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**7th Sunday of Easter May 21st, 2023**

**SUNDAY MASS TIMES**

 Saturday 6.00pm St. Patrick’s church

Sunday 9.30am Christ the King church

Sunday 11.00am St. Patrick’s church **WEEKDAY LITURGY TIMES**

 Tuesday 10.00am Christ the King

 Wednesday 10.00am St. Patrick’s

 Thursday: 10.00am Christ the King

 Friday: 10.00am St. Patrick’s

**MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED**: Special Intention, Betty and Benny McMahon, Laurence Wherly,

**ANNIVERSARIES: May 20th – 26th:**

Frederick McReddie, Karen Jackson, Terence Darragh, Bob Presgrave, Kenneth Pickering, Letitia Louisa Middleton,

Edith Hart, Gertrude Whyte, James McEvoy, Nancy Stansmore, David Jones, Mildred Mallon, Winifred Gascoyne,

Bob England, John Costello, Christine Walton.

**PLEASE REMEMBER** in your prayers all our sick and housebound brothers and sisters.

**The word this week**

Acts 1:12–14 They devoted themselves to prayer in the upper room.

Psalm 27 ***‘I am sure I shall see the Lord’s goodness in the land of the living.’***

1 Peter 4:13–16 Rejoice that we share in the sufferings of Christ.

John 17:1–11 Father, glorify your Son.

We who are created in God’s image are always able to turn to God in prayer. This is what the first disciples did after Jesus ascended to heaven. This is what Jesus himself did when he knew that his hour had come. Today’s Gospel passage consists of Jesus praying to the Father for himself and his disciples on the evening before he would be arrested, sentenced, and crucified. May today’s readings remind us that we can turn to God whatever our needs and whatever our circumstances.

**AT MASS TODAY WE PRAY** Eucharistic Prayer 1 for Reconciliation and Preface 1 for Ascension

Just as Christ raised his prayer to the Father, so we raise this great prayer of thanksgiving.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please remember in your prayers **Mrs. Bridget (Biddy) Copland (Nee: Kane)**, from Stockton, formerly Thornaby, who died on Monday last, May 15th, in hospital. May she rest in peace.

**WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY:** {Sunday, May 21st} ***“May the Lord Jesus, the Word made flesh, help us listen to the beating of hearts, to rediscover ourselves as brothers and sisters, and to disarm the hostility that divides.***

***May the Lord Jesus, the Word of truth and love, help us speak the truth in charity, so that we may feel like protectors of one another.”*** [Pope Francis]

**‘FLAME OF LOVE’** Conference at Erdington Abbey on Wednesday, June 7th. Guest Speaker is Fr. James Blount.

See notice board in church porch for more details.

“God’s plan for the world is peace, not disaster. We pray for Ukraine and her people, and for the world’s leaders. No one wins in war. Everyone wins in peace.”

Prayer for Ukraine

“Almighty and Great God, accept our gratitude for your boundless mercy towards us.

Hear the supplication of our afflicted hearts for the land and people of Ukraine,

as they confront foreign aggression and invasion.

Open the eyes of those who have been overtaken by a spirit of deception and violence,

that they be horrified by their works.

Grant victory over the powers of evil that have arisen,

and bless Ukraine with your gifts of liberty, peace, tranquillity and good fortune.

Bless the hearts of those who have already shown great generosity and solidarity,

and those who prepare to receive their Ukrainian brothers and sisters in Ukraine’s greatest time of need.

Bring us together as your children, your creation, and instil in us your strength, wisdom and understanding. May you be praised and glorified, now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen”

7th SUNDAY OF EASTER(A)

**May 21st, 2023**

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

After Jesus was taken up into heaven the apostles went back from the Mount of Olives, as it is called, to Jerusalem, a short distance away, no more than a sabbath walk; and when they reached the city they went to the upper room where they were staying; there were Peter and John, James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Jude son of James. All these joined in continuous prayer, together with several women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

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

If you can have some share in the sufferings of Christ, be glad, because you will enjoy a much greater gladness when his glory is revealed. It is a blessing for you when they insult you for bearing the name of Christ, because it means that you have the Spirit of glory, the Spirit of God resting on you. None of you should ever deserve to suffer for being a murderer, a thief, a criminal or an informer; but if anyone of you should suffer for being a Christian, then he is not to be ashamed of it; he should thank God that he has been called one.

 **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;

I will come back to you,

and your hearts will be full of joy.

Alleluia!

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

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

‘Father, the hour has come:

glorify your Son so that your Son may glorify you;

and, through the power over all mankind that you have given him,

let him give eternal life to all those you have entrusted to him.

And eternal life is this:

to know you,

the only true God,

and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

I have glorified you on earth

and finished the work that you gave me to do.

Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me

with that glory I had with you

before ever the world was.

I have made your name known

to the men you took from the world to give me.

They were yours and you gave them to me,

and they have kept your word.

Now at last they know

that all you have given me comes indeed from you;

for I have given them the teaching you gave to me,

and they have truly accepted this, that I came from you,

and have believed that it was you who sent me.

I pray for them;

I am not praying for the world

but for those you have given me,

because they belong to you:

all I have is yours

and all you have is mine,

and in them I am glorified.

I am not in the world any longer,

but they are in the world,

and I am coming to you.’