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SUNDAY 17th MAY 2026 GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH (VOL. 8 ISSUE 321)

**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A)**

Parish Priest: Fr. Con Boyle: 01689 842644

Parish Sister: Sr. Sheila Barrett DMJ

Good Shepherd Primary Academy: 01689 841771 Head Teacher: Mrs. Jane Day

**Reflection:** In 2026, this Novena period from Ascension Thursday (**May 14<sup>th</sup>**) to Pentecost Sunday (**May 24<sup>th</sup>**) calls and invites us to sharpen our focus on **the Holy Spirit**, and to draw ever closer to Him – and even to draw Him closer to us, so to say.

At our **Baptism**, we receive the 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit & these are then reinforced in us at our **Confirmation**. These are:

*Wisdom; Knowledge; Understanding;*

*Counsel; Fortitude; Piety; Fear of the Lord.*

(The last interpreted as *Awe & Reverence*)

His Gifts are bestowed as **VIRTUES** sent to produce their **FRUITS**, of which there are 12:

*Charity; joy; peace; patience; kindness;*

*goodness; longanimity; mildness; faith;*

*modesty; continence; chastity.*

Here, the stand-out one needing explanation is clearly **longanimity**. It is scarcely a much used, familiar word or term. Certainly, it has connotations of patience – its very structure or construction as a word gives a clue or two – ‘**long**’ points to endurance; ‘**animity**’ points to the **anima** which is Latin for ‘soul’. Taken together, therefore, this word implies the ‘soul’ displaying endurance i.e. not being easily deflected or thrown off-guard.

**Longanimity**, therefore, means the revealing of patience under provocation – enduring quietly – remaining steadfast in the midst of “attacks” in some measure from others.

As His disciples today, we have in Jesus the greatest exponent of **longanimity** – the One who never retaliated against the very many “attacks” on Him. He had the full Fortitude of the Holy Spirit – such a virtue brought Him the ‘fruit’ of being fully able to absorb, within Himself, the vast challenge of a full humanity alongside His full Divinity.

**Novena for Exams** available at [praymorenovenas.com](http://praymorenovenas.com)

Saturday 16th May 2026 Feria of Eastertide

10am Mass – In thanksgiving to St. Michael the Archangel for His protection and blessings

Confessions 11am-12 noon & 5.45pm- 6.15pm

6.30pm Mass – For all-round improvement in health (JM)

**SUNDAY MAY 17th 2026**

**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)**

7.30am Adoration

8.30am Mass – For a loving adherence to the Will of God

11am Mass – People of the parish

Monday 18th May 2026 Feria of Eastertide

8.30am Adoration

9.15am Mass Anne Ngo-Bongo-Kaldjob RIP 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary today

Tuesday 19th May 2026 Feria of Eastertide

8.30am Adoration

9.15am Mass – Mary Hamill RIP (5 months’ mind today)

Wednesday 20th May 2026 Feria of Eastertide

**NO MORNING ADORATION OR MASS** – replaced by 6pm ANGELUS, EUCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR & EVENING MASS

7.30pm Mass – In thanksgiving

Thursday 21st May 2026 Feria of Eastertide

8.00am Adoration

9.15am Mass – Nancy Bermingham (90<sup>th</sup> birthday today)

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026 Feria of Eastertide

8.30am Adoration

9.15am Mass – Rowena Socorin RIP (2 months’ mind today)

Saturday 23rd May 2026 Feria of Eastertide

10am Mass – In thanksgiving for the graces & blessings of Holy Matrimony (5<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary today of Marietta & Vinnie)

Confessions: 10.30-11.00am & 5.45-6.15pm

6.30pm – George Desmond RIP

**SUNDAY 24th MAY 2026**

**PENTECOST SUNDAY (A)**

7.30am Adoration

8.30am Mass – People of the parish

11am Mass – That we may grow in the love of the Holy Spirit Who is the very Love within God

**Come along and celebrate the end of another academic year! Let us gather together for some summer fellowship, and to raise funds for our parish. From our cosmopolitan parish, there will be 5 “national dishes” and similar international ‘goodies’. There will be drinks, music, and activities for the children.**

***To prepare for the above event, we would greatly appreciate DURING MAY & JUNE, the receiving of the following: (1) drinks in manageable sizes (not bottles of wine). (2) small to medium sized bottles of water (e.g. fruited water). (3) cartons & cans for the children (of course, sugar-free especially). (4) cans & bottles of beer & lager (and non-alcoholic drinks). (5) individual-sized small cakes (but not cakes that require cutting). (6) suitable sweets for the children (e.g. individual-sizes, Haribos etc). PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL DONATED ITEMS WILL STILL BE IN GOOD DATE BY THE 12<sup>th</sup> JULY 2026. **MANY THANKS INDEED!*****

**New Addington Foodbank: thank you for all your contributions. CURRENTLY THE FOODBANK NEEDS: household cleaning products; nappies size 4 & higher; baby wipes; long-life milk; sugar; coffee; squash/fruit juice; savoury biscuits/crackers; rice; cooking oil; meat pies.**

**2020 Diamond Fund: this actually dates from March 2015. 2017 was our 60<sup>th</sup> Year - the Diamond Anniversary as a parish. 2020 marked 60 years of our church being built, before its unveiling in 1962. Details of the 2020 Diamond Fund bank account avail from Fr. Con, for anyone wishing to transfer. Thanks to all contributors.**

**Gift Aid Scheme: Parishioners, not yet members, are encouraged to join. You paid tax on your weekly giving to the parish. It can come back to the parish from HMR & C, at no cost to you.**

**Please pray for those with health issues: Peter Brown, Cyril Ojiemen, Curtis Pointu, Francesco Bruno, Jim Venis, Thomas Gunn, Issy Okwuobi, Divina Ddungu, Michael Onuh, Jason Brewer, Ruddyn Mathiasine, Sebastian Akogun, Vera Arthur, Susan Smith, Izeubokun Ichide, John Kabangue, Roseline Bardo, Teresa Saunders, Joyce Dean, Dorothy & Maria Vassallo, Fred Wye, Trudi Ollivierre, Philomena deSouza, Shirley Pointu, Cyril Green, Patricia Tougher, Kathy and Terry Jobson, Kathleen Sage, Mary Davies, Anjali & Doug Fanthome, Margaret Furey, Bryan and Maria Smith, Edith Mack, Eileen Evans, Tilly Whitmore, Celia Hulbert, Maura Malinoff, Amelia and Georgina Holmes, Ken & Maria Rowland, Anita Gregory, Victoria Kana, Jamie Prince, P. Vaughan, E. Hanks, Pat Enver, Julie Jones, Tyrone Phillips, Saoirse Hennessey, M. Slattery.**

**May 10th: Attendance: 178 1<sup>st</sup>Collection: £423.25 Gift-aided: £250.51 Loose: £172.74**

**2nd Collection: £101.40**

**WEBSITE: [good-shepherd-newaddington.org](http://good-shepherd-newaddington.org)**