



# 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

May 2026

## Message from Fr Michael Turner

The word 'Pentecost' means '50 days after Easter'. It's the celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit as recorded in Acts chapter 2, and it's the birthday of the Church. Beyond this, things can get a bit hazy. We are familiar with the idea of God the Father, and we've heard and read of all that Jesus – God the Son – said and did. But the Holy Spirit? Who He?

The images used of the Holy Spirit in scripture like 'spirit', 'wind', 'flame', 'breath' are all a bit elusive, and they possibly leave us with a feeling that in trying to understand the Holy Spirit we're chasing rainbows. But if we dig a little deeper, we can see that these images speak of an unhindered force – powerful and yet gentle, cleansing and free. The Bible is full of images of the Holy Spirit.

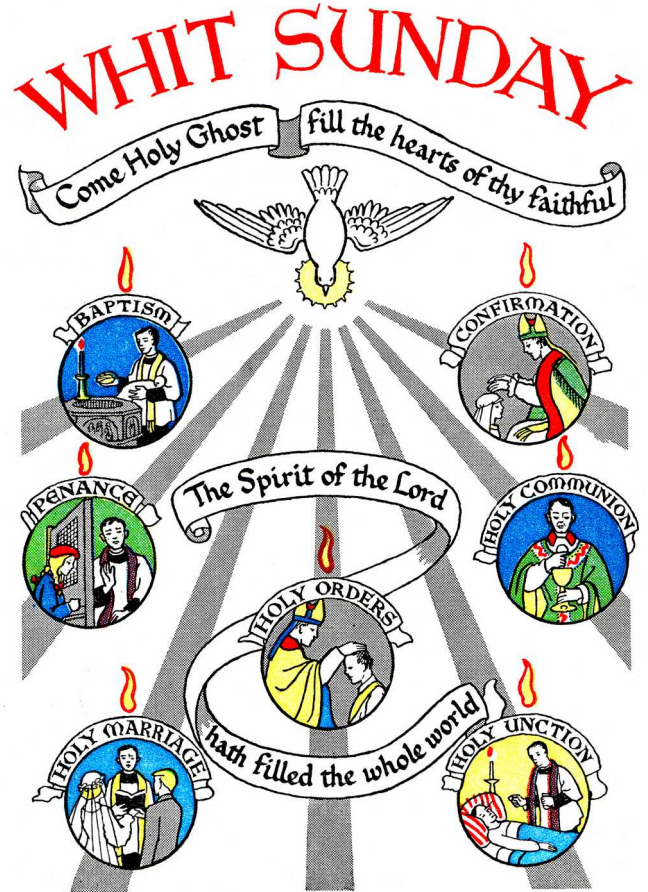
There is the dove, as seen on many Christmas cards and in stained glass windows. It's usually white. A white dove image speaks of gentleness and purity, unfettered as it wings its way across the sky.

Then there's the more difficult word 'advocate'. Someone who speaks up for us, comes alongside us, someone to aid us in times of need.

We could go on with different images but there are two key things to remember. First, this is the spirit of Jesus. All that Jesus was in earthly form, the Holy Spirit is to us now. Jesus is no longer among us as He was two thousand years ago, but the Holy Spirit makes Him available to us now.

Secondly, the Holy Spirit is given by God to us, giving us, as it were, an injection of Jesus' personality, wisdom and holiness, enabling us to love the Father and to serve others in their needs as Jesus did, enabling us, as Mother Teresa of Calcutta put it, 'to do little things with great love'.

Fr Michael



## Services in May

Sun 3	Easter V	Sung Mass 11.00 a.m.
Wed 6	Feria	Lay-led 10.00 a.m.
Sun 10	Easter VI	Sung Mass 11.00 a.m.
Wed 13	St Matthias, Ap. (ant)	Lay-led 10.00 a.m.
Sun 17	Ascension Sunday	Sung Mass 11.00 a.m.
Wed 20	St Helena (ant)	Lay-led 10.00 a.m.
Sun 24	Whitsunday/Pentecost	Sung Mass 11.00 a.m.
Wed 27	St Augustine (tr)	Lay-led 10.00 a.m.
Sun 31	Trinity Sunday	Sung Mass 11.00 a.m.

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## Prayer for Whitsun (Pentecost)

*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.*

## Saints' and Special Days in May

### St Matthias, Apostle (14 May)

In the choosing of Matthias to replace the traitor Judas, we can see that the author of the Acts of the Apostles differs from St Paul in his understanding of apostleship. The number had to be restored so that they might sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel. It was conditional that they had to have been with Jesus during his earthly ministry and witnesses to the resurrection. Being chosen by lot, rather than by election, indicated the choice was God's alone.



### Ascension Day (14 May transferred to Sunday)

The Feast of the Ascension of Jesus Christ commemorates the Christian belief of the bodily Ascension of Jesus into Heaven. It is one of the ecumenical feasts of Christian churches, ranking with the feasts of the Passion and Pentecost. Following the account of Acts 1:3 that the risen Jesus appeared for 40 days prior to his Ascension, Ascension Day is traditionally celebrated on a Thursday, the fortieth day of Easter according to inclusive counting, although some Churches have moved the observance to the following Sunday, sometimes called Ascension Sunday. Ascensiontide refers to the ten-day period between the Ascension and Pentecost. Wikipedia

### St Helena, Protector of the Holy Places (21 May)

Flavia Julia Helena (c. AD 246/248 – 330), also known as Helena of Constantinople and in Christianity as Saint Helena, was a Greek Augusta of the Roman Empire and mother of Emperor Constantine the Great as well as a Canonised saint in both Roman Catholic

and Orthodox Churches for her pivotal role in the spread of Christianity. She was born in the lower classes traditionally in the city of Drepanon, Bithynia, in Asia Minor, which was renamed Helenopolis. Helena ranks as an important figure in the history of Christianity. In her final years, she made a religious tour of Syria, Palaestina and Jerusalem, during which tradition claims that she discovered the True Cross. Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Oriental Orthodox, Anglican, and Lutheran Churches all revere her as a saint. Wikipedia

### St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop (26 May)

Augustine of Canterbury (early 6<sup>th</sup> century – c. 26 May 604 or 605) was a Christian monk who became the first archbishop of Canterbury in the year 597. Augustine was the prior of a monastery in Rome when Pope Gregory the Great chose him in 595 to lead a mission, usually known as the Gregorian mission, to Britain to Christianise King Æthelberht and his Kingdom of Kent from Anglo-Saxon paganism. Kent was likely chosen because Æthelberht commanded major influence over neighbouring Anglo-Saxon kingdoms in addition to his marriage to Bertha, a Frankish princess and Christian, who was expected to exert some influence over her husband. Before reaching Kent, the missionaries had considered turning back, but Gregory urged them on, and in 597 Augustine landed on the Isle of Thanet and proceeded to Æthelberht's main town, Canterbury. Æthelberht converted to Christianity and allowed the missionaries to preach freely, giving them land to found a monastery outside the city walls. Augustine was consecrated as a bishop and converted many of the king's subjects, including thousands during a mass baptism on Christmas Day in 597. Pope Gregory sent more missionaries in 601, along with encouraging letters and gifts for the churches, although attempts to persuade the native British bishops to submit to Augustine's authority failed. Roman bishops were established at London, and Rochester in 604, and a school was founded to train Anglo-Saxon priests and missionaries. Augustine also arranged the consecration of his successor, Laurence of Canterbury. The archbishop probably died in 604 and was soon revered as a saint. Wikipedia

### S. AUGUSTINE teaching the English

