

ST MARY & ST PAUL'S NEWSLETTER

Sunday 17th May 2026 – 7th Sunday of Easter

May Devotion: The Blessed Virgin Mary



Pray constantly Through prayer we can communicate directly with God our Father, and from the way Jesus prayed we can learn how to approach him. For in prayer Jesus trustfully poured out his concerns and cares. This kind of prayer was used by the disciples after the Ascension. Such close contact with God provides the strength to accept all suffering.

Date	Celebration	Service Time & Location	Intention
Sun 17 th May	7 th Sunday of Easter	Vigil Mass Sat 6:00pm St Paul's Mass 9:00am St Paul's Mass 10:30am St Mary's	David Salisbury (RIP) 3 rd Ann. Parishioners' Intention Parishioners' Intention
Mon 18 th May	Ferial	6:15pm Eucharistic Adoration, St. Mary's; Mass 7:00pm	Private Intentions
Tues 19 th May	St Milburga, Ab, V	8:30am Eucharistic Adoration, St. Mary's; Mass 9:00am	Parishioners' Intention
Wed 20 th May	Ferial	8:30am Eucharistic Adoration, St. Mary's; Mass 9:00am	Parishioners' Intention
Thu 21 st May	The Dedication of the Cathedral	9am Eucharistic Adoration, St. Paul's; Mass 9:30am.	Renewed faith of God's People in our diocese
Fri 22 nd May	Ferial	9am Eucharistic Adoration, St. Paul's; Mass 9:30am.	Expectant mothers
Sat 23 rd May	Ferial	9:40am Holy Rosary, St. Mary's; Mass 10:00am	Sick and Housebound
Sun 24 th May	7 th Sunday of Easter	Vigil Mass Sat 6:00pm St Paul's Mass 9:00am St Paul's Mass 10:30am St Mary's	Parishioners' Intention Parishioners' Intention

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 9am to 9:50am St Mary's; 5pm to 5:50pm St Paul's; Sunday 8:30am to 8:50am St Paul's; by appointment. **Sacraments and other liturgies:** Please speak to the Priest after the weekend masses.

Date	Event	Location
Tues 19 th May 2026	Confirmation Teaching session at 6:30pm	St. Mary's Church

RECENTLY DIED: Michael Lassandro; may he rest in peace. Please remember him, his family and friends in your prayers.

JOHN 17:1-11 Jesus lifts His eyes to the Father and speaks from the threshold of His Passion. The "hour" has come—the moment when divine love will be revealed through His self-offering. Jesus understands glory not as splendour but as the radiance of obedience, mercy, and total surrender. He has made the Father known, gathering a people who now belong to God, and He entrusts them to the Father's care. His prayer is tender and solemn: that His disciples may share His life, His unity with the Father, and His mission in the world. They are to be signs of God's presence, held in the Father's name and shaped by the truth Jesus has given them. This movement of sharing Christ's life finds a striking echo in **1 Peter 4:13–16**. Peter urges believers to **rejoice** when they share in Christ's sufferings, for such trials are not signs of abandonment but of communion. To bear the name of Christ—even when it brings misunderstanding or hardship—is to participate in the same glory Jesus speaks of in His prayer. The Spirit of glory rests upon those who remain faithful, transforming suffering into witness. Together, these readings reveal a profound unity: Jesus prays that His disciples may live within the love that binds Father and Son; Peter shows how this love is lived out in the real pressures of Christian life. Fidelity becomes glory, endurance becomes joy, and the Church becomes the place where Christ's prayer continues to unfold in the world.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: As a parish community, we rejoice with the children who received their First Holy Communion yesterday at St Mary's and last Saturday at St Paul's, stepping for the first time into the mystery of Christ's loving presence in the Eucharist. Their joy reminds us of the freshness of faith and the beauty of approaching the Lord with open hearts. As they receive Jesus, may they grow in kindness, courage, and a deep sense of being loved by God. *Lord Jesus, bless our First Communicants with your peace and your friendship. Keep their hearts close to yours and guide their families with your gentle light. Amen.*

PENTECOST SUNDAY: Next Sunday we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, who filled the disciples with courage and set their hearts on fire. Speaking in tongues revealed the Gospel's power to cross every barrier. What began in that upper room became the Church's mission: one Spirit, many voices, proclaiming Christ to the world. *If you can speak a language other than English, please speak to Fr Isidore so we can pray in a variety of languages next week.* Pick up the **NOVENA** prayer leaflet at the back of our two Churches and join our parish community in the Novena prayer to the Holy Spirit.

MAY DEVOTION: From medieval "May devotions" to the widespread 18th-century Jesuit practice of daily Marian prayer, the Church came to see May as a fitting time to honour the Mother of God. Pope Paul VI affirmed this tradition, calling May "her month" and encouraging special prayer for peace. *Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.*

PRAYING THE ROSARY: During the month of May we are having a special parish focus on praying the rosary in our homes. Set aside a time, perhaps in the morning before you start the business of the day, or after your evening meal before settling down in front of the television and pray five decades of the rosary for the following daily intentions: Propagation of the orthodox gospel teaching of Christ; Peace in our troubled world; Restoration of authentic faith; Solace of persecuted Christians; Enlightenment of non-believers; Relief for the suffering, the sick, prisoners, the poor, and all in need; the happy repose of those who fought for the faith.

POPE'S INTENTION FOR MAY: "That everyone might have food." Pope Leo has dedicated this month to praying for all those who suffer from hunger and for a global commitment to reduce food waste and ensure access to quality food for every person. Across multiple statements he highlights the stark reality that 318 million people face acute hunger, while vast quantities of food continue to be wasted. The Pope urges Catholics to cultivate gratitude, simplicity, and solidarity, asking communities to take up practical actions such as supporting food banks, running awareness campaigns, and adopting more responsible lifestyles. He frames this intention not only as a social concern but as a deeply spiritual one: prayer must accompany action, or efforts risk becoming powerless. *You who sent us Your beloved Son Jesus, broken bread for the life of the world, give us a new heart, hungry for justice and thirsty for fraternity. May no one be excluded from the common table, and may Your Spirit teach us to see bread not as an object of consumption, but as a sign of communion and care.*

POLITE REMINDER: Please remember that Holy Communion must be received in front of the Priest or Minister and consumed before you go back to your seat. It is OK to take one step to the side, but do not start to walk away until after you have consumed the host.

HOUSE BLESSING: Forms for the annual House Blessing are at the back of Church.

TEA, COFFEE, AND A CHANCE TO CHAT: Every Sunday after Mass at St Mary's, there is an opportunity to have a tea or coffee and a chat with some of your fellow parishioners.

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY: £524.02; Thank you for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTION TIS WEEKEND: World Communication



Scan the QR code to access the Online giving page for St Mary and St Paul, Dukinfield and Hyde

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Please consider remembering the parish in your will.

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