

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

*Serving St Benedict's, St Mary's & St Oswald's
Warrington*



Celebrating Sunday at Home

Pentecost Sunday (A)
31 May 2020

Preparation

Something a little different for this weekend. The weather forecast is for a lovely day. So I suggest going outside to pray – in the garden if you have one, or a local park, or somewhere nice nearby.

When you've found a quiet spot outside, perhaps begin your time of prayer by carefully making the Sign of the Cross.

Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

Prayer of Awareness

Now take some time to look around you at all the beauty of God's creation... breathe in the fresh air... listen to the song of the birds... drink it all in... take your time... enjoy the peace and beauty of it all...

When, and if you feel like moving on, slowly read the account of the first Pentecost day below:

Scripture Reading

(Acts 2: 1-4)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When Pentecost day came round, they had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Pentecost Sequence

At Mass today, we usually sing the 'Pentecost Sequence' which is one of the most beautiful prayers we have. In the fresh air, under the gaze of the sun

(hopefully!), with the song of the birds in the background, quietly read the words of the Sequence:

**Holy Spirit, Lord of Light,
From the clear celestial height
Thy pure beaming radiance give.**

**Come, thou Father of the poor,
Come with treasures which endure
Come, thou light of all that live!**

**Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow**

**Thou in toil art comfort sweet
Pleasant coolness in the heat
Solace in the midst of woe.**

**Light immortal, light divine,
Visit thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill:**

**If thou take thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay
All his good is turned to ill.**

**Heal our wounds, our strength renew
On our dryness pour thy dew
Wash the stains of guilt away:**

**Bend the stubborn heart and will
Melt the frozen, warm the chill
Guide the steps that go astray.**

**Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and thee adore,
With thy sevenfold gifts descend:**

**Give us comfort when we die
Give us life with thee on high
Give us joys that never end.**

Silent Reflection

Bidding Prayers

There are some Bidding Prayers on the Parish Website for today, or you may prefer to make your own prayers as you sit outside and notice all that's going on around you.

The Lord's Prayer

Blessing

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

R. Amen.



Acknowledgements

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