



Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church

Parish Priest: Fr John O'Sullivan

Presbytery: 111 Portsmouth Road, Frimley, Surrey, GU16 7AA

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Sixth Sunday of Easter

8th/9th May 2021

Cycle B for Sundays Year 1 for Weekdays Psalter Week 2
Newsletter 2414

Dear Friends,

Today's First Reading from Acts is one of my favourites. In this instance, Peter had been summoned from Joppa by Cornelius, an Italian Centurion in the occupying army. It also tells us prior to today's passage, that this same Cornelius was a devout man who believed in a God with his household, and he prayed regularly. An angel (i.e. Messenger of God) said to Cornelius, send for Peter who is staying with Simon, a tanner whose house is located by the sea. That's where our reading begins. On arrival, Cornelius went out to greet his visitor and knelt at his feet. Peter's reaction was not to think "this chap knows his place" or anything of the sort but to ask Cornelius to "stand up, I am only a man after all." Then the very moving statement from Peter: "The truth I have come to realise, is that God does not have favourites, but that anyone of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him". While still speaking, the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on pagans also, since they spoke in strange languages and proclaimed the greatness of God. Peter went on, "could anyone refuse the water of Baptism to these people now that they have (already) received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?" He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ.

Interesting points from this:

- 1) God is not limited to our concepts. The Holy Spirit was given BEFORE Baptism.
- 2) God calls the Gentiles as well (i.e. pagans).
- 3) Cornelius knelt before Peter BECAUSE he was used to rank in the army and in this instance thought Peter was of a higher rank. Not so, said Peter (are there any Bishops watching?)
- 4) We do not know in whom the Holy Spirit resides OUTSIDE the Church.
- 5) This passage has profound implications for all religious people in the way they consider the outsiders i.e. in Peter's words "God does not have favourites."

<u>Readings for Next Sunday</u> <u>The Feast of the Ascension of the Lord</u>	<u>Reflection</u>
First Reading Acts 1:1-11 Psalms 46: 2-3;6-9 Second Reading Ephesians 4:1-13 Gospel Mark 16: 15-20	When have I given witness to the Gospel this week?
<u>Please note Mass Times on these dates in May</u> Thursday 13th May – 10.00am and 7.30pm. The Ascension of the Lord Friday 14th May – 9.30am Monday 31st May – 10.00am Bank Holiday	

- ❖ Please remember the great number of people all over the world that are mourning a family member or more at this time. In this parish community: pray for all who mourn Joan Forward, Sheila Baxter and Gerry Duhig.

Finally: If you can smile when things go wrong, it's a sign you have someone in mind to blame.

God Bless You All,
Fr John

Mass Intentions

Sat 8 th May	6.00pm	Rosalind Cheah RIP (Anniv.) (Cockle/Cheah Family)
Sun 9 th May	8.30am	The Pandemic
	10.30am	Joan Forward RIP (Flower Arrangers)
	5.30pm	All Parishioners
Mon 10 th May	7.30pm	Family Intentions
Tue 11 th May	10.00am	Patrick Holloway RIP (Pat)
Wed 12 th May	10.00am	Bridie Carr RIP (Nora McAlinden)
Thu 13 th May	10.00am	Philomena Selvaraj (90 th Birthday) (Patrick Family)
	7.30pm	The Pandemic
Fri 14 th May	9.30am	Souls of the Cabral and Rodrigues Families (Sabastiana)
Sat 15 th May	6.00pm	Anne and Robert Carter (Intentions) (Anne French)
Sun 16 th May	8.30am	All Parishioners
	10.30am	Thanksgiving (Joan Forward)
	5.30pm	Francesca Withers RIP (Anniv.) (Frank and Marie)

Marriage Week. A time for us to celebrate the joy and blessings of marriage. Pope Francis reminds us that “Marriage is like a plant. It is not an armoire, which is placed there, in the room, and it’s enough to dust it every once in a while. A plant is alive, and it needs to be cared for every day: to see how it is doing, to give it water, and so it goes. Marriage is a living reality: the life of a couple should never be taken for granted, in any phase of a family’s journey.”

Bereavement Support. Are you struggling with bereavement or loss? Our Deanery has a team of trained Catholic Bereavement Supporters to listen and support. Find out more by contacting our Family Life Project Officer by emailing simonsouth@abdiocese.org.uk or call 01293 651155.

St John the Baptist School. Seeking additional Foundation Governors to join their local governing committee. These governors are appointed by the Bishop to represent his education policy and preserve/develop the Catholic ethos of the school. Interested? Then for more information contact by email Ruth Egan (Chair of Governors) at r.egan@sjb.surrey.sch.uk or James Granville-Hamshar (Headteacher) at j.granville-hamshar@sjb.surrey.sch.uk

The Colour and Shape Online Community. A new way to resource, inspire and connect families looking for support as they accompany their children on their own faith journey. All those supporting families are welcome: grandparents, godparents, teachers, youth workers, children’s liturgy leaders and catechists. Online courses throughout the year. Visit www.colourandshapeonline.com to find out more.

Online Retreats: The Open Cloisters at Worth Abbey

Sat 29th May: The Post Covid World: Pope Francis’ vision ‘Let us Dream’ led by Austen Ivereigh.

Sat 5th June: The Wisdom of St Benedict – Fr Martin McGee.

See notices in porch or visit Worth Abbey’s website for further information and to book a place at worth.co.uk/retreats/online-retreats

CAFOD – Climate Change Petition: This year the UK will host the largest gathering of world leaders ever to take place on British soil: the ‘COP26’ climate talks in Glasgow in November. CAFOD are urging the Prime Minister to make sure communities hardest hit by the climate emergency are listened to at COP26. Please help by signing their petition at cafod.org.uk/reclaim or by ordering petition cards from the CAFOD shop. Tel 0300 011 5680.

Collections for Weekend 1st/2nd May 2021

Offertory Collections	£339.65
Gift Aid Collections	£105.00
Standing Orders (Weekly Average)	£1016.00
Total	£1460.65

Please pray for all those who have died recently:

Sheila Baxter; Gerry Duhig; Joan Forward and Nelli Gill

May they rest in peace.

Please pray for all those who are sick at this time:

Marie Bellizzi, Maureen Bowers, Pauline Brookman, Robert Burbridge, Joe Buttaci, Vivian Charlton, Lally Clarke, Joan Cottrell, Zita Falber, Pat Farrell, Freda Fernandes, Hermanthe Fernando, Leo Gibson, Kath Grant, Mary Higton, Gill Kirwin, Georgia Mackinlay, Miriam McDonnell, Helen McLachlan, Eric Miller, Maura Morris, Paul Pullen, Wilson Rabanos, Donal Reidy, Milo Reiske, Gill Shaw, Sherry Small, Godelieve Vandersloten, Alfonsa Varghese, Lorainne Vella, Mark Wardell and all those named on the noticeboard in Our Lady’s Shrine. *May they find consolation in their suffering.*
