

Take the **Walk with me** booklets and calendars. Give them to relatives, friends and neighbours

Novena to the Holy Spirit for our Parish

You may remember, and many of you came along, that over Lent this year we held a series of four “CaFE” talks entitled “The Joy of Hope” which were based on the Book of Revelation. At the end of those talks those who attended thought that it would be a good idea to have a parish novena to the Holy Spirit for the nine days leading up to Pentecost. This will start on Saturday 1 June and next week Deacon Mick will provide copies of the novena we will use for this. We are praying for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on our Catholic community here in Balsall Heath (and the many other places our parishioners travel from) and asking the Spirit to guide us to take discipleship to heart and guide us in our task to be a missionary community. Many thanks.

Forthcoming Parish events			
May			
Wed	22	10.30 am	First Confession
June			
Sun	2	10 am	Second Collection – Catholic Communications
Sun	9	10 am	Columban Mission Appeal
Sun	16	10 am	First Holy Communion Preparation Mass – Gift of Joy/ The Greatest Gift Second Collection – Day for Life
Sun	30	10 am	First Communion Mass Second Collection – Peter’s Pence

Please take this newsletter home to read

		Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity No 234216		
		St John the Evangelist & St Martin de Porres 31 George Street, Balsall Heath, Birmingham B12 9RG 0121 440 3025		
Parish Priest: Fr Dominic Innamorati scj		www.ssjohnandmartin.org.uk innamorati@btinternet.com admin@ssjohnandmartin.org.uk		Deacon: Michael McKearney
May 2019		Fifth Sunday of Easter		Readings: Sun C, weekdays 2.
Mass Times	Sat	18	10.00	Eucharistic Service
	Sun	19	10.00	Fifth Sunday of Easter Special Intention
	Mon	20	9.30	Eucharistic Service
	Tue	21	9.30	No Mass at St Martin de Porres
	Wed	22	9.30	Eucharistic Service
			10.30	First Confessions
	Thu	23	9.00	No Mass at Ss. John and Monica
	Fri	24	9.30	Eucharistic Service
	Sat	25	10.00	Eucharistic Service - St Bede
Sun	26	10.00	Sixth Sunday of Easter People of the Parish	
Confessions		Saturdays 10.30 – 10.45 (after Mass) and by request		

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: William Mullen, Samuel Moloney, Frank Nagle, Mary McCullough, Bridget Foley, Patrick Kennedy, Arthur White, James (Jim) Cafferkey, Stephen Hanlon, James Toland, James Walsh, Mary Corrigan, Christopher Hopkins, Charles Ollis .

Please pray for those who are sick: Fr Dominic, Margaret and Majella McAtavey, Sr. Stella, Soraya Wilson, Beatrice Akamanyi, Alan and Tess Shepherd, Marian Jones, Gerald McEvoy , Katie Guiden, George Gallagher.

Baptism: On Sunday 19 May at 3pm we welcome into our Parish Bentley. Please pray for him and his family.

You are invited to refreshments in the Hall after the Sunday Mass

Pilgrimages

Lourdes, Bartres, Nevers & Rue du Bac. Thu 25 Jul – Sat 3 Aug. 10 day/9 night luxury pilgrimage with no overnight coach travel. £750 per person sharing or £999 Single Room (incl £249 Single Room Supplement). Deposit £100. Staying in Helgon Hotel, Lourdes (4 Star). Pick-up at St Chad's Cathedral.

Rome. Mon 14 – Fri 18 Oct. Flying from B'ham Airport. £695 per person (sharing). £820 Single room (incl £125 Single Room Supplement). Deposit £200. English speaking tour guides. Pick-up at St Chad's Cathedral.

Instalment plans available if you book early. Further information: Andrew Oldnall. h: 0121 440 8623. m: 07733 226063. andrewsoldnall@gmail.com

Medejugorie Irish Centre Pilgrimage Apr – Oct: 7 nights B&B and Airport Shuttle service from Dubrovnik or Split for €279 per person sharing. Book any flight - any time. Guaranteed airport shuttle service, info & to book dates that suit you tel 020 3239 8662 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com

Archdiocesan Day Pilgrimage to Walsingham – Sat 11 May. Please see the poster in the porch for more information and let Fr Dominic know if you are interested in attending.

Marriage Encounter Non Residential Weekend at Saint Mary's on the Hill, Wednesbury, Sat 29- Sun 30 June. An enrichment weekend for normal, ordinary marriages (NOT counselling). www.wme.org.uk or Phil & Rita Jackson on 0121 244 7762 or email wackojacko456@hotmail.com

A Prayer for the Coming Week

Through baptism you, God, Our Father, invite us to share the gift of our lives in service to others. Be with us as we choose each day to show your presence in our world.

Bless our Parish and our families with young men and women who will selflessly share your love as priests or deacons, sisters or brothers.

As we celebrate this Sunday, help us to recognise and encourage the signs of your Spirit in our young people, whatever their Christian vocation may be.

We ask this in the name of Jesus your son. Amen.

Now Has the Son of Man Been Glorified

Every Christian through his or her baptism is called to mission. We should not be apathetic in our faith and hide our light under a bushel. One thing we can do is to invite people whom we know to meet Jesus in different ways. We can ask them if they would like to come to our Mass on Sunday, maybe when our choir is singing, or on special occasions like Christmas and Easter and Pentecost. We can invite them to our summer and Christmas fayres, or a parish discussion evening such as those held in Lent or Advent. In other ways we can involve ourselves in helping those in need in the community and join some association like the food bank at St Pauls and Anawim.

Just as Jesus preached and did good to all, so we are called and sent to bear witness like Paul and Barnabas in the readings today. Jesus says in the gospel today that he is glorified through his sufferings: something which is very strange to the world which sees nothing positive in suffering. Just as God glorified Jesus in his suffering and his resurrection, so he can do the same to us. We are called today to help those who are needy, especially those hit by the Government cut backs, those who are asylum seekers or refugees. We are called to be true and genuine stewards of all God's creation, to share the many blessings that God has given us with those who have had so much taken from them.

Let us pray that we will bear witness to Jesus through by our welcome and hospitality to the stranger and the ways in which we reach out to the many needy people in our families. Communities and our world, which may enable others to see the love by which Christians should be recognized.

"By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples."