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Seventh Sunday of Easter Sunday 17th May 2026

Second Special Collection this weekend for the Catholic Communications Network

Page 275	Acts of the Apostles 1: 12-14	1 Peter 4: 13-16	Gospel John 17: 1-11
<p>Readings this weekend come between the Ascension of Jesus and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. It is a time when the Church remembers what it means to wait on God's promise. The readings show the disciples gathering in prayer, holding on to hope for what is to come. They invite us to reflect on our own faith, a call to trust, to pray, to stay close to others who share the same hope, the need for unity, the call to love one another and the importance of our relationship with God. The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles relates how the apostles returned to Jerusalem after the Ascension and gathered in the Upper Room with the Virgin Mary and other women. They devoted themselves to pray while waiting for the promised Holy Spirit which they trust will guide them, supporting each other as they realise unity is important in their mission. The unity of this group reveals the early Church in prayer and fellowship as they gain courage to spread the Good News. In the second reading from St Peter's letter offers hope to believers facing trials and challenges. Here suffering is seen as a way of joining in Christ's own experience which will lead to joy when His glory is revealed. The letter urges steadfast faith despite hardship, emphasising that such endurance is part of the Christian calling. It calls on believers to live openly as followers of Christ even under severe persecution and trust that they will be given the courage to remain faithful to Jesus. John's Gospel is a prayer by Jesus at the conclusion of the Last Supper. After this reading Jesus is arrested in the garden. The prayer might be read as Jesus' final commendation of himself to the Father. In prayer Jesus also expresses care and concern for his disciples and reaffirms the complete union between Jesus and the Father. As Catholics we are called to love one another as Jesus loved us. This love should reach beyond our own families and communities to include people from all parts of the world. We should help those in need, forgive others and focus on what brings us together for peace. Malcolm.</p>			
Mass times		Feast Days	
<p>6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass</p>	<p>Saturday 16th St Brendan the Navigator Born around 484 in Ireland of noble birth. Placed in the foster care of mystic St Ita for his initial education. Then studied at Tuam, County Galway, in the Aran Islands, in Galloway, Scotland and in Wales. Bishop Erc of Kerry ordained him in 512. Became a monk and then later elected Abbot. Founded many monasteries. He had a passion for sea travel. Visited Scotland, Wales and France. A seven year trip to Iceland, Greenland and North America and back is either exaggerated or a miracle. Evidence in North America exists of an Irish landing about that time but the prevailing winds would have meant no way back.</p>		
<p>9.30 am Mass</p>	<p>Sunday 17th May Seventh Sunday of Easter Thanksgiving Mass for the blessings of Nirmala D'Souza</p>		
<p>6.30 pm Mass Thanksgiving Mass for a new job</p>	<p>Monday 18th St Pope John I John was born in Siena about 470. Deacon in Rome to antipope Laurentius. In 506 admitted his error to Pope Symmachus. Then one of 7 deacons in Rome. Elected as Pope John I in 523. The Eastern Emperor Justin in Constantinople issued a decree against the heresy of Arianism. Germanic King Theodoric ruler of Italy who supported the heresy demanded that Pope John should take a delegation to Constantinople to convince the Byzantine Emperor to moderate his decree. Pope John was reluctant to obey as he agreed with Justin and his orthodox views. However, he eventually obeyed the powerful king. He had some success with Emperor Justin who welcomed him with honour. But the king was not satisfied with what Pope John achieved and was suspicious the two were plotting against him and his heretical beliefs. He put Pope John in prison in Ravenna. He died of neglect and ill treatment on 18th May 526.</p>		
<p>10 am Mass</p>	<p>Tuesday 19th St Dunstan Born in 909 in Somerset near Glastonbury. Uncle was the Bishop of Wells and Winchester. Educated by Irish monks in ruins of Glastonbury Abbey after decline of monastic life for 200 years from its height at time of St Bede. Gifted artist musician and silversmith. Lived as a hermit illuminating and copying manuscripts. King Edmund of Wessex made him Abbot of Glastonbury to revive the monastery in 940. Then King Edgar appointed him Archbishop of Canterbury. Well known for his charity and austere life style. Reformed the Church by his choice of bishops, revival of monastic life and strict rules of clerical behaviour with the help of King Edgar. Archbishop Dunstan crowned his son Edward the Martyr at Winchester in 975 who was murdered at Corfe Castle 3 years later by his stepmother. Dunstan then retired and taught at school in Canterbury. King Æthelred the Unready took the crown age 10 and fled to Normandy on the Danish invasion.</p>		
<p>SVP Social 1 pm to 3 pm</p> <p>6.30 pm Mass Joseph Mathew RIP 10th anniversary</p>	<p>Wednesday 20th St Bernardino of Siena Born in 1380 near Sienna in Italy. Brought up by a pious aunt after being orphaned age 6. Degree in law from Sienna University. Joined Confraternity of Our Lady attached to hospital. In 1400 cared for victims of plague. Nursed his aunt until she died. Took charge of the hospital. Joined Franciscans. Ordained a priest. Preached across northern and central Italy from 1417 against abuses of the day. Unique preaching style. Projected his voice so thousands could hear him on themes relevant to people's lives rather than liturgy of day. He could mimic and act, using humour to shock or reduce his audiences to laughter. Started feast of <i>Holy Name of Jesus</i> and IHS monogram. Vicar General 1438 to 1442 of Franciscans. Died 1444 aged 64.</p>		

**10 am Mass
Maria Pereira RIP**

Thursday 21st St Christopher Magallanes Jara and 24 Companions Christopher was born in 1869 in Mexico to a farming family.. He worked as a shepherd in his youth. Age 19 he entered a seminary and was ordained age 30 in 1899. Chaplain to School of Arts and Works of the Holy Spirit. Then a parish priest at the Church of San Rafael in his hometown of Totatiche. Started schools for academic and vocational training. Helped plan hydrological works. Had a special interest in evangelisation of the local indigenous Huichol people. Established a mission at the indigenous town of Azqueltan. Formed a farming cooperative. Published a newspaper. Had a special devotion to Our Lady. He inspired all who met him. The Catholic Church was powerful in Mexico. As a reaction an anticlerical style government started to persecute the Church. Church property was seized, monasteries, convents and religious schools were closed. The seminary where Fr Christopher was trained was closed. Fr Christopher opened a seminary in his parish. Had 17 students. It was recognised by the Archbishop. New President of Mexico carried out violent action against Catholicism and assassinated priests. An uprising of mainly peasants against the government called themselves *Cristeros*, fighters for Christ. War of the *Cristeros Rebellion*. Fr Christopher wrote and preached against armed rebellion, but was falsely accused of promoting it and was arrested on 21st May 1927. Aged 57 he was taken immediately without any trial to his execution by a firing squad of Mexican soldiers with other priests.. Fr Christopher, 20 other priests and 3 laymen were declared saints by Pope John Paul II in 2000. About 5,500 individuals were killed in Mexico in a 10 year period.

NO MASS

Friday 22nd St Rita of Cascia Born in 1381 in Italy. Wanted to be a nun but obeyed her parents and married aged 12 to an older noble who was brutally violent. 18 years of unhappiness. Had two sons. Her unfaithful husband eventually had a change of heart and asked forgiveness but was killed in a *vendetta* with rival noble family. Her two sons died and Rita asked to join a Convent but was turned down due to many nuns being from the rival family. Needed to reconcile feuding families. With great courage she succeeded, "Peacemaker of Cascia". Aged 36, she joined the monastery and worked in the infirmary caring for sick nuns. While praying before a crucifix, Rita received a wound on her forehead similar to stigmata. Had many mystic experiences during 40 years in the Convent. Many miracles were associated with her during her life and after her death. Died on 22nd May 1457 aged 76. An old revered tradition records that the bells of the convent immediately began to peal unaided by human hands, calling the people of Cascia to the doors of the convent

Saturday 23rd St David, King of Scotland Born in 1084 in Scotland the youngest son of King Malcolm III and Queen St Margaret of Scotland. King Malcolm and his son Edward were killed in battle and David's mother St Margaret died of grief. David's uncle then seized the throne as King Donald III. David and his brothers escaped to England for safety with King William Rufus. Duncan, eldest son of King Malcolm, led an army raised by King William Rufus and captured the Scottish throne but was killed and King Donald regained the throne. Another army was raised and David's brother Edgar captured the throne and started reforms in the Church and State and was liked and respected as son of Queen St Margaret. After 10 years he died unmarried and Alexander, David's brother took the throne and continued the reforms. After 17 years David became king, having spent 31 years in the English Norman court. King David continued the reforms started by his brothers but also introduced Norman style structure. He founded monasteries, built churches, established bishoprics, developed towns and built castles to protect Scotland. He was loved and respected for his piety and generosity to the poor. His sister Matilda was married to King Henry I in England whose son died at sea and their daughter also called Matilda was heir to the throne. On the death of King Henry, the English nobles made a grandson of William the Conqueror King Stephen. With his niece having the throne snatched from her, King David raided northern England and extended his kingdom south to Carlisle and Newcastle until a treaty was agreed. King David died on 24th May 1153 in Carlisle Castle aged 69 and was buried with his brothers in Dunfermline Abbey, founded by his parents.

**6pm: Confessions
6.30pm Vigil Mass**

9.30 am Mass Sunday 24th May Pentecost Sunday Apolian Nazareth RIP

PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION

Your prayers are needed for the following people

Ann Drumgoole Hazel Sale Mary Light Trevor Delves Pat Sweeney Phil Boulton David Keates

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Second Collection this weekend for the Catholic Communications Network

It will be just a loose collection from which we cannot claim gift aid as it is not for the parish or diocese.

Next SVP Social is on Wednesday 20th May – 1pm to 3 pm

Another opportunity to meet for refreshments and a chat. Come along with your friends. No need to stay for the whole time, a few minutes or 2 hours, whatever suits you

Prayers are still needed for David Keates who is now improving well.

David, husband of Shirley, has regained his speech and able to write and read on his way to full recovery. He is in the Neurological Rehabilitation Unit in Adelaide Western Community Hospital

Parish collection for last weekend 9th and 10th May

Parish Gift Aid Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Other money	Gift Aid for last week	Loose	TOTAL of all money
£42	£10.50	£169.10	£242.54	£51.98	£516.12				£516.12