

PRAYER DIARY MAY

GOSPEL READINGS

1 John 14:1-14

2 John 14:7-14

3 John 14:1-14

4 John 14:21-26

5 John 14:27-end

6 John 15:1-8

7 John 15:9-11

8 John 15:12-17

9 John 15:18-21

10 John 14:15-21

11 John 15:26-16.4

12 John 16:5-11

13 John 16:12-15

14 Luke 24:44-end

15 John 15:9-17

16 John 16:23-28

17 John 17:1-11

18 John 16:29-end

19 John 17:1-11

20 John 17:11-19

21 John 17:20-end

22 John 21:15-19

23 John 21:20-end

24 John 20:19-23

25 Mark 10:17-27

26 Mark 10:28-31

27 Mark 10:32-45

28 Mark 10:46-end

29 Mark 11:11-26

30 Mark 11:27-end

31 Matthew:28:16-end

Phillip & James, Apostles

Athanasius, bishop

5th Sunday of Easter

English reformation saints & martyrs

Julian of Norwich

6th Sunday of Easter

Gregory Dix, priest, monk

Rogation Day

ASCENSION DAY

Matthias the Apostle

Caroline Chisholm. Reformer

7th Sunday of Easter

Sunday after Ascension Day

Dunstan, archbishop

Alcuin, deacon, abbot

Helena, protector

PENTECOST

The Venerable Bede, monk

Augustine, archbishop

Lanfranc, monk, archbishop

Josephine Butler, reformer

TRINITY SUNDAY

THE END OF EASTERTIDE

As we draw towards the end of Eastertide, still celebrating the Risen Christ amongst us, we come to two more major festivals this month – Ascension Day and Pentecost.



Ascension Day

At ascension we celebrate the great divine absence, a vital ingredient in our call to mission. If Jesus was still on earth, we would probably leave him to it ' We might stand on the edge making admiring noises but it would be hard to join in. Who could feel confident to make disciples, to baptise or to teach Jesus' commandments if he were likely to appear at any moment? Who would listen to our proclamation of the good news if they could hear it from Jesus instead? There is no one except us to do it. A sermon illustration for ascension might be for the leader to walk out and leave the congregation alone!

The resurrection allowed us to live the Spirit-filled lives that became possible at Pentecost. These four events (death, resurrection, ascension & coming of the Holy Spirit) should not be separated from each other.

The Spirit continues to explode into our lives transforming us, helping us to be the people that God wants us to be, groaning with us with sounds that reach deep into the heart of God and drawing us more fully into this risen existence.



Pentecost

"This Risen Existence"
Paula Gooder Preparation

Take time to become still and ask the Holy Spirit to help you pray. You might like to use something to help you like lighting a candle.

We pray that the Gospel may come into our lives
not in word only but also in the power of the Spirit,
and that our love may not be a matter of words or talk
but be genuine and show itself in action.
Help us, our Father, to mean this our prayer
as we ask it in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bible Reading

Read the Gospel passage set for today slowly.
(see back cover)
Notice if any words or phrases jump out to you.
Meditate on these and what they might be saying to you,
your church and the community you live in.

Time for prayer for others and ourselves

Take time to think about and pray for:
what you have learned today from the Gospel
the world which God made and loves
those with whom we share our lives
anyone in special need
our parish

The Lord's Prayer

Ending

Creator God,
I offer you this day.
Give me grace to love and serve you
to the praise of Jesus Christ the Lord.
Amen.

Prayers

The Risen Existence

If you were not risen, Lord Jesus, to whom would we go
to discover a radiance of the face of God?

If you were not risen,

we would not be together seeking your communion.
We would not find in your presence forgiveness,
wellspring of a new beginning.

If you were not risen,
where would we draw the energy for following you
right to the end of our existence,
for choosing you again and anew?

Brother Roger of Taize

The Ascension

Christ our lover
to whom we try to cling:
as you have reached into our depths
and drawn us to love you,
so make us open, freely to let you go;
so that you may return in unexpected power
to change the world through us,
in your name.

Janet Morley

Pentecost

Almighty and all-loving God,
through the fire of your Spirit
you have drawn the hearts of men and women
to share in the mystery of your being;
by the power of the same Spirit
infuse our lives with your presence,
That, as your beloved Son was transformed in prayer,
we too may be transformed,
and our lives become a flame of self-giving love.

Angela Ashwin