



Crucis



The Magazine of St Salvador's Scottish Episcopal Church

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Far be it from me to glory except in the cross of Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world.

Galatians 6:14

June 2025

Editorial

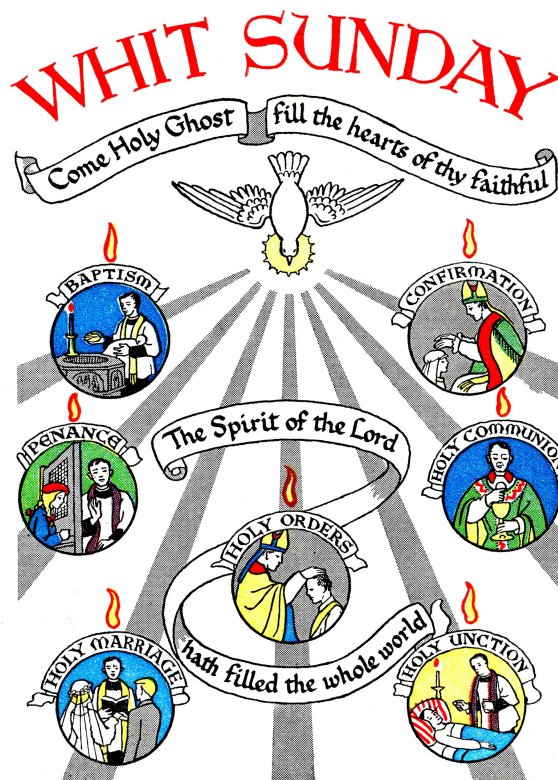
The liturgical colour for Whit Sunday, or Whitsun (a contraction of White Sunday) is, perhaps surprisingly, red. Red refers to the flames that appeared to be burning on the Apostles' heads when the Holy Spirit came upon them after the Ascension of Jesus. (Incidentally that's also the origin of the flame-shaped bishops' mitres.) The name 'Whit Sunday', commonly used in Anglican churches, was perhaps from the white garments worn by catechumens waiting to be baptised on that day. The other name, 'Pentecost', means 'fiftieth' and refers to the 50th day after Easter.

Whatever we call it, that was the time when the Holy Spirit came upon the Apostles and activated their faith to such a degree that they became willing to die for it. Almost all of them eventually did. The only one who wasn't martyred was John, who wrote the book of Revelation, the 4th Gospel and his three biblical epistles.

But what kind of experience must that have been, that brought the apostles out of hiding to build the Christian faith? Of course, by then they had all met the risen Jesus and been convinced of the truth of his teachings about God, eternal life and what it truly means to be human. But something more was needed. We all go through life learning new things – perhaps through formal education, perhaps through media or friends – but just understanding something is different from putting it into practice. For that we need a 'leap of faith' where we move from knowledge to action. That is not part of a logical progression. It requires something extra, a boost, a stimulus, a life-changing inspirational experience, perhaps even a kick in the backside ...

I wonder if there are areas in our life, or faith, that haven't yet got past the theoretical stage. Dare we ask the Holy Spirit to come upon us – to activate *our* potential and put *our* beliefs into practice?

Martin Andrews (Churchwarden)



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Services in June

Sun 1	Ascension Sunday	Sung Mass 11.00 a.m.
Wed 4	Martyrs of Uganda (tr)	Lay-led. 10.00 a.m.
Sun 8	Pentecost/Whitsunday	Lay-led. 11.00 a.m.
Wed 11	St Barnabas	Lay-led. 10.00 a.m.
Sun 15	Trinity Sunday	Sung Mass 11.00 a.m.
Wed 18	Corpus Christi (ant)	Lay-led. 10.00 a.m.
Sun 22	Trinity I	Sung Mass 11.00 a.m.
Wed 25	Birth of John the Baptist (tr)	Lay-led. 10.00 a.m.
Sun 29	Trinity II	Lay-led. 11.00 a.m.

Prayer for Whitsunday

O Lord our God, who didst send thy Holy Spirit to abide with thy Church for ever: Renew the same Spirit within us, that our hearts may be cleansed from evil things, and the fruits of love and goodness may abound in our lives; to the glory of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

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Saints' and Special Days for May

Text partly sourced from Wikipedia

Tuesday, 3rd June – The Martyrs of Uganda

In 1884 Mwanga became ruler of Buganda in Uganda. In Jan. 1885, he had 3 subjects executed that had disobeyed a missionary. In Nov. a Roman Catholic courtier was executed for protesting at the murder of the Anglican missionary Bishop James Hannington. The persecution climaxed in 1886, when some courtiers and palace officials refused Mwanga's sexual advances. Forty-six of them, Roman Catholics and Anglicans, were burnt alive on Ascension Day, 3 June, 1886 – including young boys. In the following January another Christian Ugandan was also put to death. The churches in Uganda came under extreme pressure during the 1970s & 1980s under the despotic presidencies of Idi Amin and Milton Obote. Among those martyred during this second wave of persecution was the Anglican Archbishop Janani Luwum.

Sunday, 8th June – Pentecost (or Whitsunday)

is a Christian holiday which takes place on the 49th day (50th day when inclusive counting is used) after Easter Day. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles of Jesus while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks, as described in Acts 2:1–31.

Pentecost is one of the Great feasts in the Eastern Orthodox Church, a Solemnity in the Roman Rite, a Festival in the Lutheran Churches, and a Principal Feast in the Anglican Communion. Many churches provide a special liturgy for this holy celebration. As it depends on the date of Easter, it is a 'moveable feast'.

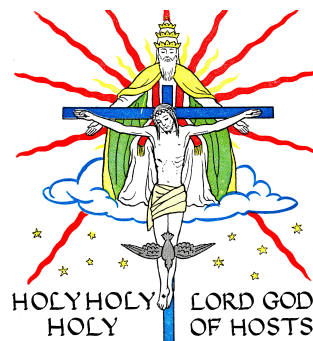
Wednesday, 11th June – St Barnabas, Apostle

Born in Cyprus, Barnabas was a wealthy Jew and one of the first converts in Jerusalem after Pentecost. He introduced St Paul to the leaders of the Jerusalem Church, was sent with him to Antioch to oversee the inclusion of non-Jewish converts there, and he went with St Paul on his first missionary journey. Barnabas took part in the Council of Jerusalem. Then he returned to Cyprus to preach the Gospel, and died there, possibly as a martyr, in the year 61.



Sunday, 15th June – Trinity Sunday

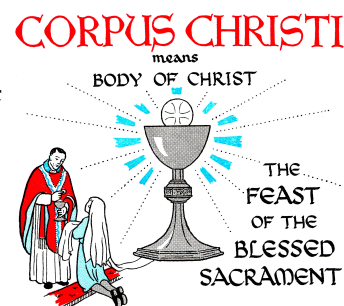
The first Sunday after Pentecost in the Western calendar, and the Sunday of Pentecost in Eastern Christianity. Trinity Sunday celebrates the Christian doctrine of the Trinity, the three Persons of God: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



In the early Church, no special Office or day was assigned to the Holy Trinity. When the Arian heresy was spreading, the Fathers prepared an Office with canticles, responses, a Preface, and hymns, to be recited on Sundays. In the Sacramentary of Gregory the Great there are prayers and the Preface of the Trinity. During the Middle Ages, devotion to the Blessed Trinity was a highly important feature of private devotion inspiring several liturgical expressions. Sundays are traditionally dedicated to the Holy Trinity.

Thursday, 19th June – Feast of Corpus Christi

Also known as the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, it is a liturgical solemnity celebrating the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist; the feast is observed by the Latin Church, and some Western Orthodox, Lutheran, and Anglican churches.



Nativity (Birth) of S. JOHN the BAPTIST



Tue., 24th June – The Birth of St John the Baptist

John's Nativity is a high-ranking liturgical feast, kept in many churches. The sole biblical account comes from the Gospel of Luke. Christians have long interpreted John's life as a preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ, and the circumstances of his birth, as recorded in the New Testament, are miraculous. John's pivotal place in the gospel is seen in the emphasis Luke gives to the birth's announcement and the event itself, both set in parallel to the same occurrences in Jesus' life.