

#### FAITH IN FOCUS: FRIENDS REUNITED

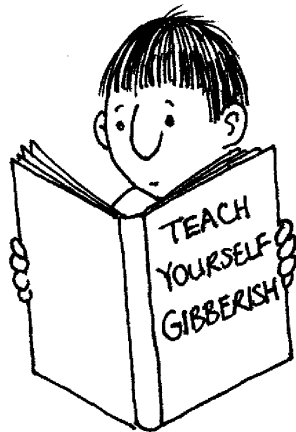
One of the more amusing stories of the Old Testament is where the Hebrew people decide to build a tower so high that it will pierce the clouds and reach heaven. While they are still building this Tower of Babel, God comes down, scatters the people and disunites them so that they all end up speaking different languages and not understanding each other. This is the origin of our word to “babble”.

We hear this story each year on the eve of Pentecost. But on Whit Sunday itself the story comes full circle with the sending of the Holy Spirit. What we see in the Acts of the Apostles is that when the Holy Spirit descended on the Church, the disunity of Babel was reversed and people were once more united. Although they were from many different nations they could all understand the language of the apostles' preaching.

So Pentecost is the Church's birthday. No longer afraid and huddled together for safety, the apostles come out preaching from the hip. And armed with the Holy Spirit they make converts by the thousand. Yet they could not have done this without the Spirit, without the fire in their bellies.

Nor can we do it today. Without the Spirit we are simply a human organisation, at worst a Quango and at best a plausible charity. Yet the Church claims to be much more than this: it professes to be the visible presence of Christ on earth today. So we need the Spirit to breathe life into the Body of Christ. It is the Spirit who constantly purifies us from our tendency to put ourselves first and to seek to control rather than to serve. It is the Spirit who unites us in one body of witness and praise. It is the Spirit who leads us ever deeper into the mysteries of God and reveals his purpose. And it is also the Spirit who inspires us to strive for the best and who empowers us to speak the words that God wants the world to hear.

The joyful feast of Pentecost proclaims that the Spirit is at the very heart of everything we do as Church. As St Paul puts it: “Since the Spirit is our life, let us be directed by the Spirit” (Gal 5:25)



# ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH COLWYN BAY

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[www.catholicchurchcolwynbay.co.uk](http://www.catholicchurchcolwynbay.co.uk)

## Sunday 12th June 2011 Pentecost

### Prayer for the Parish

O God our Father and Creator

Where two or more are gathered together in your name  
you are there in their midst.

We bring to you our parish of St Joseph's to ask your blessing  
as we meet the challenges of our mission of witness and discipleship.

Give us courage and enthusiasm.

Give us spirit of initiative and originality of thought.

Give us charity and unity

and make us aware of each other as we work towards the renewal of our  
parish.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

St Joseph pray for us.

### EXPOSITION, ROSARY AND QUIET PRAYER

Saturday 11-00am to 12-00noon

### SATURDAY CONFESSIONS

11-00am to 11-30am

5-00pm to 5-30pm

### SATURDAY MASS

5-30pm

### SUNDAY MASSES

9.30 a.m., 11.00 a.m.

Monday 12noon Mass

Tuesday 7-30pm Mass

Wednesday 9-30am Mass

Thursday 9-30am Mass

Friday 12noon Mass

**PLEASE REMEMBER** in your prayers all those who are sick, especially :

Basil Sanders, Mary Derrick, Peggy Porter, Edward Burke, Bridget McLaughlin, Fr Colm O'Riain OMI, Wendy Swinton, , Mary O'Leary, Fr Chris Dunne OMI, Eddie Mann, Neil Hogan, Mike Tobin, John Lyon, Rose Bostock., Gay Merrick, Francis Shaw, William Richardson, Mary Bushell, Betty McCarthy, Peter Smith, Nancy Bowden, Anthony, Norman Graham, Josie Canning, Cathy Murphy, Eddie Hosker, Stacey Usher, Anne Boyle, Claire Carlson, Eva Rose Callaghan, Ernie Speakman, Derek Hughes, Annie Quinn, Annie O'Neill, Heather Hillis Maxwell.

**All whose Anniversaries occur around this time including**

Peggy Curran, Ray Pitman (1998), Mary Peddar (1984).

**Recently Deceased**

Fred Smith, James French, Mary Cafferkey, Nora Ryan, Derek Hughes, Drina Watts.

Last Week's Offertory Collection

Was

£638-68

(including £269-38 loose)

**REPOSITORY**

**The Repository is open after both the Saturday and Sunday Masses And also from 12-30pm till 1-00pm**

**NOTICE BOARD**

Information or notices for the parish notice board should be given to Sr Clare in advance

**Bishop's Fund Collection**

There will be a second collection taking place over this weekend 12th/13th June  
On behalf of the Bishop's Fund.

**KNOW YOUR FAITH**

On Friday June 17th the Religious Education Committee will be holding a meeting in the Parish Centre to discuss the start of a *Know Your Faith* forum for adults of all ages—parents, pensioners and confirmed young people. It will last an hour, from 7pm till 8pm and include some sharing about why there is a need for such education. We will also take a look at the *Evangelium* programme which will form the basis of future regular sessions. Hot drinks will be available and time allowed for casual discussion and socialising afterwards.

**Parish Meeting**

We had a very successful Parish meeting last Sunday. At which 60 people attended. Three new groups were formed in addition to the existing groups. Further details of the groups will be announced next week.  
Fr Declan

**PARISH NEWS**

**Adult Faith Group**

**Change of date for "What's it all about?" to 18th June 2-00pm/4-00pm**

"The Meaning of Life" - was the topic voted the most popular in our recent parish survey. In response the AFG have invited Fr Gerry Hughes SJ to give a talk exploring the following issues:

Does the Universe have a point, a meaning?

Does thinking of God as Creator explain anything?

Is God present in our lives?

We have all asked questions like these. Fr Gerry will explore some answers in the light of contemporary science, philosophy and our own experience.

This will be accompanied by ample opportunity for questions and discussion.

We can confirm this is now scheduled to be held at the Parish Centre on Saturday 18th June, from 2-00pm till 4-00pm. Tea and coffee will be available over the afternoon. To assist with arrangements can those interested please list their name on the list at the back of the Church (available from 28th May).

**Social Committee**

The Social Committee is hoping to organise a Parish Dinner towards the end of September—more details to follow.

We are also hoping to organise a BBQ on Saturday 9th July in the afternoon—bring your own food and bbq it! Please let Margaret Batty know if you are interested by Sunday 19th June. **Tel: 07825 701029**

**Parish Holiday**

The next parish holiday will be to Bideford. Departing 16th April 2012.

Cost will be £165-00. Includes 4 nights DBB, excursion to the Eden Project plus one other. Local pick up points. Extra's will be single room supp, admission to Eden Project, Insurance. See John (Organist) or Tel: 517038. £5-00 deposit secures your place. **NB** This holiday is already heavily subscribed. Singles still available.

If interested please don't delay.

**Would you like to help families in your Parish/School?**

Would you like to learn the skills to deliver the Family Caring Trusts' parenting programmes? The Marriage and Family Life Commission and the Family Caring Trust are to hold a one day training to prepare volunteers to deliver the Family Caring Trusts parenting programmes including—Noughts to Sixes, Five to Fifteen and Parenting Teenagers. This will take place in August on a date between 15th and 26th. Date and venue will be determined by demand. Places are limited so if you would like to attend the course or want more information please contact Margaret Hinton, development worker by e-mail [margaretmfl@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:margaretmfl@hotmail.co.uk) or on 07842596878 or by post c/o Bishop's House asap.

**Communications Group**

Will be having a meeting on Wednesday 22nd June at 7-30pm in the Presbytery. Meeting open to anyone who is interested!!

**Quiz Nights are back!**

Please come and join us on Saturday the 25th June at 7pm at the Parish Centre. Tickets are £1 and are available at the back of the Church or on the night at the door.

**S.P.U.C**

Next meeting will be Thursday 30th June in the Presbytery.