

**Welcome to our worship today.** At 8.30am Sunday School starts in the Pastoral Centre.

**Opening Hymn 245 (tune i)** (*hymns at 10am only*)

**The Collect** (prayer for the day)

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**First Reading** Acts 2.1-21

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. <sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?' <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs – in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' <sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.' <sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel.

**Second Reading** Romans 8.22-27

<sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. <sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

**Hymn 615** (we repeat when the Sunday School goes out after the Gospel. We offer two groups for younger and older children.)

**Gospel** John 15.26-27; 16.4b-15

Jesus spoke to his disciples: <sup>26</sup>'When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. <sup>27</sup>You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. <sup>4</sup>I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them. 'I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup>But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, "Where are you going?"' <sup>6</sup>But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup>And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement: <sup>9</sup>about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup>about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup>about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. <sup>12</sup>I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.'

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon** Fr John Richards

**The Intercessions are led by**  
8.30am Dorothea Matsveru  
10am Hilda Pouncett

**Offertory** 114

**Hymns** during the administration of Holy Communion: 541, 67

**Post-Communion Prayer**

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**

**Recessional Hymn** 163

**NOTICES**

**This morning** Rachael Westwood, Hannah Li, Jonathan Gracia-Joseph and Samuel Brownsword will be confirmed at St Nicolas Church, Kings Norton. Please pray for them.

**The Birmingham Taize** group will be leading Taize style worship in St Laurence at 6pm today for about an hour. All welcome.

**Beer & Hymns** at 'The Great Stone' **tonight** at 8pm. Do come and invite a friend.

**Gridiron Tenpin Bowling Evening** – Thursday 24 May. Details in church porch.

**Summer Concert** Saturday 9 June in Church 6.30pm  
Presented by: Midlands Military Community Choir,  
Central England Guitar Ensemble, Bournville Bell Choir,  
Wychall Primary School Choir and Wychall Bell Group.  
Tickets £5 Cake Sale and Raffle.

**Community Spirit Concert** (an extra Gridiron event)  
6pm Sunday 8 Jul 2018 at Symphony Hall. Northfield Notelets are one of many community choirs singing alongside Black Voices. Tickets £8.50. **Sign up in the porch by 4 June.** Money to Pauline Bannister or Lorraine in the office

**100 Club May Winners** are- 1st prize Laura King  
2nd prize Steve Clements 3rd prize Tony Jones  
Congratulations.

**Northfield Carnival** will be running on Saturday 7 July from 12-4. Northfield Baptist Church will co-ordinate the Tea Tent which raises money for St Mary's Hospice. Please could you volunteer for an hour at the Tea Tent to serve refreshments or to chat with folks and/or bake a cake or two for us to sell at the Carnival. Please sign up in the porch.

#### **Thank you**

- To St Laurence Junior School for their Lenten fund-raising. We have been presented with a cheque for a massive £1,135.00 towards the Interior Porch. We now have plans from the architect in the outer porch.
- From Dorothea for all the recent donations for St Agnes Orphanage. They are on their way to Zimbabwe. NO MORE DONATIONS for the time being please.
- 100 Club which raised £261 in 2017. This will go to help restore the paths around the Pastoral Centre
- To all who supported the Organ Recital. We raised an amazing £284.47
- Holy Dusters for cleaning our beautiful church.

**The total amount raised for the Children's Society** in 2017/8 was £722.56. This amount is a combined total from the collection boxes and the Christingle service. Plus a donation from the 100 club. Thank you to everyone who has enabled the Charity to continue the good work they do for vulnerable children. If anyone would like a collecting box or an additional one please let me know ...I am usually at the 8.30 am Service on Sunday or at the coffee morning on Tuesdays. Ann Stock

#### **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

Thank you to all you attended the **APCM**. The following people were elected: Church Wardens: Debbie Keeves, Roy Pouncett. PCC: David Matthews, Jennie King and

Sandra Reynolds who was co-opted to PCC. Deanery Synod: Janice Wones. The PCC meeting has now appointed Emily Corns as Secretary and Elaine Clements as Treasurer. Since the meeting we have submitted our application for a Mission Apprentice and are now on the short list to be considered for one.

#### **Queen's Student on Placement**

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Chris Chalmers on placement this term. Chris is testing her vocation to ordained ministry. She is from a 'very low church' background and is particularly wanting to learn more about a different Anglican Tradition.

Please put a simple tally on the Star Charts to mark how you are involved in St Laurence.

#### **Weekly events:**

**'Stay and Play'** (Parent/carer & baby/toddler group)  
Mondays

**Gridiron Coffee Morning** Tuesdays 10 – 11.30am.

**Exploring Faith** Please check with Fr David whether the group is running this week

**Heart 'n Soul** - 6-8pm each Wednesday South Birmingham Radio (<https://southbirminghamradio.uk/>)

**Church Open on Saturdays** 10-12noon. Refreshments available: an opportunity to explore your local historic church or simply to enjoy a quiet moment of reflection.

#### **For your prayers**

**Those who are ill** including: Richard Barber (Steph and all the family).

**Those who have died**

*Prayer requests may be left on the request forms by the prayer candle stand. They are included in Morning and Evening Prayer several times a week.*

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#### **Baptism & Wedding Enquiries**

Please come to Parish Surgery now **every** Wednesday  
5.45 – 6.30pm in the Pastoral Centre  
173 Church Road, Northfield, B31 2LX

#### **Contact Details**

Parish Office – 0121 475 1518

Rectory – 0121 477 3111

Parish Office – [stlaurence@btconnect.com](mailto:stlaurence@btconnect.com)

Rector – [janet.rectory@gmail.com](mailto:janet.rectory@gmail.com)

Website: [www.stlaurencenorthfield.org](http://www.stlaurencenorthfield.org)

**Twitter:** @stlaurenceb31

Rector: @janetchapman5

#### **Facebook**

[www.facebook.com/StLaurenceChurchNorthfield](http://www.facebook.com/StLaurenceChurchNorthfield)

#### **Just Giving**

[www.justgiving.com/stlaurence-northfield](http://www.justgiving.com/stlaurence-northfield)

#### **TripAdvisor**

<http://bit.ly/StLaurenceTripAdvisor>