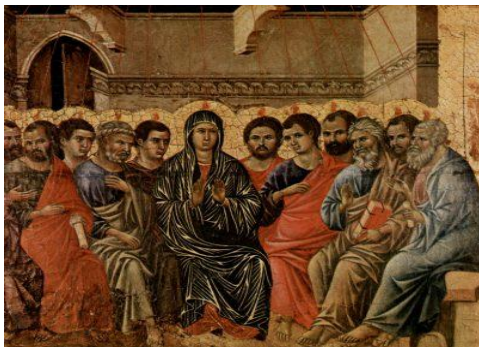


## Knowing God



**J**esus has been taken up into heaven as we begin today's First Reading. His disciples—including the Apostles and Mary—return to the upper room where He celebrated the Last Supper (see Luke 22:12).

There, they devote themselves with one accord to prayer, awaiting the Spirit that He promised would come upon them (see Acts 1:8).

The unity of the early Church at Jerusalem is a sign of the oneness that Christ prays for in today's Gospel. The Church is to be a communion on earth that mirrors the glorious union of Father, Son, and Spirit in the Trinity.

Jesus has proclaimed God's name to His brethren (see Hebrews 2:12; Psalm 22:23). The prophets had foretold this revelation: a new covenant by which all flesh would have knowledge of the Lord (see Jeremiah 31:33–34; Habakkuk 2:14).

By the new covenant made in His blood and remembered in every Eucharist we know God as our Father. This is the eternal life Jesus promises. And this is the light and salvation we sing of in today's Psalm.

As God made light to shine out of darkness when the world began, He has enlightened us in Baptism, making us new creations (see 2 Corinthians 5:17), giving us knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ (see Hebrews 10:32; 2 Corinthians 4:6).

Our new life is a gift of "the Spirit of glory," we hear in today's Epistle (see John 7:38–39). Made one in His name, we are given a new name—"Christians"—a name used only here and in two other places in the Bible (see Acts 11:16; 26:28). We are to glorify God, though we will be insulted and suffer because of this name.

But as we share in His sufferings, we know we will overcome (see Revelation 3:12) and rejoice when His glory is once more revealed. And we will dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of our lives.

Scott Hahn

## Archbishop Richard Moth reflects on a year of Pope Leo XIV

**W**e celebrate the first anniversary of Pope Leo XIV's pontificate on Friday, 8 May 2026. A year ago, Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost was elected the successor of St Peter and 267th Bishop of Rome after just four ballots of the conclave.



New president of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, Archbishop Richard Moth, reflects on the messages and themes of his pontificate so far:

"On this first anniversary of his election, I join in offering congratulations to Pope Leo XIV. Since his election, he has been a clear and consistent voice calling us to share the peace of Christ. He has reminded us that true peace is not simply the product of human effort but a gift of the Holy Spirit. To work for peace, therefore, is an act of evangelisation.

"Pope Leo has also spoken with clarity about the dignity of the human person, urging a renewed confidence in human creativity, imagination and intellect. In so doing, he has warned against the danger of allowing technological development to diminish or distort what it means to be made in the image and likeness of God.

"In his Apostolic Exhortation *Dilexi te*, he calls us to reflect more deeply the love God has shown to us, especially in our care for the poor ... To read more: [Archbishop Richard Moth reflects on a year of Pope Leo XIV - Catholic Bishops' Conference](#)

## The Memorare

(Image Credit: The Catholic National Shrine And Basilica of Our Lady)

**Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence**



**I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.**



**PARISHES OF  
THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Didcot  
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, Wallingford**  
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## SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A

**Entrance Antiphon:** Ps 26:7-9

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face; hide not your face from me, alleluia.

**First Reading:** Acts 1:12-14

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 27

I believe I shall see the LORD'S goodness in the land of the living.

**Second Reading:** 1 Peter 4:13-16

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

I will not leave you as orphans, says the Lord. I am going away and I will come to you, and your hearts will rejoice.

**Alleluia.**

**Gospel:** John 17:1-11a

**Communion Antiphon:** Jn 17:22

Father, I pray that they may be one as we also are one, alleluia.

### SATURDAY 16th May

9:30 am \*\*NO MASS\*\*

4:30 pm Adoration before Vigil Mass St John Wallingford

5:00 pm Vigil Mass St John Wallingford ... Christopher Almeida RIP (Mary Almeida)

5:50 pm Adoration before Vigil Mass English Martyrs Didcot

6:30 pm Vigil Mass English Martyrs Didcot ... Margaret Henry RIP 1st Anniversary (Catherine Sutton)

### SUNDAY 17th May ... SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:00 am Mass English Martyrs Didcot ... Elsley Family

11:00 am Mass St John Wallingford

MONDAY 18th May ... NO MASS ... St John I

### TUESDAY 19th May ... DEDICATION OF THE CATHEDRAL OF ST JOHN PORTSMOUTH

\*\*NO MASS\*\*

### WEDNESDAY 20th May ... St Bernardine of Siena

\*\*NO MASS\*\*

### THURSDAY 21st May ... St Christopher Magallanes & Companions

\*\*NO MASS\*\*

### FRIDAY 22nd May ... St Rita of Cascia

\*\*NO MASS\*\*

### SATURDAY 23rd May

9:30 am Mass English Martyrs Didcot ... Confession after Mass ... Helen Quinn RIP (Bridie Quinn)

4:30 pm Adoration and Confession before Vigil Mass St John Wallingford

5:00 pm Vigil Mass St John Wallingford ... Ellis Borges RIP (Iris Borges)

5:50 pm Adoration before Vigil Mass English Martyrs Didcot

6:30 pm Vigil Mass English Martyrs Didcot ... Breda Mee RIP (Margaret O'Connor)

### SUNDAY 24th May ... PENTECOST SUNDAY

10:00 am Mass English Martyrs Didcot ... Teresa Rozario RIP (Veronica), Gwendolyn Marsh RIP

11:00 am \*\*NO MASS\*\*

In your prayers, please remember: Margaret O'Conner, Jenny Evans, Mary Guinan, Ann Tomline, Joan Walker, Joan Turner, Nina Oakes, Jacob Oakes, Pat McLoughlin, Barry Molloy, Annie Furlong, Canon Peter Turbitt, Charles Hunt and all the sick and housebound.



## DEATH NOTICE

**Michael Arnold RIP** ... Funeral at 2pm, Tuesday 26th May, South Oxfordshire Crematorium.



## NO Weekday Masses Next Week: 19th to 22nd May

There will be **\*\*NO Weekday Masses\*\*** in the week of 19th to 22nd May in Didcot and Wallingford. Saturday and Sunday Masses, Confessions and Adoration will **resume on Saturday 23rd May**. Pentecost Sunday will be on 24th. Bidding prayers and 'Our Father' will be said in our native languages.

## THANK YOU for Supporting Fr Dominic in Getting a Car

Thank you to all the parishioners and friends who have made private donations to Fr Dominic for the purchase of his car. If you have not got in touch yet, for internal communication and records, please would **donors who had given cash or used the website Give As You Live to give and wished to remain anonymous**, kindly contact our **Parish Finance Officer, Helen Cooper**, by [email](mailto:email) or at 07888700697.

## Young Catholic Artist (National) Award 2026

The children's entries to the Young Catholic Artist Award 2026 have now been sent off. We were so impressed with the creativity and thoughtfulness shown in their work that we decided to hold our own competition here in English Martyrs. After much deliberation, the team is delighted to announce the winners. Congratulations to: Kesiena Bacpa (Reception), Roshan (Year 6) and Kristian (Year 7). A huge well done to all the children who took part.



## Catholic Communications Network Second Collection

Sunday 17th May marks the 60th World Day of Social Communications. This year's theme is *Preserving Human Voices and Faces*. The second collection on this day supports the work of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, particularly its websites, publications and social media channels. The Bishops' Conference works hard to foster positive relationships with media outlets to communicate the Good News of the Gospel. For more information, and to read Pope Leo's message for World Communications Day 2026, please visit: [cbcew.org.uk/wcd/](http://cbcew.org.uk/wcd/). You can pay your donation by cash, through [Give As You Live Online Platform](http://Give As You Live Online Platform), by scanning the QR code provided or with our payment devices in church. Thank you.



## English Martyrs Gospel Reading Group May & June Meetings

The English Martyrs Gospel Reading Group meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting will be on 26th May, 9th and 23rd June. See you at 7pm in the Tearoom. Contact Nick Spencer at 07870505520 if you have any questions.

## Catholic Legacy Week

Catholic Legacy Week, 24-30 May, is a time when Parishes and Catholic charities such as CAFOD celebrate the work made possible in the life of the Church through gifts in Wills. Find out more about the week using QR code or at [www.cafod.org.uk/CatholicLegacyWeek](http://www.cafod.org.uk/CatholicLegacyWeek).

CAFOD is a proud member of Your Catholic Legacy - a group of Catholic charities working together to protect the future of Catholic causes by encouraging gifts in Wills. Every year we celebrate Catholic Legacy Week. At this time all the member charities come together to highlight the impact of gifts in Wills and promote this very special way of supporting their work. A better world needs all of us, and gifts in Wills help fund a third of CAFOD's work alongside communities fighting injustice and poverty. Without them, much of this work simply wouldn't be possible.



## Church Flowers in St John Wallingford

St. John's Wallingford would be pleased to hear from you if you would like to join our team of Flower Arrangers. If you are interested or would like to know more please contact Gay Bosley on mobile 07751893621 or email [gaybosley66@gmail.com](mailto:gaybosley66@gmail.com).

## Parish Safeguarding

Our Safety Officer for all adults and children safeguarding issues is Stefania Harford. Please contact Stefania via the parish office on 01235 812338. If there is no response and, in an emergency, dial 999.

## CELEBRATE Festival returns to West Sussex in August

CELEBRATE festival, one of the UK's leading Catholic family events, returns to Worth School in West Sussex from 15-19 August 2026 and tickets are now available. The Festival expects to welcome around 1,000 attendees for five days of worship, teaching and community with the theme 'Let There Be Light'. Now in its 32nd year, CELEBRATE brings together an intergenerational audience of Catholic families, young adults and communities from across the UK for an annual summer gathering combining keynote talks, sacramental liturgy, children and youth programmes, and communal worship in the grounds of the historic Benedictine Abbey at Worth. You can find out more about the programme for the event [here](http://here).



The Festival is run by CELEBRATE Trust (Charity No. 1195730), a Catholic ministry supporting families and communities to live authentic Christian lives in the power of the Holy Spirit.

## PENTECOST SUNDAY YEAR A

**Entrance Antiphon:** Ws 1:7

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia.

**First Reading:** Acts 2:1-11

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 104

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

**Second Reading:** Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

**Alleluia.**

**Gospel:** John 20:19-23

**Communion Antiphon:** Ac 2:4,11  
The were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

## SATURDAY 23rd May

9:30 am Mass English Martyrs Didcot ... **Confession after Mass** ... Helen Quinn RIP (Bridie Quinn)

4:30 pm Adoration and Confession before Vigil Mass St John Wallingford

5:00 pm Vigil Mass St John Wallingford ... Ellis Borges RIP (Iris Borges)

5:50 pm Adoration before Vigil Mass English Martyrs Didcot

6:30 pm Vigil Mass English Martyrs Didcot ... Breda Mee RIP (Margaret O'Connor)

## SUNDAY 24th May ... PENTECOST SUNDAY

10:00 am Mass English Martyrs Didcot ... Teresa Rozario RIP (Veronica), Gwendolyn Marsh RIP

11:00 am **\*\*NO MASS\*\***

**MONDAY 25th May ... NO MASS ... The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church**

## TUESDAY 26th May ... St Philip Neri

12:00 noon Mass St John Wallingford

## WEDNESDAY 27th May ... ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

9:30 am Mass English Martyrs Didcot ... Annie Furlong's Intention

## THURSDAY 28th May ... OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, the ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST

9:30am Mass St John Wallingford

## FRIDAY 29th May

9:30am Mass English Martyrs Didcot ... Julie & David Lazarus's Intentions (Annie Furlong)

## SATURDAY 30th May ... Our Lady on Saturday

9:30 am Mass English Martyrs Didcot ... Kurian RIP (Mincy) ... **Confession for First Holy Communion Families after Mass**

4:30 pm Adoration before Vigil Mass St John Wallingford

5:00 pm Vigil Mass St John Wallingford

5:50 pm Adoration before Vigil Mass English Martyrs Didcot

6:30 pm Vigil Mass English Martyrs Didcot ... St John Paul II Prayer Group's Intention (C Yopez)

## SUNDAY 31st May ... THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

9:00 am Mass English Martyrs Didcot ... Sam & Jude A Wedding Anniversary Thanksgiving

11:00 am Mass St John Wallingford

2:00 pm Convalidation of Marriage English Martyrs Didcot ... Tony & Maria Gordon, Congratulations!

[Careers - Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth](http://Careers - Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth): Current job openings across the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth.