



# St Aidan's Church

in the Parish of St Aidan Sudden Rochdale  
and All Souls Heywood

[www.staidan.org.uk](http://www.staidan.org.uk)

Sunday 31st May 2020

Day of Pentecost

Whit Sunday



Readings:

[Acts 2.1-21](#)  
[John 20.19-23](#)



## Collect

God, who as at this time  
taught the hearts of your faithful people  
by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit:  
grant us by the same Spirit  
to have a right judgement in all things  
and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;  
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## Hymns

Angel voices ever singing

Come down o love divine

O breath of life

Lord the light of your love is shining  
[shine jesus shine]

## *From the Vicarage: a reflection on the Gospel reading.*

Pentecost is the festival of God the Holy Spirit, the day we focus on the apostles receiving the power of the Holy Spirit: the day we see the Holy Spirit at work in the disciples.

The Holy Spirit is the Lord and life-giver, the giver of natural life in the order of nature and the giver of supernatural life in the order of redemption. God guides his world by the Holy Spirit in the natural order of life and by the spirit steering our souls to action in the normal life - our being.

The descent of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost means that God has "opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers": the salvation of humankind to God is complete. The church of God has begun. That's why we also call today the birthday of the church. The Christian Church was born on the day of Pentecost. So because today is the day that redemption was given to all humankind, today is the day that the apostles at Pentecost are empowered to interpret the one true gospel to all the world, to every nation and in every language. The day that the gospel is spoken in English for us all to hear and understand. The Gospel speaks first of the coming of the Spirit. The Spirit of God will abide with us forever. God dwells in us and we in him.

For the coming of the Holy Spirit means God's real presence in the hearts of his children, in the hearts of all.

The Spirit will teach us all things: how to act and how to be guided.

The Spirit will bring us to remembrance; the spirit will touch our souls and bring memories forthwith.

So, to enable us to live in the light, enable us to live in the gospel and enable us to express the good news of the gospel to others both in word and deed.

In the Collect for today, we gain the knowledge of the gift of the Holy Spirit teaching us a "right judgment in all things". The gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and beyond is for his presence to be with us each and every second of each and every day, bringing comfort, strength, life and breath.

So, being fully alive in God, we may rejoice and sing and live a life in the community of love  
Amen

**Your Friend and Vicar Revd Michael**



Revd Michael and Revd Ian are saying prayers for the Parish and our Congregation at 9am daily and hope that you may be able to join them at this time in your own homes.

*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.  
Amen*

### **Worship Resources**

Live streamed church services can be found at [https://www.achurchnearyou.com/live-stream/?tags=Live\\_stream](https://www.achurchnearyou.com/live-stream/?tags=Live_stream)

Audio prayer resources can be found at <https://soundcloud.com/the-church-of-england/>

Follow the Church of England on Facebook or You Tube for national prayers and services –the Archbishop of Canterbury and Pope Francis will join other senior UK church leaders in a special online service for Pentecost, marking the culmination of Thy Kingdom Come.

 <p>A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers</p>	 <p>A Celebration for Pentecost Members of King's Church in Manchester mark the festival of Pentecost with a live service from the unique setting of Gorton Monastery</p>
 <p>Sunday 13:15</p>	 <p>Sunday 08:10</p>  <p>Sunday 05:43</p>

### **Bernard Hassall 1929-2020**

It was with great sadness that we heard the news that Bernard passed away at Springhill Hospice on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May. A true gentleman and friend to many. We will print a tribute in a future edition of the newsletter and will celebrate Bernard's life when we are able to join together for a service in church.

**Rest in Peace**

# Celebrating Pentecost

## for All Ages (but especially anyone missing Junior Church)

Pentecost! The birthday of the Church! On this day we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, overflowing and pouring out over the gathered disciples who were then 'poured out' from their hiding place into the community around them, sharing God's story with confidence, filled with the power of the Holy Spirit.

Here, the miraculous power of the Holy Spirit brings the people together from their different tribes and nations. All are able to hear and understand the word of God. Here, the good news of Jesus becomes the invitation: 'let anyone'. Here, everyone can hear, understand and respond to this open invitation.

There are echoes in the passage from Acts of the Gospel reading, John 7.37-39. In the latter, Jesus invites people to come to him – 'let anyone...' as he will pour out water to anyone who thirsts for him, promising them the Holy Spirit. In Acts, that promised pouring out is delivered.

Today, we too can hear the story in a language we can understand; this promised pouring out of the Holy Spirit is available for us too, when we respond to the same invitation to 'let anyone' come and receive. As with Peter and the other disciples, this must lead to us pouring out of our hiding places, or the places where we are comfortable, and sharing the good news with those around us.

### Story

With the sound of a whirlwind it came, rushing into the house where the followers of Jesus were gathered. There was a commotion and flames as the Holy Spirit came, resting on each of the disciples like a tongue of fire.

As it whooshed into the room, the Spirit filled them all with foreign languages, and the disciples spoke in words they didn't understand. Inspired, and with words gushing out of them, they went out into the streets.

It was the festival of Pentecost and Jerusalem was full of Jews from all over the world. When the disciples came out into the street, the crowds heard them speaking the message of Jesus in their own languages.

They were amazed. 'How can this be?' they asked. 'All the followers of Jesus are from Galilee, but we can hear their message loud and clear in words we understand.'

Not everyone was impressed, though. Some listeners sneered, 'These people are drunk.' Peter, still filled to overflowing with the Spirit's power, stood up in front of all the people.

'We are not drunk,' he said. 'It's only nine in the morning. No, you are seeing and hearing what the prophet Joel spoke about in the Old Testament.'

Peter continued: 'Joel said, "God will pour his Spirit on all people; children will prophesy and adults will see holy visions. The Spirit is for everyone, men, women and children; there will be signs in heaven and on earth, and these will be the last days. Everyone who calls on the Lord's name shall be saved."' Like a fiery whirlwind it came, and the Spirit breathed new life into the followers of Jesus.

### Pray

Holy Spirit:  
wild wind, tongues of fire,  
words of inspiration,  
fill us with your confidence and energy,  
and make us a blessing to the world. Amen.

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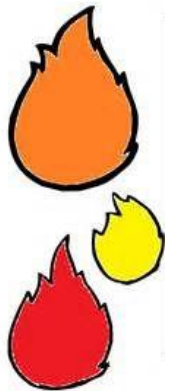
### Create

#### Holy Spirit headbands

Create a story reminder  
You will need: strips of card, stapler, red, yellow and orange, scissors, glue.  
The Holy Spirit appeared as flames on the believers' heads.

Join strips of card together to make a band to fit your head.

Cut flame shapes out of coloured paper and glue them to the headband



**And thanks to Manchester Methodists for being able to follow this craft activity as part of Thy Kingdom Come**



[www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global)

### Sing

Sing along with a [favourite hymn](#)  
More music can be found at [Same Boat Music](#)

**Worship and learning for the whole Church**  
For adults... and families... ...at home

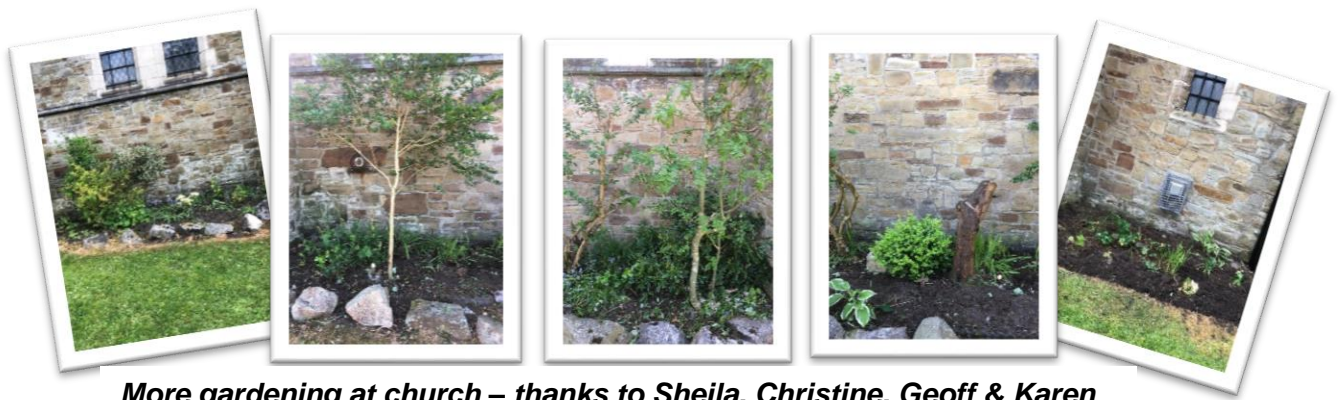


New resources, every week

[www.rootsontheweb.com](http://www.rootsontheweb.com)

#ROOTSathome





**More gardening at church – thanks to Sheila, Christine, Geoff & Karen**



### **Giving to St Aidan's Church**

*"all things come from you, O Lord,  
... and of your own do  
we give you"*

*From the PCC:*

*Your financial support is crucial to the upkeep of St Aidan's Church –  
now more than ever.*

*If you are able to do so, please carry on with your regular giving and  
contact the Vicar, Treasurer or any church officer if you would like to  
drop off your weekly envelopes or to set up a standing order.*



Please continue to support Rochdale Foodbank  
<https://rochdale.foodbank.org.uk/>

**All church buildings are closed for public worship, private prayer and all other meetings and activities except for vital community services until further notice from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York.**

Manchester Diocese has a webpage containing the latest information, support, resources and guidance for churches concerning the Coronavirus at [www.manchester.anglican.org/coronavirus](http://www.manchester.anglican.org/coronavirus)

[Advice from Bishop David on a phased approach to revising access to church buildings](#)

[Click here to read about a questionnaire on Coronavirus, Church and You](#)

### **Can we help?**

Please contact the Vicar, Churchwardens or a PCC Member if we can help you and keep in touch with other church members, friends, family and neighbours in any way you can. Letters or copies of this newsletter are being sent to as many members of the congregation as we have details for who we think do not have internet access. Please contact us if you know anyone who is not receiving any communication from church.

Past newsletters and notices are available on the [website](#) and at <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/>



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<b>Newsletter:</b> please send items to <a href="mailto:newsletter@staidan.org.uk">newsletter@staidan.org.uk</a> and contact us with any more email addresses to add to the mailing list.			

***Our Mission is to be a strong church family, promoting and maintaining the Good News about Jesus to the Parish and the wider community.***



**St Aidan's C of E Parish Church**  
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St Aidan's  
Church  
Rochdale

a church  
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