

# SUNDAY *Plus*

7th Sunday of Easter **Divine Office Week III** Year A

**World Communications Day**

## Tell the Good News

If a chance occurs [to] explain our faith; at all events we shall be able to. We shall have to know it so well that it is in our blood, and to adhere to it so well that we can, in a certain way, give it, just by being what we are. Thus, we must be the book of the Gospels ourselves, with the words and teachings of Christ in our minds, but also in our hearts, and whenever the occasion demands, upon our lips...

Thus, we return to the primitive Christianity of the apostles, and having, as Christ had, only ourselves, we require no more. All that was false or doubtful will drop off like a dead branch, the wheat will be made white in the

fire. It is Christ's passion, and his resurrection is just as certain as it was when he went up to the cross. But his resurrection, like his passion, will not vary from what it was like in his own life. He will not rise in us through force... He will not rise through legislation, or powerful movements, or brilliant organisation, and his rising will not be delayed until there is peace in Europe. He will rise in the humility, the courage and love of those few Christians who will keep his kingdom in their individual souls.

*Caryll Houselander, This War is the Passion*



Together, we must look for ways to be a missionary Church, a Church that builds bridges and encourages dialogue, a Church ever open to welcoming.

*Pope Leo XIV*


### The voice of an angel

A mother found a note written by her child, who was deaf. It went something like this: "Dear God: I don't want to hurt your feelings but I wish you hadn't made me deaf. Could you change me back? [signed] Sue. PS Say hello to my guardian angel!"

The next day, Sue found a note. It was written in gold ink and went something like this: "Dear Sue: I am your guardian angel, and I asked God if I could

answer your note. You see, God made me deaf, too. But God did give me two fast legs, so I can run like the wind; two lovely arms, so I can hug everybody; and an imagination, so I can fly anywhere. What I really like most, however, is being able to turn off my hearing aid when the other angels are yelling. It makes things quiet so I can better hear God singing love songs to me in my heart. [signed] Your guardian angel. PS We love more and more every day!"

*Mark Link SJ, Jesus 2000: a contemporary walk with Jesus*

Lord, when I was a child, I took risks that, years later, I would never dare consider. Yet it's good to sometimes step out into the unknown without fearing the consequences. Lord, take my hand and let me walk with you.  Amen.

Feast of the week  
Sunday 17 May

### Monks of Tibhirine

"I should like, when the time comes, to have a clear space which would allow me to beg forgiveness of God and of all my fellow human beings, and at the same time to forgive with all my heart the one who would strike me down"...

"For this life given up, totally mine and totally theirs, I thank God who seems to have wished it entirely for the sake of that joy in everything and in spite of everything. In this 'thank you', which is said for everything in my life from now on, I certainly include you, friends of yesterday and today, and you my friends of this place, along with my mother and father, my brothers and sisters and their families – the hundredfold granted as was promised!"

"And you also, the friend of my final moment, who would not be aware of what you were doing. Yes, for you also I wish this 'thank you' - and this adieu – to commend you to the God whose face I see in yours."

"And may we find each other, happy 'good thieves', in Paradise, if it pleases God, the Father of us both. Amen."

*From the Last Testament of Fr Christian de Chergé*

### READINGS

Today:  
Acts 1:12-14  
1 Peter 4:13-16  
John 17:1-11

Monday:  
Acts 19:1-8  
John 16:29-33

Tuesday:  
Acts 20:17-27  
John 17:1-11

Wednesday:  
Acts 19:1-8  
John 16:29-33

Thursday:  
Acts 20:17-27  
John 17:1-11

Friday:  
Acts 20:28-38  
John 17:11-19

Saturday:  
Acts 22:30-33  
John 17:20-26

Next Sunday:  
Acts 2:1-11  
1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13  
John 20:19-23

# Our Lady and St Joseph RC Church Heywood

St Joseph's Presbytery,  
Mary St, OL10 1EG.

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Served by the  
Missionary  
Society of St Paul

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**Seventh Sunday of Easter, Year A, 17th May 2026**

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## THIS WEEK AT OUR LADY AND ST JOSEPH

Sunday	17th May: Seventh Sunday of Easter
9:30am	Mass
11:00am	Mass
Monday	18th May: Easter Weekday (w) St John
09:30am	No Mass
Tuesday	19th May: Easter Weekday (w) Str Dunstan
9:00am:	Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
9:30am	Mass
Wednesday	20th May: Easter Weekday (w) St Bernardine of Siena.
9:00am	Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
9:30am	Mass
Thursday	21st May: St Christopher Magallanes and his comp.
8:45am	Mass Holy Family College
9:30am	Our Lady and St Paul School
5:00pm	Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
6:00pm	Mass
Friday	22nd May: Easter Weekday (w) St Rita of Cascia.
9:00am	Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
9:30am	Mass
Saturday	23rd May: Easter Weekday (w)
10:00am	Mass:
10:30am.	Adoration and Confessions
6:00pm:	First Mass of Sunday
Sunday	24th May: Pentecost Sunday of Easter
9:30am	Mass
11:00am	Mass

### Readers & Eucharistic Ministers 15th/16th May:

Readers: 6pm J. Matthews, 9.30am: M. Schofield, 11am: FHCommunion,  
Eucharistic Minister: 6pm: B. Doyle, 9.30am: S. Skinner, 11am S. Fitzsimons.

### Readers & Eucharistic Ministers 23rd/24th May:

Readers: 6pm: P. Sherry, 9.30am: P. Cunningham, 11am : FHCommunion  
Eucharistic Minister: 6pm: B. Doyle, 9.30am: L. Mather, 11am: D. Tierney.

**Thank you** for your generosity. Last Weekend: £346.85 (Gift Aid) £280.12 (Loose Change)

**200 Club** If you would like to join it is only £5 a month which needs to be paid at the beginning of every month. The more members we have, the bigger the prize and more money going back into our church. Winners are on the Notice Boards.

**200 Club March Winners:** Frances O'Donnel, Constance Hoyle, Pat Greenall & C. McFadden. Winners **Envelopes are ready for collection in the Sacristy.**

**Unclaimed 200 Club Winnings:** Nora Horan & David Sumner. Please pick up Winnings from the sacristy.

**Gift Aid Boxes:** Do remember to pick up your new gift aid box and form.

**Coffee and Tea:** Please join us for Tea and Coffee served every Sunday after 9:30 Mass.

**First Holy Communion Practice:** Wednesday 20th May at 3.50pm.

**Junior Choir Practice:** The Parish Junior choir will be singing for us again on Sunday 23rd of May, 11:00 Mass (we need more children to join the choir to enhance the two First Holy Communion celebrations.)

**Confirmation 2026:** For young people in year 8 and above who have done their First Communion and have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation, especially those in non Catholic Schools. Who have picked and filled the confirmation form to kindly return it to the presbytery as soon before the end of the week.

**Bereavement Group** invite you to an evening of song from Kadria Thomas and her choir on Tue 12th June 7—8:30pm at the parish meeting room. Refreshments included cost £5

**Pope's May prayer intention:** That everyone might have food From large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

### THIS WEEK WE PRAY:

**For** the people of the people of the parish of St. John Paul II, Eccles, and Father Martin Collins, their parish priest. We pray for their three parish primary schools and for St. Patrick's High School, for the Franciscan Missionaries of St. Joseph and for the Chaplaincy to the Salford Royal Hospital, as well as the Syro-Malabar Catholics who worship at St. Mary's.

**For** those who live and work on Ballater Cl, Windsor Ave, Balmoral Dr, Banff Gr, Braemar Gr, Ayr Gr, Atholl Dr, Berwick Cl, Angus Ave, Birnham Gr.

**For** Akachukwu Victor Anierobi and all who celebrate their birthday in the month of May

**For** Fr Michael Jonhonnott and all the sick and the housebound members of our parish.

**For** Jennifer Taylor, Dave Castello, Susan Tubano, Teresa Logan, Michael Welsh, Ken Jones and all who have died recently.

**For** Frank and Clara Taylor, Jennifer Taylor, Michael Flaherty, William Collins, Michael Edward Tyrer, Ken Bray, Sidney Dodd, Thomas Richardson, Trevor Secker and all we remember at this time.

**The Ascension of the Lord (Year A) :** Ascension is not just a feast that happens to fall in Eastertide: it is an integral part of the Easter mystery. Remember the Lord's words at the Last Supper: "I am going to prepare a place for, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me." The resurrection presumes the Lord's return to the Father. This is therefore a feast of hope: our hope in the Lord's return, as he went. Our hope that he will take us with him, when our bodies are raised as his was. Our hope that we will take our place in heaven, where he sits on the Father's right., please visit the diocesan website: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/online-readings-for-lent/>

### From the Catechism CCC 2670-2672

"So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God." Christ's body was glorified at the moment of his Resurrection, as proved by the new and supernatural properties it subsequently and permanently enjoys. But during the forty days when he eats and drinks familiarly with his disciples and teaches them about the kingdom, his glory remains veiled under the appearance of ordinary humanity. Jesus' final apparition ends with the irreversible entry of his humanity into divine glory, symbolized by the cloud and by heaven, where he is seated from that time forward at God's right hand. Only in a wholly exceptional and unique way would Jesus show himself to Paul "as to one untimely born", in a last apparition that established him as an apostle. The veiled character of the glory of the Risen One during this time is intimated in his mysterious words to Mary Magdalene: "I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." he one who "came from the Father" can return to the Father: Christ Jesus.

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