



Catholic Chaplaincy to the Liverpool Universities

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University members can sign up to
the Liverpool [CathSoc Facebook Page](#)

13th May 2018

Seventh Sunday of Eastertide

Mass & Services This Week:

Monday: Mass at **8am** at the Missionaries of Charity House, Seel St. University members are welcome to attend.

Tuesday and Wednesday: *Morning prayer 8am*, followed by breakfast; **Mass @ 12.30pm** *

Thursday: **Mass @ 6pm** followed by Exposition, then soup and bread.

Chaplaincy Open Times for Revision:

This week the chaplaincy will be open (via the Blackburne Place entrance) on **Tuesday & Wednesday from 5pm-8pm**. There is wifi, and you can make yourself a hot drink.

Don't forget that the Chaplaincy is also open on weekday mornings (Monday to Thursday from about 9am till 12.30am) for the same purpose.

CAFOD
Just one world



**Share the
Journey** ✨
[#sharejourney](#)

"Christ asks us to welcome our brother and sister migrants and refugees with open arms." POPE FRANCIS

Thanks to everyone who has participated in our **CAFOD** 'Share the Journey' walk today!!

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After Mass today...pre-exam 'Scouse night'

in the chaplaincy, featuring both conventional (meat based) scouse and Fr Neil's famous special recipe 'blind' (vegetarian) scouse!!

End of Term

The end of term is not far off and will be with us before we know it! We will be marking the end of term with Mass celebrated by **Archbishop McMahon** at **12noon on Sunday 3rd June**, followed by a **Barbeque**. In the month of June, as is our custom, Sunday Mass will move from 6pm to **12noon** each week. The **24th of June** will be the final Mass before the summer recess.

"Come, Holy Spirit!"

Hope in Harmony

Pentecost Sunday 20th May
2018, 3.00pm - 5.00pm

An afternoon of music and unity to celebrate the strong links between Liverpool's two Cathedrals.

Starting at Liverpool (Anglican) Cathedral with a short act of worship; then a procession along Hope Street. During the procession different choirs from our two cathedrals will fill Hope street with music and celebration. The proceedings will culminate in a mass choral performance and singing of the Hallelujah chorus on the steps of the Metropolitan Cathedral.

You can join us for the whole procession or any part along Hope Street where you will also find the Makers Market.

Pentecost Novena

Between Ascension and Pentecost it is customary to pray a 'Novena' (a prayer said each day for the nine days) leading up to Pentecost. In addition to the booklet we gave you last week, you can access the prayers (& other resources) online at <http://www.catholicnews.org.uk/pentecost-novena> If you haven't started the Novena yet, there is still time...just take it up from today!

Preparing for Pentecost at the Sisters : Next **Friday**: a **Day of reflection for Pentecost at Seel St** with the homeless.

There will be sandwiches at 11am followed by some talks, a film, discussions and times of prayer finishing at 4pm

with fish and chips. It would be great to have people to help organise this. **Night Fever** in the evening starting at 830pm. A group will leave from outside the chaplaincy at 815pm but you could also meet us at 55 Seel Street. See James for more information. **On Saturday** there will be the annual May procession starting at St Peter's Square (off Seel Street) and ending at the Blessed Sacrament shrine, where there will be refreshments. Come and join if your free. It should start at 2pm.

From Ascension to Pentecost

This final period of Easter time involves two great feasts: Ascension and Pentecost. They are celebrated as events in the life and history of the Church but they are also feasts which celebrate continuing realities.

In John's Gospel we find the following account of the resurrected Jesus' words to Mary Magdalene: "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Jn 20:17

Perhaps this response to Mary seems somehow insensitive to her human need to touch him, and yet it gets to the heart of the meaning of the mystery of the Ascension. Jesus appeared to his disciples to show the reality of his resurrection but these appearances had to come to an end. Jesus returns to his Father ...who, because of Jesus, we can now call Our Father.

Perhaps the image of the Ascension that we have can appeal to a rather outdated cosmology where heaven was perhaps seen as a 'place in the sky' rather than a new reality of union with God. Yet the image of Christ ascending into the clouds can be helpful because clouds hide a mystery and were often used to symbolise the presence of God in the Old Testament.

Yet this 'leaving' is not the end of the story and opens up the possibility of a new and deeper relationship between God and humanity. Jesus was fully God and fully man: through him our human nature and the whole of created existence is in some way lifted up to God.

In the words of Pope Francis in 2013 *"The Ascension of Jesus into heaven then reveals to us this reality that is so comforting for our journey, in Christ, true God and true man, our humanity was brought to God...Jesus has opened the passage up for us like a mountaineer who leads the climb up the rock face, has reached the summit and draws us up to him leading us to God."*

There is also a sense in which the ascension paves the way for the feast of Pentecost.

Celebrated 50 days after Easter, Pentecost commemorates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the disciples. It is not that the Holy Spirit was absent before Pentecost but it represents an awareness of the Spirit in the Life of the Church and the fulfilment of Jesus' promise not to leave his followers as orphans.

The disciples were in the 'upper room'. In spite of Jesus' appearances they were still fearful. At Pentecost things changed. Some people refer to Pentecost as the 'birthday of the Church' because it represented a moment after which the disciples had the confidence to go out and share the Gospel with others.

In a strange way the end of Jesus' earthly mission gave space for a more intimate union between his followers and with God. An intimacy we can glimpse in these words of St Paul.

"Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words." Rm 8:26

Do we believe in the Holy Spirit? What gives us confidence? What destroys our confidence? What are our fears? Do we believe our faith is a treasure worth sharing? These are all questions which help us to discover the spirit of Pentecost and to allow a new freedom and trust to grow in our lives.

"This is the mystery of Pentecost: the Holy Spirit illuminates the human spirit and, by revealing Christ Crucified and Risen, indicates the way to become more like him, that is, to be "the image and instrument of the love which flows from Christ"
Benedict XVI 2006

"Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Jn 20:29

James Moroney

