



# Whitefriar Street Church

## 28th May Pentecost



Caring & Sharing Association  
Supporting People with Disabilities

CASA would like to take this opportunity to express its gratitude for your generous contribution of €1,110 to our Church Gate Collection on 13th/14th May.



## The Real Miracle of Pentecost

We are all familiar with the passage in Acts on the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles at Pentecost (2:1-13). This text has made an indelible impression upon the Christian imagination, so it may surprise us to notice how

brief and elusive it is. Only the first four verses describe the descent of the Spirit. The rest of the passage reports the reaction of the crowd that has gathered around the apostles.

The description of the Spirit is vague and mysterious. Reading the text reveals how tentative Luke's imagery is. Luke does not say the house was filled with a strong driving wind but with "*a noise like a strong driving wind*" (v. 2). Fire is often used in the Bible when God appears i.e. Moses and the burning bush (Exod 3:2); God on Mount Sinai (Deut 4:12); and God's voice (Ps 29:7). Yet Luke reduces the impact of the fire image. He does not say that tongues of fire came upon the disciples but rather *tongues as of fire* (v. 3). He does not want us to be distracted by sound, wind, and flame. The real miracle of Pentecost is found in the transformation of the apostles. They are now ready to begin their mission. Empowered by the Spirit, they have been transformed and can now proclaim the mighty works of God (vv. 4, 11).

Yet, even with the Spirit's power, God's mission can never be imposed upon anyone. Those who hear the apostles must choose to believe. This is why Luke ends the scene with a humorous comment: Every person must decide whether what they see and hear before them comes from God's Spirit or "*too much new wine*" (v. 13).

Luke's decision to reduce the power of his images does not disqualify them from speaking to us. Luke tells us that the tongues as of fire came to rest upon "each one" of the gathered apostles (v. 3). This indicates that the gift of the Spirit comes to us as individuals. The personal gift of the Spirit does not negate the communal nature of the church. Yet this passage insists that being church is not like making sausage, where all our particular talents and skills are ground together into an indistinguishable mix. The unique gifts of each individual are essential in spreading God's reign.

Our gifts are not the same. Some are dramatic and others unassuming. Some may be tied to intellectual prowess and others to matters of the heart. Some - like teaching, preaching, and athletic abilities - can be immediately seen. Others are more hidden, such as the gift to recognize another's pain or the patience to listen when a hurting friend needs to vent. The church is impoverished whenever we fail to use the gifts we have been given. At Pentecost, each disciple was marked with his or her individual flame. If the gospel is to spread to the ends of the earth, we must each find our particular fire and use it.

Fr. George M. Smiga, adapted

### Pope's Intention for May

**For church movements and groups:** We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

### Masses

#### Monday to Saturday:

8.00 a.m., 10.00 a.m.,  
11.30 a.m. 1.10 p.m. & 3.00 p.m.

#### Sunday:

6.00 p.m. (Saturday Vigil),  
8.00 a.m., 10.30 a.m., 12.30 p.m.  
& 4.00 p.m.

*Names can be enrolled for Mass and will be remembered and prayed for on the day requested.*

### St Jude Novena

This continues to be celebrated on Tuesdays at 8.00 p.m. and will be live-streamed on our website. The blessing with the Relics of St Jude and of St Thérèse of Lisieux will take place.

### Confessions

#### Monday to Friday:

10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.  
3.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

#### Saturday

10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.  
2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

#### SPOWIEDŹ W JĘZYKU POLSKIM

dostępna na prośbę.

**Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, (Whitefriar Street Church)**

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Registered Charity CHY5894



**The Phoenix Boys Choir**  
**Whitefriar Street Church**  
**Sunday 11th June, 2023**  
**Mass: 10.30 a.m.**

**THIS WEEK'S LITURGICAL CALENDAR**

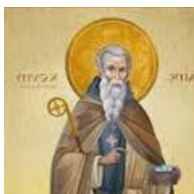
Sunday, 28th May:	Pentecost
Monday, 29th May:	Mary, Mother of the Church, <i>Memorial</i>
Tuesday, 30th May:	Eight Week of Ordinary Time
Wednesday, 31st May:	Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, <i>Mem</i>
Thursday, 1st June:	St Justin, <i>Memorial</i>
Friday, 2nd June	Eight Week of Ordinary Time
Saturday, 3rd June	St Kevin, <i>Feast</i>

**The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church:** This title is directly linked to Mary as the Mother of God. Christ is described as the Head of the Church and followers are described as the Body of the Church. As Mary is the Mother of Christ, and Christ is head of the Church, then Mary is the Mother of the Church. Mary is also seen as the model of the Church. In all of her actions she exemplifies the mission of the Church. She agreed to God's will to give birth to Jesus and supported and displayed her faith in her son throughout his ministry. She was with him at every stage of his work on earth and fully supported and followed his teachings.



**Memorial of St Justin, Martyr:** Born to pagan parents in Nablus, Palestine, Justin became a Christian when he was about 30 years old. He was a well-known philosopher and was known as 'the Philosopher'. He wrote many works in defence of the faith and some of these – the 'Apologies' and the 'Dialogue with Trypho' – survive to this day. He also wrote our earliest account of Baptism and of the Sunday Mass. He was martyred in

Rome in 165, during the reign of Marcus Aurelius.



**St Kevin, Abbot:** Kevin (Coemgenus) was one of the great sixth century Irish saints. He grew up in Kilnarnagh, Dublin, and later went to Glendalough, Co Wicklow, to Caoimhghin, by the upper lake. In time, several other settlements of Glendalough grew up by the lakes and continued to spread after his death in 618.

For, wherever they live, all Christians are bound to show forth by the example of their lives and by the witness of their speech, the new (person) which they have put on at Baptism, and that power of the Holy Spirit by whom they were strengthened at Confirmation. Thus other (people) observing their good works, can glorify the Father (*cf Matt 5:16*) and can better perceive the real meaning of human life and the bond which ties the whole community of (human kind) together.

Second Vatican Council - 'The Missions'

**The Garden of Carmel**

**I see God in the work of his hands and the marks of his love in every visible thing, and it sometimes happens that I am seized by a supreme joy which is above all other joys.**



**St Titus Brandsma**

**Devotions at 2.30 p.m.**

**Monday:** Miraculous Medal – Rosary & Benediction

**Friday:** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament – silent prayer

**Saturday:** Our Lady of Mount Carmel – Rosary & Benediction



**Baptisms & Weddings**

Please contact the Parish Office if you have a Baptism or Wedding booked at this time.



**Mass Office, Church Shop & General Enquiries**

Monday to Saturday:

8.30 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.

Sunday

10.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.

Items can be ordered by phone or through our online shop and they will be sent out by post. Shop and all other enquiries: (01) 475 8821

Email:

shop@whitefriarstreetchurch.ie

Web: <https://shop.whitefriarstreetchurch.com/>



**Parish Office**

For certificates of Baptism, Confirmation and Marriage, or to book a Baptism or a Wedding.

Tel: 01 475 8821

Email: parish@whitefriarstreetchurch.ie



**Society of St Vincent de Paul**

Members meet each Monday evening to consider requests. For those living within our parish, requests can be made by ringing 01 855 0022.



**Carmelite Third Order/Lay Carmel**

meet on the third Saturday of every month in Oratory at 3.00 p.m. New members welcome.



**Spotkania Szkaplerzne dla Polaków!**

w trzecie soboty miesiąca o godz. 16.00.



**REMAINING VIGILANT**

**Please continue to be safe and protect each other.**