



Through the cross into the light



HELP US PLAN THE NEXT SEASON!



Take our survey.

Please help us shape our church's life as we emerge from the pandemic.

This survey will take about 10 minutes to complete and is anonymous.

Go to www.denhamparish.church/survey or request a paper version from the office.

SUNDAY WORSHIP: ON SITE

St Mary's Church: 9.30am

Onsite Sunday morning worship. Please register in advance by calling our church office or going to denhamparish.church/events

Online: Sundays 10.30am

Stream any time afterwards: tinyurl.com/youtube-denham



ONLINE AND ON THE PHONE

Church Coffee Online:

Sundays, 11.15 on Youtube and Facebook, or on Zoom.

Telephone: Available any time for a week, Sun to Sat: **01895 714013**



Let's pray together ...

- pray God would deepen our trust in him during this time.
- For medical experts, politicians and public leaders – for wisdom, compassion and integrity.
- those who are sick and those suffering from bereavement especially the family of Jean Fuller.

ONLINE DONATIONS



If you wish to make a donation to Denham Parish Church, please scan this code with the camera or QR app on your smartphone and follow instructions.

email: office@denhamparish.church

phone: 01895 832771



PAROUSIA

Weekly News and Service Sheet

23rd May 2021

PENTECOST

Welcome to St Mary's Church! We are so glad you are here. If you are here for the first time or visiting, please say hello to the service leader or a member of the welcome team so we can welcome you personally. If you read this at home, please find a simple service on the inside pages, which you can use to guide your prayers.

Christoph Lindner, Rector



(Gerrards Cross Fun Run 2014 - do you recognise one of the runners?)

Pentecost is the starting pistol for the story of Jesus' worldwide church — the starting pistol for a marathon that you and I are still part of! Jesus said to his disciples: "Wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit." And when the Spirit came, the disciples threw open the doors and windows, went out into the market place and shared the good news of Jesus. It was the start of Jesus' *worldwide* church because on that day people of many languages were gathered for a Jewish festival and they all heard the disciples speak the good news in their own languages!

Soon this good news (aka gospel) would spread from Jerusalem to Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth – and that includes Denham!

Anyone who has ever run a long distance race knows that you need to top up with water along the way and you need to keep the goal in mind to get to the end. It also helps to be cheered on by those along the route! As we come out of lockdown and discern God's plan for his church in this new reality, we need regular 'top ups' of the Holy Spirit and we need to be clear about the goal, the reason why the church exists: We are good-news carriers wherever God gives us influence. And we are being cheered on by a great multitude of those who have gone before us. *(Christoph Lindner)*

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:1-2

STAY SAFE • STAY CONNECTED • STAY HOPEFUL

WELCOME

PSALM 42.1-2

**As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God.
My soul thirsts for God, for the living
God. When shall I come and behold
the face of God?**

Be with us, Spirit of God;
nothing can separate us from your love.
Breathe on us, breath of God;
fill us with your saving power.
Speak in us, wisdom of God;
bring strength, healing, and peace.

Renew us, Holy Spirit, bring strength out
of weakness, hope out of despair and
life out of death. May we know afresh
your adoption, acceptance, equipping
and empowering. Form in us the
likeness of Christ, that we may be
witnesses of your astonishing love.
Amen.

HYMN

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love
and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure:
until with thee I have one will
to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
til I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.

Breath on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.

COLLECT

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us
your holy fire; strengthen your children with
the gift of faith, revive your Church with the
breath of love, and renew the face of the
earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**AMEN**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST READING: ACTS 2. 1-8

When the day of Pentecost had come, they
were all together in one place. And
suddenly from heaven there came a sound
like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled
the entire house where they were sitting.
Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared
among them, and a tongue rested on each
of them. All of them were filled with the
Holy Spirit and began to speak in other
languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every
nation under heaven living in Jerusalem.
And at this sound the crowd gathered and
was bewildered, because each one heard
them speaking in the native language of
each. Amazed and astonished, they asked,
'Are not all these who are speaking
Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each
of us, in our own native language?

SECOND READING: LUKE 4.14-21

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the
Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report
about him spread through all the
surrounding country. He began to teach in
their synagogues and was praised by
everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had
been brought up, he went to the
synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his
custom. He stood up to read, and the
scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to
him. He unrolled the scroll and found the
place where it was written:

'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because

he has anointed me to bring good news
to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim
release to the captives and recovery of
sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go
free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's
favour.' And he rolled up the scroll, gave
it back to the attendant, and sat down.
The eyes of all in the synagogue were
fixed on him. Then he began to say to
them, 'Today this scripture has been
fulfilled in your hearing.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

HYMN

We seek your kingdom
throughout every sphere
We long for heaven's demonstration here
Jesus your light shine bright for all to see
Transform, revive, and heal society

Peace, truth, and justice reigning everywhere
With us be present in our public square
Fill all who lead with your integrity
Transform, revive, and heal society

Forgive us Lord, when we have not engaged
Failing to scribe your heart on history's page
Make us again what we were made to be
Transform, revive, and heal society

Faithful to govern ever may we be
Selfless in service, loving constantly
In everything may your authority
Transform revive and heal society

PRAYERS

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for
the sake of your son our saviour, Jesus
Christ. Amen.**

**Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

THE BLESSING

May the Spirit,
who set the Church on fire upon the Day of
Pentecost, bring the world alive with the
love of the risen Christ; and the blessing of
God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the
Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with
us always. **Amen.**

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