

THIS WEEKEND	The Ascension of the Lord		Year A
Sat 27th May	5.00pm	St O	Len Hatfield + Eadward Inch
	6.30pm	St T	Tabitha + James Fairhurst Pauline Reeve
Sun 28th May	8:30am	St MM	<i>Latin Extraordinary Form Mass</i>
	8:30am	St O	John Worswick (90th Birthday)
	9.30am	St T	Emily Watkinson
	11.00am	St MM	Marie Bridge, Frank Bridge May Foley, David Laing
WEEKDAY MASSES	Divine Office Week 3		
Mon 29th May	10.00am	St T	Edith Rice
Tues 30th May	9.15am	St T	Peggy Roscoe
Wed 31st May	9.30am	St MM	Betty Walmsley
Thu 1st June	10.00am	St T	Funeral Mass: Patricia Ann Bentley
Fri 2nd June	9.15am	St T	Ellen Carroll
Sat 3rd June	11.30am	St T	Wedding Service: David Hitchen + Katherine Clare
	1.00pm	St O	Wedding Service: Christopher Markham + Grace Parker
NEXT WEEKEND	Pentecost Sunday		Year A
Sat 3rd June	10.00am	St T	Exposition + Confessions
	5.00pm	St O	Marriage of Louise + Damian Arthur Moulding
	6.30pm	St T	Brian De Rome
Sun 4th June	8:30am	St MM	<i>Latin Extraordinary Form Mass</i>
	8:30am	St O	Robin Smyth
	9.30am	St T	Catenian Mass for Vocations Private John Unsworth
	11.00am	St MM	Margaret Davis

**Confessions:** 1st Sat of June at 10.00am at St T and on request.

**The CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**in PENWORTHAM + LONGTON**

**St Mary Magdalen, St Oswald, St Teresa.**

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## The Ascension of The Lord

**28th May 2017**

**'I am with you always'**

Forty days after the Resurrection, Jesus ascends to heaven. He ascends triumphant to sit at the Father's right hand. For the disciples, their time of formation with him is over. How is their relationship with him altered?

The **First Reading** from the Acts of the Apostles gives an account of the Ascension. Jesus promises to send his Holy Spirit to be with his disciples, to fill them with his power, so that they can witness to him 'to the ends of the earth.'

The **Psalm** emphasises Jesus's triumph in his Ascension, and the whole Church sings in praise of the Lord who reigns over all.

The **Second Reading**, too, stresses Christ's power: his Father has 'put all things under his feet.' That power is exercised for us, not only in the gifts of his grace, but also in the promise of eternal glories.

St Matthew's **Gospel** account of the Ascension focuses on Jesus's authority and his sending forth of the disciples to witness, baptise and teach. He promises to be with them 'to the end of time.' The Ascension links the Resurrection and the coming of the Holy Spirit in our Easter journey.

Flower collection at St T £186.00, St O £186, St MM £71. Thank you.

**Retiring Collection this weekend:** World Communications Day: for the Catholic Bishop's Office of Communication.

**St Oswald's Church:** The Church will only be used for weekends at the moment. This means the decorators don't have to clean up each day and we do not have to worry about health and safety issues each day. So there will only be weekend Masses at St Oswald's until further notice. Thank you for the donations so far of £400 towards the redecorating fund. We have to try to raise £4500!

**Faith in Action** The badges for those who have completed their tasks will be presented on the weekend of July 1st and 2nd.

**The novena to Our Lady, Untier of Knots** continues on Mon and Tues.

**Talk at St Walburge's:** on the meaning of the Fatima Prayer: "O My Jesus" by Prof Stephen Bullivant. Wed 31st May at 7.30pm in St Walburge's Presbytery.

**Web Cam:** On Tuesday we hope to have the web cam fitted. This will enable those housebound to follow Daily Mass at St Teresa's. More details to follow.

**St Teresa's Ladies:** Tuesday 13 June at 7-30 pm in the Parish Centre - A historical talk and film show on "The Then and Now of Robert Pateson" by John Garlington. Everyone Welcome Admission £1.50 to include refreshments

**Invitation:** *You are all cordially invited to the Ordination of Michael Barrett to the priesthood by Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP, Archbishop of Liverpool on Sat July 15th, 2017 at 11am. St. Mary's Church, Broadfield Drive, Leyland, PR25 1PD. A buffet reception will follow the Ordination. Please sign the list in the porch by June 28th if you wish to go.*

**Lay Funeral Ministers:** We are truly blest by the work of our wonderful lay funeral ministers (and bereavement team). The next course is June 20th and 21st in LACE. Please see Fr Philip.

**ST. Oswald's CARITAS (SOC).** Last Friday's Lunch Club was very successful with new people attending. If you have not tried it yet it really is worth it - the food and the company are excellent. We even had cakes as well as the hotpot and cheese and butter pie, not forgetting the tea and coffee. The next Lunch is on **Friday 23rd June**. Everyone is welcome so come along and bring a friend, in the Parish Hall from 12-00 until 1.30pm. This lunch will be part of **The Great Get Together** in memory of Jo Cox.

**Bereavement Tea + Chat:** The next afternoon will be **Sunday May 28th** 3.00pm - 4.00pm in St Teresa's Church. Please pass the information on to anyone who would find it helpful. All are welcome.

**Retreat:** led by Fr Stephen OSB at Hying Monastery on June 23rd - 25th. £95.00. Contact Peter on 07850678589 if you wish to go.

**Baptisms:** We welcome Isla Mawdsley, Olivia Tate, and Jenson Jacovelli into the family of the Church.

**Be Still and Know Prayer Group:** We meet again on Thursday 1st June at 7.00pm in ST T's meeting room. All welcome.

**General Election:** The Bishops of England and Wales have issued a letter to Catholics on the forthcoming general election, which will be distributed in parishes across all dioceses this weekend. The letter is an encouragement to all Catholics to play an active part in the election. While voting for any particular political party is a matter of conscience, the bishops encourage people to use their vote at this pivotal time for our nations, as we prepare to leave the European Union. The letter lays out broad principles to guide our thinking in the run-up to the election, taken from Pope Francis' *Evangelii Gaudium*. "To a great extent the outcome of this election will determine the approach taken on how this (leaving the European Union) is achieved, the priorities we pursue and the values we wish to treasure as our own in the UK and as partners with countries around the world. It will determine how we can heal divisions in our society, care for the vulnerable, how our public services are run and whether we can remain a united kingdom." The letter moves from these broad guiding principles to more specific questions for consideration and to raise with candidates, including questions on how best to encourage and enable families to flourish, promote freedom of religion across the world and care for refugees and asylum seekers. The letter concludes with a prayer: "Lord grant us wisdom to act always with integrity, seeking the protection and flourishing of all and building a society based on justice and peace."

**St Oswald's Ladies:** Monday 5 June 2017 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. A talk and demonstration by Tiger Muffin Soaps. All welcome.

**St Oswald's:** Summer Prize Charity Bingo on Friday 9th June in the Parish Hall with flower and plant prizes. Tickets £1.00. Doors open at 7.00pm with eyes down at 7.30pm.

We are compiling a **leaflet** giving details of groups within the parish. This is an ongoing project but we need to get the first edition finalised. Please don't be left out. Contact Paul on paulfalcone\_uk@yahoo.co.uk or text 07981493737