



OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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Pentecost Sunday

(Year C)

15th May 2016

Sunday Reflection: – Today we celebrate the birthday of the Church. It all began in simple and humble circumstances. As they waited in prayer and hope all the followers of Jesus were able to fit into one room. They knew each other's names. They had no property, no money, and no power. Fearful of the hostile world, they locked themselves in a room. Pentecost was a Jewish feast celebrated fifty days after the Exodus, honoring the tradition of Moses receiving the Law. The symbols associated with the feast were a 'mighty wind' and 'tongues of fire' conferring energy and voice for proclamation. St Luke in the Acts of the Apostles uses the tradition and makes it a Christian Feast, though now with God renewing his covenant with his people and empowering them with the Holy Spirit. In the outpouring of the Spirit the apostles are transformed. They are now fearless in witnessing to Jesus. They unlock the door and go out to mingle with the huge crowds in Jerusalem. The Apostles now boldly proclaim the one gospel of love, which is understood by people of different languages. The confusion of the Tower of Babel is replaced by a message of love understood by all nationalities. With the coming of the Holy Spirit the Apostles become witnesses to the truth that Jesus is the "Messiah and the Son of God". With the Spirit the Apostles are graced with a new courage and present themselves as witnesses to Jesus. This is what the Holy Spirit did for them. It is worth risking all for the sake of Jesus. The Holy Spirit brings different gifts so that the Church is a "Unity in diversity". The Spirit reconciles us to the One God. We must now witness to Jesus. We open ourselves to the same empowering Spirit to transform us. A Happy Birthday to all members as we pray "Come Holy Spirit".

First Holy Communion – The children from our Parish School and the wider Parish, will celebrate their First Holy Communion at a special Mass on next Saturday 21st May at 11am in our Church. Because of the preparations for the Liturgy, the 10am scheduled Parish Mass will be in the Founders Room on Saturday 21st May. Please pray for those making their 1st Communion as well as their parents, families and friends. It should be a happy, joyful and memorable day for the Children. We thank the teachers and Catechists who helped bring them to this Happy day. The practice for the special Liturgy is on Wednesday 18th May at 3.45pm in the Church. At least one parent should be at the practice.

A New Pentecost? We look forward to the great feast of Pentecost, which is today Sunday 15th May. In this feast we celebrate the Birthday of the Church. A good feast to look at how we are living as Church and also to look at new possibilities. In the light of the recent 'Proclaim' initiative, it is time now for a development of structure in our Parish. This structure would assist and guide ongoing development in our Parish Community. In an effort to develop lay participation in the leadership of our Parish Community it is being suggested that we move from the 'Parish Team' to 'Parish Council' model. This will enable Parish counsellors to be elected by Parishioners for a certain period, and also be answerable to fellow parishioners. Hopefully we could also get the different Parish groups and organizations more involved and more united in the Pastoral work of the Parish. Can we begin to discuss these ideas amongst ourselves? Then we can all meet to discuss and plan our future approach at an open Parish meeting in the Parish Hall on Tuesday 31st May 2016 at 7.30pm.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham – led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols takes place on Saturday 9th July. A 51 seater coach has been booked for our Deanery and Fr. Vincent will lead this group on behalf of the Deanery. If you are interested in coming please add your name to the list in the colonnade. Price £20. Coach will leave at 7.15am.

Flores de Mayo – The Filipino annual celebration of the Blessed Virgin Mary will take place in our parish on Saturday 28th May at 5pm. This Mass will be in Tagalog, food and drink available after Mass in the Colonnade or in the Servite School yard. All Welcome.

Special Ministers Of the Eucharist – A meeting will be held on Monday 16th May at 7.30pm in the Founders' Room.

Christian Aid Week – Is from 15th – 21st May. We need extra volunteers to help with the Collection that week. If you can give one hour of your time this week, please enter your name in the chart in the Colonnade. Thank you for your help.

Golden Jubilee of Ordination: We celebrate Fr Vincent's 50th Jubilee of Ordination. All are welcome. Ordination at the 12.15 Mass on Sunday 5th June. Refreshments to follow.

Mass Times

Vigil Mass Sat 6.30 pm
 Sunday 8.30 am
 10 am
 (Spanish) 11.15 am
 12.15 pm
 7 pm
 Mon - Sat 10 am
 6.30pm

Sacrament of Confession

Saturday 10.45 – 11.15 am
 6.00 – 6.30 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mon – Fri 10.30 am – 11.15 am

Rosary – Wednesdays 10.30am,
 followed by Tea/Coffee in the
 Founders Room.

Legion of Mary – Every Tuesday
 at 7pm. Tel: 0207 352 6965
 Contact cdewinton@gmail.com

Lectio Divina – Every Saturday
 at 11am in the Founders' Room.

Charismatic Prayer Group –
 Every Thursday 11am in the
 Founders' Room.

Saints Days

Wed 18th – St John I
 Fri 20th – St Bernadine of Siena
 Sat 21st – St Christopher
 Magallanes

Total Offertory collection last
 Sunday was £1,520 and the
 Second collection for "Catholic
 Communications" was £543.
 Thank you for your support &
 generosity.

Familias Friends' Event 2016

– Raising Awareness of Domestic
 Abuse on 16th May 10am – 3pm
 at The Amigo Hall, St George's
 Cathedral, Lambeth Rd, SE1
 6HR. Booking: Phil Pond
 T: 0208 651 2477.
 E: philippond@blueyonder.co.uk