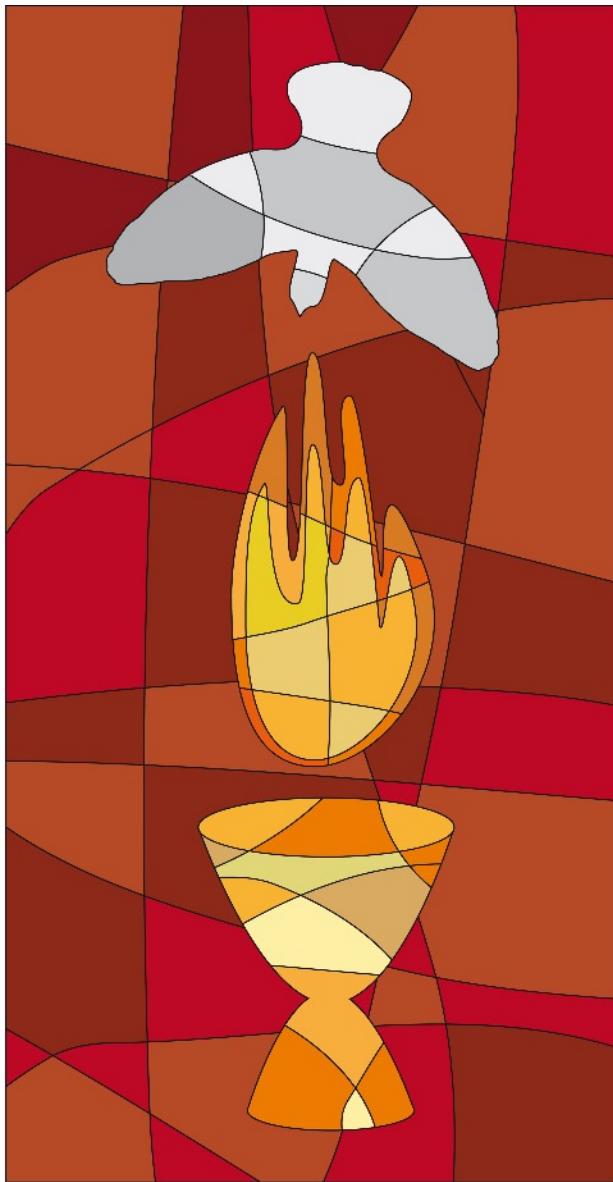


St John's, Pevensey Road



**Pews News & Service Sheet
for Sunday 23rd May 2021**

Pentecost



Welcome to this Parish Mass - held each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. with a socially-distanced congregation; recorded and broadcast via our church website, by about Sunday lunchtime, technology permitting...

The church is open for **private prayer on weekday mornings**, following **Morning Prayer** which is said in church on weekdays at 9 a.m.

Midweek Mass Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Online “Zoom” service: 10 a.m. on Wednesday. Send Rev Jill or Deacon Michael an email and they will send you the necessary “link”.

People for whom our prayers are asked:

Jean & Geoff, Geraldine, Brenda R, Jane G, Jo, Amber, Shirley, Andrew N, Kath Q, Linda, Alison Nunes, Don F, Sue T, Eve G, Cynthia C, and Alan.

Please pray also for...

...the repose of the souls of the departed, especially those whose Years Minds fall around this time: Robin Allcorn, Simon Counsell, and Marjorie Fibbens,

...and all who mourn.

Pentecost

Jesus Christ, whom we worship, is our crucified, risen and ascended Lord
and we have walked with him through his journey of love.

We have faced the agony of his suffering and death on a cross.

We have rejoiced at his bursting free from the bonds of death.

We have enjoyed his risen presence with us
and his revelation of himself through the breaking of bread.

We have seen his return to the throne before which every knee shall bow
and every tongue confess that this Jesus is Lord.

And now, with the followers of his own time,
we await the coming of the promised Holy Spirit, his gift to his people,
through whom we make Christ known to the world.

HYMN OF THE WEEK: “The Holy City” by F.E. Weatherly, sung by Fr David

The Holy City is a religious Victorian ballad dating from 1892, with music by Michael Maybrick writing under the alias Stephen Adams, and lyrics by English lawyer, author, songwriter, and radio entertainer Frederic Weatherly. Its sheet music sales made it one of the most commercially successful songs in the UK and United States around the beginning of the 20th century.

According to the African Methodist Episcopal Church Review in 1911, it was sung by an opera singer awaiting trial for fraud, in his cell, while a group of men arrested for drunk and disorderly conduct were before the judge. The men were said to have dropped to their knees as the song began: “*Last night I lay a-sleeping, There came a dream so fair*” – the lyrics contrasting with their previous night's drunkenness. The song's conclusion resulted in the judge dismissing the men without punishment, each having learned a lesson from the song.

Mass for Pentecost

The Greeting

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

A// Amen.

The Lord be with you

A// and also with you.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

A// He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Prayer of Confession

The Spirit of the Lord fills the world
and knows our every word and deed.
Let us then open ourselves to the Lord
and confess our sins in penitence and
faith.

Lord Jesus, you suffered a cruel death
on the cross for our redemption,
yet we have forgotten your pain
and stayed in the realm of the evil you
defeated.

Lord, have mercy.

A// Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you were raised from death
to bring us new life,
yet we have preferred the comfort of the
familiar,
and the empty promises of a sinful world.

Christ, have mercy.

A// Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you have ascended to
your Father and our Father,
your God and our God;
plead there at the right hand of God
for our forgiveness and entry into the
fullness of his presence.

Lord, have mercy.

A// Lord, have mercy.

The priest says the Absolution

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A// Amen.

The Gloria in Excelsis is said:

**A// Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the
Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

The Collect

Let us pray:

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.

A// Amen.

A reading from Ezekiel

Ezekiel 37.1-14

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, ‘Mortal, can these bones live?’ I answered, ‘O Lord GOD, you know.’ Then he said to me, ‘Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.’

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, ‘Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.’ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, ‘Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, “Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.”

Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel.

And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.’

For the Word of the Lord
All Thanks be to God

A reading from The Acts of the Apostles

Acts 2.1-21

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? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs – in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.’

All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

"In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.
Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.
And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.
Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

For the Word of the Lord
All Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn

Last night I lay a sleeping,
There came a dream so fair,
I stood in old Jerusalem
Beside the temple there.
I heard the children singing,
And ever as they sang,
Methought the voice of Angels
From Heav'n in answer rang:-
"Jerusalem! Jerusalem!
Lift up your gates and sing,
Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna to your King!"

And then methought my dream was chang'd,
The streets no longer rang,
Hush'd were the glad Hosannas
The little children sang.
The sun grew dark with mystery,
The morn was cold and chill,
As the shadow of a cross arose
Upon a lonely hill,
"Jerusalem! Jerusalem!
Hark! how the Angels sing,
Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna to your King."

And once again the scene was chang'd,
New earth there seem'd to be,
I saw the Holy City
Beside the tideless sea;
The light of God was on its streets,
The gates were open wide,
And all who would might enter,
And no one was denied.
No need of moon or stars by night,
Or sun to shine by day,
It was the new Jerusalem,
That would not pass away.
"Jerusalem! Jerusalem!
Sing, for the night is o'er!
Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna for evermore!"

F.E.Weatherly (1848–1929)

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.
Come, Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful people
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

All Alleluia

The Lord be with you
All And also with you

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to John

All Glory to you, O Lord.

John 15.26-27; 16.4b-15

Jesus spoke to his disciples: ‘When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them.

‘I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, “Where are you going?” But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. I still have many

things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**All We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus
Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the Prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.**

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

We pray for God to fill us with his Spirit.

Generous God,
we thank you for the power of your Holy Spirit.

We ask that we may be strengthened to serve you better.

Lord, come to bless us.

All and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *wisdom* of your Holy Spirit.

We ask you to make us wise to understand your will.

Lord, come to bless us.

All and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *peace* of your Holy Spirit.

We ask you to keep us confident of your love,
wherever you call us.
Lord, come to bless us.

All and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *healing* of your Holy Spirit.

We ask you to bring reconciliation and wholeness where there is division, sickness and sorrow...

Lord, come to bless us.

All and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *gifts* of your Holy Spirit.

We ask you to equip us for the work which you have given us.

Lord, come to bless us.

All and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *fruit* of your Holy Spirit.

We ask you to reveal in our lives the love of Jesus.

Lord, come to bless us.

All and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *breath* of your Holy Spirit,

given by the risen Lord.

We ask you to keep the whole Church, living and departed, in the joy of eternal life...

Lord, come to bless us.

All and fill us with your Spirit.

Generous God,
you sent your Holy Spirit upon your
Messiah at the River Jordan,
and upon the disciples in the upper
room.

In your mercy fill us with your Spirit.

All hear our prayer,
and make us one in heart and mind
to serve you with joy for ever.
Amen.

The Peace is introduced

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace.
If we live in the Spirit, let us walk in the
Spirit.

The peace of the Lord be always with
you
All and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of
peace.

We may exchange a sign of peace

The Preparation of the Table

*The table is prepared and bread and
wine are placed upon it.*

Music: *Bist du Bei Mir* - J.S. Bach

Father, by your Holy Spirit
you keep the Church in unity and truth.
As we break bread together,
may we be one with Christ
in faith and hope and love,
now and for ever.
All Amen.

The president takes the bread and wine.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here

All His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and everlasting God,
through Jesus Christ, your only Son our
Lord.

This day we give you thanks
because in fulfilment of your promise
you pour out your Spirit upon us,
filling us with your gifts,
leading us into all truth,
and uniting peoples of many tongues
in the confession of one faith.

Your Spirit gives us grace to call you Father,
to proclaim your gospel to all nations
and to serve you as a royal priesthood.

Therefore we join our voices with angels
and archangels,
and with all those in whom the Spirit dwells,
to proclaim the glory of your name,
for ever praising you and saying:

All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of
your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Lord, you are holy indeed,
the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy
Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood
of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was
betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples,
saying:
Take, eat; this is my body
which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:
All Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his
death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for
the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and
glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our
redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of
praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this
cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of Saint John
the Evangelist, Saint Peter, Mary the
Mother of God, and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours,
almighty Father, for ever and ever.
All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Being made one by the power of the Spirit,
let us pray with confidence
as our Saviour has taught us:

All Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass
against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

**A// Though we are many,
we are one body,
because we all share in one bread**

Agnus Dei is said:

**A// Jesus, Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us
Jesus, bearer of our sins,
Have mercy on us
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
Grant us peace**

**A// Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off,
you met us in your Son
and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace,
and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body
live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights
give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope
you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover is
sacrificed for us.

**A// Therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia.**

Communion is received.

**Music: Whitsuntide Prelude 'Come
Holy Ghost' - D. Buxtehude**

Prayer after Communion

*The priest prays the Post
Communion for the day:*

Faithful God,
who fulfilled the promises of Easter
by sending us your Holy Spirit
and opening to every race and nation
the way of life eternal:
open our lips by your Spirit,
that every tongue may tell of your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A// Amen.

Notices

The Blessing and Dismissal

Priest The Lord be with you
All And also with you

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and
peace in believing,
through the power of the Holy Spirit;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

A// Amen.

Priest Filled with the Spirit's power,
go in the light and peace of Christ.
Alleluia, alleluia

**A// Thanks be to God.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

*We are encouraged to sit to listen to the
organ voluntary, which today is Prelude
from Sonata No.3 in C minor, by A. Guilmant*



A big thank you to all who have generously supported **Christian Aid Week** this year. Some have given online at www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week and some have written cheques payable to Christian Aid or to St Johns PCC.

All of these ways of giving are still welcome including cash donations especially in one of the Christian Aid envelopes which are available as you come into church. We will wait a couple more weeks before sending it all off to help make a big difference to those in need. MC

... and regarding the Christian Aid Book Stall

The eagle eyed among you and book lovers may have noticed the book stall is not in its usual place! Rest assured you can still support them as the books are now on the shelves by the tower room. Please only handle the books you are interested in and use the hand sanitizer before and after.

Many thanks, **Christian Aid Team**



On that long ago first morning of **Pentecost**, Jerusalem was crowded with thousands of visitors, for it was one of the most popular feast-days in the Jewish calendar – the Feast of Firstfruits, looking forward to the wheat harvest.

In one small room of that great city, a small group of people who had followed Jesus were praying. There was nothing else for them to do: Jesus had died, he had risen, and he had ascended, promising to send them 'a Comforter'. They were left alone, to wait at Jerusalem.

And so they waited – on him, and for him. They were not

disappointed, for that morning the Holy Spirit fell upon that small room, and transformed those believers into the Church, Christ's body here on earth.

Pentecost was not the first time that the Holy Spirit came to the world – throughout the Old Testament there are stories telling of how God had guided people and given them strength. But now His Spirit would use a new instrument: not just isolated prophets, but the Church, His body on earth.

Acts opens with the preaching of the gospel in Jerusalem, the centre of the Jewish nation. Within 30 years the Gospel had spread throughout the northern Mediterranean: Syria, Turkey, Greece, Malta... to the very heart of the Roman Empire - Rome. The Church was on the move – God was on the move! He was calling people from every nation to repent, turn to Jesus for forgiveness of their sins, and to follow Him.

Father David suggested at Mass last Sunday that people contact Fiona for information and suggestions of what to do re **the violence in Israel/Palestine**, so she would like to share some links:

This one contains information on actions and resources, including prayers:

<https://paxchristi.org.uk/campaigns/israel-and-palestine/resources-and-documents/>

A very practical action she would recommend is to donate to Medical Aid for Palestinians who, since 1982, have been working for the health and dignity of Palestinians living under occupation and as refugees, providing immediate medical aid and developing local capacity and skills.

The Small Print

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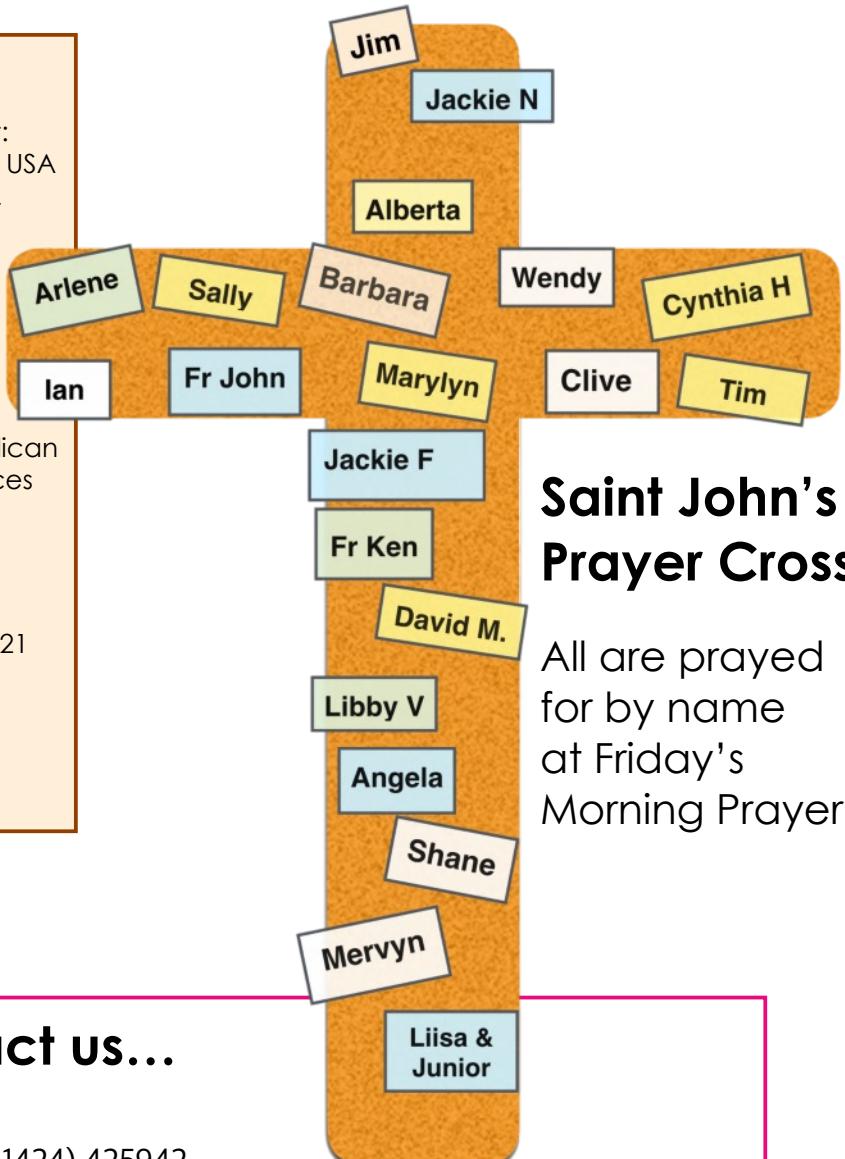
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Hymn of the week info from Wikipedia

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Saint John's Prayer Cross

All are prayed
for by name
at Friday's
Morning Prayer

Contact us...

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