthians 4 v 5-7: 'For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said "Let light shine out of darkness" made his light to shine in our hearts to give us the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.'

May you have a very happy, Christ filled and Christ centred Pentecost! **Qyan**

COMING UP AT ST DENYS:

Thursday 5th 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group meet in the parish centre

Thursday 5th June 12pm Private Booking in the parish centre

Friday 6th June 12pm Private Booking in the parish centre

Friday 6th June 6pm Private Family Gathering in the parish centre

Sunday 8th 10am Holy Communion in church and on Zoom; ID 820 0369 6332
(password from Qyan)

Sunday 8th 11.30am approx Short PCC meeting in the church choir stalls

Monday 9th 8am Private Booking in the parish centre

Tuesday 10th 8am Private Booking in the parish centre

Tuesday 10th 7.30pm Lily House Bereavement Group in parish centre

Wednesday 11th 12pm Lunch Club in the parish centre

Wednesday 11th 2.30pm Evington History and Heritage Group in parish centre

Thursday 12th 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group in parish centre

Thursday 12th June 12pm Private Booking in the parish centre



Thursdays 12th 10am—12 noon Open Church

Thursdays 12th June 10am Holy Communion (BCP) said in church



Revd Jonathan Surridge will preside and preach at the service of Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) on Thursday 5th June at 10am. This is a said service. Refreshments will be served at the back of the church after the service.

Mars: War and Peace Following the success of Luke Jeram's *Museum of the Moon* and *Gaia* installations, Leicester Cathedral is currently displaying his extraordinary sculpture *Mars*, which promises to be another unforgettable experience for visitors of all ages. Experience the awe-inspiring seven-metre sculpture of Mars during Cathedral opening hours or book on to one of several evening events, including concerts, theatre and a ceilidh. See the cathedral website for details. Display runs until Sunday 8th June.



We are extremely pleased to welcome back the Revd (Fr) Canon Dr Stephen Foster who will be presiding and preaching at the Holy Communion service this coming Sunday 8th June at 10am. Stephen is a much loved friend of St. Denys, and has led services and/or preached for us on many occasions in the past, but not for some considerable period of time. This will be followed by refreshments in the parish centre. All are most welcome.

Thy Kingdom Come Thursday 29th May—8th June 2025 a global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus. You are invited to take part. Look up: www.thykingdomcome.global

Our New (returning) Churchwarden Ann Bennett will be sworn into office during the Archdeacon's Visitation service on Tuesday 10th June at 7.30pm, in St. Luke's Church, Stocking Farm Leicester. The role of churchwarden carries legal responsibility and is of great importance. Please pray for Ann as she takes on this role once again. Licensed clergy, Authorised Lay Ministers, Readers, PCC members, PCC Secretaries, other Wardens and Treasurers are invited to attend. If you don't hold such a role within any church, and wish to go, please speak to Ann.

Completion of the New Heritage and Learning Centre, Leicester Cathedral
This state of the art extension is designed to share the rich heritage of the Cathedral and engage visitors in new and exciting ways. The centre will officially open to the public on Saturday 14th June 2025 marking a significant milestone in the Cathedral's history. More information can be found on the Cathedral's website.

A Prayer for Pentecost, written by Paul Sebastian

You are encouraged to pray this as part of your Pentecost observance:

Come Holy Spirit of God
Pour a fresh anointing, Lord
Upon on your faithful people
Spirits hunger to be rekindled

Come Holy Spirit of God
Counsellor, Comforter, Help of God
Come, revive the gifts in us,
Mold us, empower us

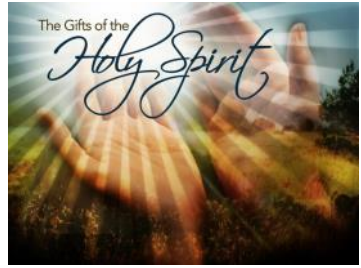
Holy Spirit of God, our Friend
Leader, Teacher, Enabler, God-sent
Lover, coming in the form of dove
Enflame us with the Fire of Love



Continued overleaf.....

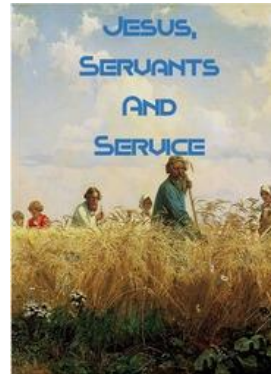
Pentecost prayer continued:

Teach us to love the Truth
So our eyes are opened to God's love
That we see others with godly eyes
Convict us to reach out; wipe the poor's tears



Teach us to practise what we teach
Teach us be doers of what we preach
Give us the spirit of forgiveness
Bring comfort and healing to others

Teach us to lead, become serving leaders
Teach us to become community builders
Enable us to realise we are mere servants
Submitting to be used as Our Lord wants



Above all, O' God, plant in us love wisdom
So we may love others into His Kingdom
That we may work our own salvation
Faith and works of mercy be our mission

Collect for the Day of 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 the sick: Geoff Bunce, June Bunce, Pat Davies, Nigel Dearman, Ann Dixon, Zak Gardner, Alison Keddilty, Sue Mitchell, Mary Smith, Andy White, Richard Williams. **We also pray for all those we know personally, living with long term health conditions. Pray too for those who mourn including the family and friends of** Dick Herrington, June Pallett



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

www.stdenys.org.uk

