

# Seventh Sunday of Easter 17th May 2026

## Collect

O God the King of glory,  
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ  
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:  
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,  
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us  
and exalt us to the place where  
our Saviour Christ is gone before,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## First Reading (Acts 1:6-14)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.  
So when they had come together, they asked him,  
"Lord, is this the time when you will restore the  
kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to  
know the times or periods that the Father has set by  
his own authority. But you will receive power when  
the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be  
my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria,  
and to the ends of the earth." When he had said  
this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a  
cloud took him out of their sight. While he was  
going and they were gazing up toward heaven,  
suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.  
They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand  
looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been  
taken up from you into heaven, will come in the  
same way as you saw him go into heaven."  
Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount  
called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath  
day's journey away. When they had entered the city,  
they went to the room upstairs where they were  
staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew,  
Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew,  
James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and  
Judas son of James. All these were constantly  
devoting themselves to prayer, together with  
certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus,  
as well as his brothers.

## Psalm (Psalm 47)

**Response: God goes up with shouts of joy,  
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.**

All peoples, clap your hands,  
cry to God with shouts of joy!  
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,  
great king over all the earth. /R

God goes up with shouts of joy;  
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.  
Sing praise for God, sing praise,  
sing praise to our king, sing praise. /R

God is king of all the earth,  
sing praise with all your skill.  
God is king over the nations;  
God reigns on his holy throne. /R

## Second Reading (1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11)

A reading from the First Letter of Peter.  
Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that  
is taking place among you to test you, as though  
something strange were happening to you. But  
rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings,  
so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when  
his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name  
of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of  
glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.  
But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, a  
criminal, or even as a mischief maker. Yet if any of  
you suffers as a Christian, do not consider it a  
disgrace, but glorify God because you bear this  
name. For the time has come for judgment to begin  
with the household of God; if it begins with us, what  
will be the end for those who do not obey the  
gospel of God? And  
"If it is hard for the righteous to be saved,  
what will become of the ungodly and the sinners?"  
Therefore, let those suffering in accordance with  
God's will entrust themselves to a faithful Creator,  
while continuing to do good.  
Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand  
of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all  
your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.  
Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion  
your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for  
someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your  
faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in  
all the world are undergoing the same kinds of  
suffering. And after you have suffered for a little  
while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his  
eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support,  
strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power  
forever and ever. Amen.

## **Gospel (John 17:1-11)**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John. After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

## **Post Communion Prayer**

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **For your prayers**

### **In our Prayers:**

Tommy Lacken, Martin Fletcher, Fr Michael Shier, Carol Martin, Philomena Sorrenti, Hope Oram, Sherry Lacken, Doug Williams, Neville Thomas, Lynn Williamson, Juan Carlos Mandich, Nancy Mandich, Eliane Ferreira Batista, Joanne Dack, Jaqueline Ives, Joan Rivellini, Tommy Naylor, Lenny Shaw, Stephen Green, Riva Hodges, Sarah Chambers, Dwight d'Aguilar Gooden, Bea Ray, Eudora Maame de Graft-Yankah, Martha de Graft-Johnson, David Wilkinson, Josea Cabey, Ian Isaacs, William Flynn, Ashton Lacken, Vincent Edward Hosey

**Among the departed:** Gordon Louch, Pat Lytton

**Anniversaries of Death:** John Charles Gunter, Edward Harper, John Miah, Emma Rosaman, John McCarthy, James Townsend, David Brotherton, Martha Martin, Stephen Atherton, Lucila de Bertrand, Edward William Fox, Itai Nyazika, George Lewis Seager

**In our parish:** We pray for Ironmonger Row, Norman Street and Finsbury Leisure Centre

**In our country as a whole** We pray for all our Local Counsellors, past and present, and those just about to begin their new responsibilities.

**In the wider world:** We pray for the Middle East and a peaceful resolution of the conflict in Gaza and between Israel and Iran. We pray for all those suffering in those conflicts.

## **Notices**

**This week in church...**

**Wednesday Open Church: 10am-1pm  
12.30pm Mass**

**Next Sunday Pentecost  
Sung Mass 10.30am**

## **Open Church**

Wednesdays are busy at St Clement's and we're always glad to see anyone who wants to drop in for a chat, a cup of tea or coffee, or to help out with the weekly tasks of keeping the church clean and tidy. Do join us!

## **King Square Coffee**

Community Room, Blackwell House  
(between President House and Rahere House)

Tuesday afternoons 1.30-3.30pm

Friday afternoons 12.30-2pm

A chance to chat with your neighbour and catch up over coffee, tea, soup and sweet treats. Everyone welcome!

## **Can you help with St Clement's 200th Anniversary Exhibition?**

Everyone is invited to attend our Historical Exhibition's opening night at 6pm on Friday 29th May. We also need people to cover keeping the church open on Saturday, 30th May, Sunday, 31st May 12-3pm and Saturday, 6th June @ 11am-3pm, Sunday 12-3pm. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of church if you're able to help, or contact Fr David directly.