



Mary, Our Lady of Kiev, Mother of God, We ask you to intercede for the people of Ukraine, For their government, and all who suffer as a result of war. Be with them as you stood beside your Son, Suffering on the Cross at Calvary. Give them strength and courage through faith, hope and justice. May we, in our turn, Support them through prayer

and generosity that human lives may be saved, that the injured may be healed, that the dead may rest in peace, that there will be peace after war. Amen.

#### Prayer for Peace in the Middle East

God of mercy and compassion, of grace and reconciliation, pour your power upon all your children in the Middle East: Jews, Muslims and Christians, Palestinians and Israelis.

Let hatred be turned into love, fear to trust, despair to hope, oppression to freedom, occupation to liberation, that violent encounters may be replaced by loving embraces, and peace and justice could be experienced by all. Amen

#### FOR THE SICK AND DECEASED OF OUR PARISH

We pray for the sick of our parish both at home and in hospital, in particular Barbara Wadley and Marion Luscombe in hospital. For those who have died, Fr. Jason Jones and all those whose anniversaries of death are at this time especially Robin David, Adrien Quinn and those known only to God. We pray for those affected by the war in Ukraine and in the Middle East.

#### Peak District Mighty Hike Message from Chris

"On Saturday 18th July, Chris Moore is taking part in the Peak District Mighty Hike in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support. He will be hiking a half marathon - 14.2 miles to raise vital funds for this charity. As part of his fundraising, there will be a coffee morning here at Our Lady's on **Tuesday 26th May from 10 to 11.30am**. Please come and have a coffee and support this worthy cause. Chris would be grateful for prizes for the raffle too. Thank you."



#### PARISH OF OUR LADY QUEEN OF MARTYRS

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#### PENTECOST SUNDAY

<b>PENTECOST SUNDAY</b>		10:00am	Pro Populo
		6.30pm	For world Peace
Monday 25th May	Mary, Mother of the Church	9.30am	Fr Andrew's In
Tuesday 26th May	St Philip Neri	9.30am	Fr Stuart's Int
Wednesday 27th May	No Mass	No Mass	No Mass
Thursday 28th May	Jesus Christ High Priest	6.00pm	Deceased Friends & Family
Friday 29th May	Feria	9.30am	Sr Ann Sullivan
Saturday 30th May	Memoria of our Lady	10.00am	Exposition and confessions
		11.00am	Fr. Jason Jones
<b>TRINITY SUNDAY</b>		10:00am	Pro Populo
		6.30pm	For world Peace

**JOB VACANCY:** Our Lady's R.C Primary School is looking to appoint a School Business Manager, 20 hours per week HC7 £14,529.70 to 16,479.32 per annum. If you are interested, please call the school office on 01432 274814 or email [admin@our-ladys.hereford.sch.uk](mailto:admin@our-ladys.hereford.sch.uk) to arrange a tour of the school and application form.

**HEART SPEAKS TO HEART:** Jesus calls us to be witnesses, leading others to know and love God, not only through our word but also our actions. In response to Archbishop Mark's invitation to think about how our parishes may respond to the need to be a missionary church Deacon Eddie has put together a series of reflective talks to help us ponder and pray about how we can do this here at Our Lady's. The last session will take place in the parish room on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May, 7-8pm**. So please come along and see how we might become more effective witnesses to God's love. For more information, please contact the parish office on 01432 265177.

### **Spiritual Matters**

*Come, Holy Spirit, I need You. Come, with Your strength and Your power. Come, in your own special way. Come, like a spring in the desert. Come, to the weary of soul. Oh, let Your sweet healing power, touch me and make me whole.*

In today's Gospel we hear Jesus promising the disciples the Holy Spirit and, in our first reading, we hear how he comes. Before the disciples received the Spirit, they were afraid and in hiding, afterwards they went out and literally changed the world. The Holy Spirit is not just an interesting figure in the Bible, He is alive and He is in our world. He is present in church, when we come to mass, and He fills our soul with His love and hope. Indeed, He abides in each of us and it is because of Him that we have the many gifts that He brings. It is doubtful that we could retain our faith without the Spirit, and this is just the start. Patience, peace, gentleness, joy, healing and, of course, love are all gifts of the Holy Spirit. We really should be the most loving and happiest people upon the planet! Unfortunately, we sometimes fail to use the Spirit's wonderful gifts and we don't always ask for another gift He provides, power. The Holy Spirit will always give us the strength to use our gifts and truly be Jesus' modern-day disciples. So, on this day of Pentecost, let us ask for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit and pray that we will feel Him anew. Then let us go out into the world with love and joy and use our faith to reach other people. *Louise Bowen*

### **Prayer for Pentecost**

*Gracious Lord, you have fashioned everything out of nothing, giving life and breath to all that exists. You order everything according to your loving providence and establish the relationships by which our lives are nurtured. Confirm in us the gift of piety, so that by our honour and reverence for you and for those you have given us, we may bear witness to the working of the Holy Spirit and become instruments of a new Pentecost in our time. Amen.*



### **Parish Hall**

I want to say a massive thank you for the response I received from the appeal I made last week about the parish hall. The ambition is to make our hall a community hub, bringing people from across our local area together in a spirit of help and support. To reach out to those who need that little bit extra help and to make the hall a place of Joyful gathering both for our parish family and those around us. We have always known that the hall needed renovation, but this area was, and still is, one of the most deprived in Herefordshire making money difficult to come by. However, we have decided to try and raise the money needed to bring the premises up to date and make it 'fit for purpose.' There's the need for proper disabled access and toilet facilities to allow those who are immobile to access the hall and make use of what we have to offer. Fire exits and proper insulation that meet modern standards, the list goes on. The cost to do these basic things is approaching one million pounds. As I said last week, we have applied to several funding organisations, reaching out to those who may be able to help us reach our goal. However, as I said to you last week, we too must play our part. **As a parish we have pledged to raise £50,000 towards the total cost.** In the next few weeks, I will write more about how I believe we can do this but, in the meantime, I ask you, first and foremost for your prayers. Nothing is more important than the prayers of God's faithful people. Pray for our parish, pray for those who are trying to raise the money we need and pray for me. Also, I ask that if you can help in any way, please do so. Maybe you can offer a one-off gift of money or even pledge a fixed amount over a period of time. I going to re-start the maintenance fund, which is totally voluntary but, as they say, every little helps. **Most of all pray.** I am indeed privileged to be your parish priest. May God bless us in all our endeavours.

*Fr Andrew*

### **ADVANCED NOTICE**

#### **First Holy Communions**



On **Saturday 13th June** we will celebrate the First Holy Communion Mass for our children. This is a time of great rejoicing not only for them but for us as a parish family. Please keep our children in your prayers as they receive our Lord in the most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist and pray that they may continue to spread the Gospel and to praise God by their lives.

**Please note that there will be no confessions, exposition or Benediction on this day**

#### **Confirmations**



On **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm**, Archbishop Mark will be conferring the sacrament of confirmation on our young people from here at Our Lady's. This is indeed a great honour for the parish, and I know that it will be a joyous occasion for all concerned. Please pray for all our confirmands, that The Holy Spirit of God will come down on them and make them into loving ambassadors of the Gospel.