

PARISH OF OUR LADY QUEEN OF MARTYRS

Reg. Charity 242380

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Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year C – 5 May 2013

Entrance: *Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: the Lord has freed his people, alleluia*

Responsorial psalm: *Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you*

Gospel: *Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.' Alleluia!*

Communion: *If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia*



I would like to offer three short and simple thoughts for your reflection. In the second reading, we listened to the beautiful vision of Saint John: new heavens and a new earth, and then the Holy City coming down from God. All is new, changed into good, beauty and truth; there are no more tears or mourning... This is the work of the Holy Spirit: he brings us the new things of God. He comes to us and makes all things new; he changes us. The Spirit changes us! And Saint John's vision reminds us that all of us are journeying towards the heavenly Jerusalem, the ultimate newness which awaits us and all reality, the happy day when we will see the Lord's face – that marvellous face, the most beautiful face of the Lord Jesus - and be with him for ever, in his love. You see, the new things of God are not like the novelties of this world, all of which are temporary; they come and go, and we keep looking for more. The new things which God gives to our lives are lasting, not only in the future, when we will be with him, but today as well. God is even now making all things new; the Holy Spirit is truly transforming us, and through us he also wants to transform the world in which we live. Let us open the doors to the Spirit, let ourselves be guided by him, and allow God's constant help to make us new men and women, inspired by the love of God which the Holy Spirit bestows on us! How beautiful it would be if each of you, every evening, could say: Today at school, at home, at work, guided by God, I showed a sign of love towards one of my friends, my parents, an older person! How beautiful!

A second thought. In the first reading Paul and Barnabas say that "*we must undergo many trials if we are to enter the kingdom of God*" (Acts 14:22). The journey of the Church, and our own personal journeys as Christians, are not always easy; they meet with difficulties and trials. To follow the Lord, to let his Spirit transform the shadowy parts of our lives, our ungodly ways of acting, and cleanse us of our sins, is to set out on a path with many obstacles, both in the world around us but also within us, in the heart. But difficulties and trials are part of the path that leads to God's glory, just as they were for Jesus, who was glorified on the cross; we will always encounter them in life! Do not be discouraged! We have the power of the Holy Spirit to overcome these trials!

And here I come to my last point. It is an invitation which I make to you, young confirmandi, and to all present. Remain steadfast in the journey of faith, with firm hope in the Lord. This is the secret of our journey! He gives us the courage to swim against the tide. Pay attention, my young friends: to go against the current; this is good for the heart, but we need courage to swim against the tide. Jesus gives us this courage! There are no difficulties, trials or misunderstandings to fear, provided we remain united to God as branches to the vine, provided we do not lose our friendship with him, provided we make ever more room for him in our lives. This is especially so whenever we feel poor, weak and sinful, because God . . .

Dates for Your Diary

Please come along and enjoy tea and coffee in the parish room after the Sunday morning Masses

Tote numbers drawn for week 3 were 28, 2, 20, 36, 3, 37, 41 & 13 - no winner

Prize money for week 4 – £300.00 and nine numbers to be drawn

Second collection today: for the needs of the parish

Tuesday Devotions: Divine Mercy Chaplet before Mass, and the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary after Mass

Catholicism: on Wednesday, 8th May at 7:00 pm in the parish hall – this week's instalment is entitled, "*The Fire of His Love – prayer and the life of the Spirit*" All welcome

Torchlight Procession: in honour of Our Lady will be held 9:00 pm on Wednesday, 8th May at Belmont Abbey

Bible Study: on Thursday, 9th May at 7:00 pm in the presbytery – all welcome, as ever

Our Lady of the Taper: the annual pilgrimage to Cardigan will take place on Sunday, 12th May this year, led by the Bishop of Menevia, the Right Reverend Thomas Burns, SM. Confessions from 1:30 pm, procession at 2:30 pm followed by Holy Mass, Blessing of the Sick and Benediction. Please see poster at the back of church

Parish AGM: parish hall at 7:30 pm on Monday, 13th May – all parishioners are *very* welcome. Refreshments

Offered by a parishioner: a website intended to help children with parents suffering from cancer, http://www.riprap.org.uk/support/links/if_you_have_a_parent_with_cancer.asp

Confirmation 2013: His Grace Archbishop George will be coming to Our Lady's on Sunday 9th June to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at the 11.30am Mass. Please pray for the young people of our parish who will be confirmed - Luke Johnson, Christina Windall, Weronika Jeruk - and the young people from other parishes who will be confirmed with them

Prayer Sponsors for Confirmation Candidates: please sign the list in the narthex if you would like to be a "prayer sponsor" for one of our confirmation candidates - there is no limit on numbers

Red Boxes: the recent total from the Missio Red Boxes came to **£487.91**. Thank you to all. If anyone would like a red box please ask Fr Cenydd or Peter and Mary Leach

"Meeting Thomas Merton": by Jim Forest, Theologian, Peace Activist and Friend of Thomas Merton. 7.00p.m. Wednesday, 15th May 2013 in the James Callaghan Lecture Theatre, Swansea University. This lecture is open to all who are interested and admission is free

Vigil for Pentecost: a vigil for Pentecost is to be held here in the parish church commencing at 7pm on Saturday 18th May. Led by Deacon Eddie Wyman of Belmont Abbey parish, the service will consist of scripture readings, prayer, the Holy Rosary, hymns and a period of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate in this call for a renewed outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Church

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. . . grants strength to our weakness, riches to our poverty, conversion and forgiveness to our sinfulness. The Lord is so rich in mercy: every time, if we go to him, he forgives us. Let us trust in God's work! With him we can do great things; he will give us the joy of being his disciples, his witnesses. Commit yourselves to great ideals, to the most important things. We Christians were not chosen by the Lord for little things; push onwards toward the highest principles. Stake your lives on noble ideals, my dear young people!

The new things of God, the trials of life, remaining steadfast in the Lord. Dear friends, let us open wide the door of our lives to the new things of God which the Holy Spirit gives us. May he transform us, confirm us in our trials, strengthen our union with the Lord, our steadfastness in him: this is a true joy! So may it be.

(Homily of Pope Francis at the Confirmation Mass in St Peter's Square last Sunday)

Sixth Week of Easter

Psalter: Week II

9:30 am	Thanksgiving (MH)
11:30 am	Ken Davis
6:30 pm	
Monday 5 May <i>Easter Feria</i>	9:30 am Mass – Special Int (EC)
Tuesday 7 May <i>Easter Feria</i>	7:00 pm Mass – Teresa Govett
Wednesday 8 May <i>Easter Feria</i>	9:30 am Mass – Dorothy Dzioba Int
Thursday, 9 May <i>Easter Feria</i>	9:30 am Mass – Edward Dzierza
Friday, 10 May <i>Easter Feria</i>	7:00 pm Mass – Mary Marrison
Saturday, 11 May <i>Easter Feria</i>	9:30 am Confessions 10:30 am Mass – Franciszek Drynda
Sunday, 12 May (Ascension of the Lord)	
9:30 am	Victoria Jones Int
11:30 am	John Farren
6:30 pm	<i>Celebrated by Fr Michael Evans</i>

Please pray for:

The sick, especially Ann Morris, Brian Morris, Alice Jones, Pat Spence, Rita Kennedy, Alex Spence, Karen Royer, Sue Watkins, Julie Martin, Katie Balnaves, Damian Brackley, Shelaigh Fawcett, Andrew Walker, Natalie Chadwick, Dymphna and John O'Neil, Sylvia Jones, Sylvia Aiello, Angela Smith, Chris Turville, Olivia Thompson, Jason Houten, Barbara Hampton, Leo Hornby, Eva Zakrzewska, Jean Johns, Agnes McGowan, Pat Franklyn, John O'Donahue, Joe Carroll, Dorothy Dzioba and all in our prayer book

The recently dead, especially Laurence Montagu, Alan Weaver, 'Marjorie', Franciszek Drynda and Barbara Westlake

Those whose anniversary falls in the month of May, including: Kaz & Helena Domalik, Harold Halls, Joseph Greene, Mary Robbins, Desmond Joyce, Hilda Bindon, Mary Turner, Bernadette Lynch, Veronica Lowe, Ann Maloney, Milborough Plummer, Gerhard Kostorz, Josephina Rizzardini, Elizabeth Donovan, Bernadette Graham, Ellen Elkin, Alice Derrick, David Martin, Marguerite Jacobs, Margaret Jones, Francis Meigh, Geoffrey Staton, Ron Tyler and Florence Pockett

- Little Johnny's primary school class went on a field trip to the fire station. The firefighter giving the presentation held up a smoke detector and asked the class: "Does anyone know what this is?" Little Johnny's hand shot up: "That's how Mommy knows supper is ready!"
- Why don't men cook at home? No one's invented a steak that will fit in the toaster.
- Murphy told Quinn that his wife was driving him to drink. Quinn thinks he's very lucky because his own wife makes him walk.

Rota Schedule for 10 to 16 May 2013

Flower Arrangers:	R Jones & Tess Forder
Cleaners:	Volunteers
Ushers:	9:30am Langford family 11:30am Volunteers 6:30pm Volunteers
Readers:	9:30am F Keogh 11:30am M Langley 6:30pm R Maloney
Eucharistic Ministers:	9:30am P King, C Sharland, (H Fishlock) 11:30pm F Davies, J Meenaghan, D Lissaman 6:30pm J Winter, G McAleer, R Jones
Altar Linen:	M Lynch

Polish Information:

Następna Msza Św w języku polskim odbędzie się w niedzielę, 26 maja godz 16:00

Finance:

The collections on Sunday, 28 April came to **£385.60** – thank you



PERHAPS SPRINKLING WITH HOLY WATER WAS NOT THE BEST WAY TO LAUNCH THE CHURCH WEBSITE