



# PARISH OF ST GEORGE

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## SUNDAY 1<sup>st</sup> June 2025 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, Year C

### Scripture lessons:

The first reading describes the martyrdom of Stephen, showing us how he bore witness to the forgiving love of Jesus by his last prayer. In the second reading, taken from the Book of Revelation, Jesus, the Alpha, and the Omega, is pictured as having all the forces of Heaven and earth at his disposal, standing ready to help us in our Christian witness-bearing. It is relatively easy to acknowledge our oneness with Stephen and to long for the experience of eternal oneness with "all those who have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb" (Rv 22:14). But to remain truly one with all of our brothers and sisters continues to be a daily challenge. Today's Gospel is the last part of the "priestly prayer" of Jesus after the Last Supper. This chapter of John has been called "The Testament of Jesus" or "Jesus' High Priestly (or Intercessory) Prayer." During that long prayer, Jesus prayed first for himself – for his own glorification (vv 1-5) – as he faced the cross. Then, he prayed for his disciples that they might be unified and protected in the face of opposition from the world (vv 6-19), and finally he prayed for those in distant lands and far-off ages, including ourselves, who would enter the Christian Faith through the witness-bearing of the Apostles and their successors.

Life Message: We need to pray for unity and serve one another in unity. Along with prayer, we must put our words into action. This means that we are to serve one another and to love one another as brothers and sisters in the Lord. What unites us is greater than what divides us. As we move nearer to Jesus Christ, in him we move nearer to one another. Such unity is ultimately a gift of the Holy Spirit and of His guidance. The soul of the ecumenical movement then, is spiritual. Only by a renewal of the spiritual, by common prayer and common listening to the Word of God, can we hope to overcome the present ecumenical impasses and difficulties. In the words of Pope St. John Paul II: "The door to ecumenism is opened only on our knees."

Confessions on request either in the Church or the presbytery at any time you prefer.

<u>Readers</u>	Sat 6:30	Sun 09:30	Sun 11:00
	Roland Young	Roseline Ngenyi	Roma Ajit

If you wish to join the Reader's Rota, please complete the form in the porch.

Foodbank As anticipated, the Foodbank has seen an increase in the number of people who are in food poverty. At all times, the Foodbank tries to ensure that its clients receive a parcel that provides a balanced diet. Currently, we are experiencing a shortage of tinned fruit, tinned rice pudding and custard. We are always grateful for the support we receive and any help you can provide.

Sat 31 May	6:30 PM	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>	Fr Thaddeus -Birthday
Sun 1 June	9:30 AM		People of the Parish
	11:00 AM		Tony Jones
Mon 2 June	No Mass		
Tue 3 June	10:00 AM	St Charles Lwanga & Companions	David Gerty
Wed 4 June	No Mass		
Thu 5 Jun	10:00 AM	St Boniface	Sister Johanna Moloney
Fri 06 Jun	No Mass		
Sat 07 Jun	6:30 PM	<b>Pentecost Sunday</b>	Peace in the World
Sun 08 Jun	9:30 AM		Sanctification of Priests
	11:00 AM		People of the Parish

## PRAYER FOR THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

O Lord Jesus Christ Who, before ascending into heaven did promise to send the Holy Spirit to finish Your work in the souls of Your Apostles and Disciples, deign to grant the same Holy Spirit to me that He may perfect in my soul, the work of Your grace and Your love. Grant me the Spirit of Wisdom that I may despise the perishable things of this world and aspire only after the things that are eternal, the Spirit of Understanding to enlighten my mind with the light of Your divine truth, the Spirit on Counsel that I may ever choose the surest way of pleasing God and gaining heaven, the Spirit of Fortitude that I may bear my cross with You and that I may overcome with courage all the obstacles that oppose my salvation, the Spirit of Knowledge that I may know God and know myself and grow perfect in the science of the Saints, the Spirit of Piety that I may find the service of God sweet and amiable, and the Spirit of Fear that I may be filled with a loving reverence towards God and may dread in any way to displease Him. Mark me, dear Lord with the sign of Your true disciples, and animate me in all things with Your Spirit. Amen

Say 1: Our Father... Say 1: Hail Mary... Say 1: Glory Be...

**Announcement:** We need those who want to volunteer to say the bidding prayers in any language of their Choice on Pentecost Sunday (Next Sunday). We need about five people in each of the Masses. Please indicate which Mass you are attending and the Language you are using to Pray if you are volunteering.

**Weekly Collection** We wish to thank you all for your ongoing generosity in the upkeep of the parish.

Sunday	25 May	-	£310.82
Weekly Standing Orders		-	£112.00

It would help greatly with paying in and processing at the bank if any cheques to the church are made payable to: "**St George Whitchurch**" which is the correct name for the parish account.

**Our parish safeguarding representative is Helen Clarke.**