

"Every day, as long as this 'today' lasts,  
keep encouraging one another" (Heb 3:13)

**May 29<sup>th</sup> 2022**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
**Readings p. 281**

The final scene of the movie, *Dead Poets Society*, is one of the most moving in modern cinema. Beloved teacher, Mr Keating (played by the late Robin Williams), is saying a final farewell to his students, who have been inspired by his unorthodox teaching methods and his encouragement to make your lives extraordinary.' As he leaves the classroom, the students, in defiance of their strict headmaster, stand on their desks and salute him with the words, 'O Captain! My Captain!' – referring to a poem he taught them.

Goodbyes are often emotional, particularly if we know we might not see the other person again for a long time, if ever. In films and TV programmes, a farewell scene can be a pivotal moment, or even the climax of the drama. Sometimes, when characters say goodbye to each other, we see a shot of one of them left behind, bereft, gazing into the distance after their loved one. In this context, one line in today's first reading always grabs my attention: 'They were still staring into the sky.' The apostles had just witnessed Jesus being 'lifted up' and taken from their sight. They had lost him once with his death, and now they are losing him a second time, after precious time spent with him following his resurrection.

But the scene at the Ascension is no ordinary goodbye. It is not a dramatic scene written for a film script. In fact, Jesus does not seem to say goodbye at all. His last words are a promise to the disciples: the Holy Spirit will be with them as they set out on their mission. They have not been left alone.

Tríona Doherty



**Today's Psalm**  
**Psalm 96**

This Sunday occurs during the great novena of prayer between the Ascension and Pentecost.

The psalm was for the enthronement of a king. It supplies us with the language of prayer to celebrate the glory of the risen, victorious Lord.

*The is king ...* as Paul puts it, Jesus has triumphed over all his enemies, and the last one to be destroyed was death.

*Let earth rejoice, the many coastlands be glad ...* the power of the Holy Spirit would send out the disciples to bring the news of Jesus to all nations.

*His throne is justice and right ...* As Jesus was vindicated in his glorification, so will the faithful be vindicated in his glory. Today's reading from the Apocalisse is about vindication of those faithful in all the trials and persecutions of the writer's day.

*The skies proclaim his justice, all peoples see his glory ...* at the martyrdom of Stephen, the heavens opened wide and there he saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at God's right hand. The priestly prayer of Jesus is an intercession on our behalf: 'Father I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, so that they may always see the glory you have given me.'

Jesus alone is Lord, far above all spirits, above any ideologies or idols that might be worshipped. May the Holy Spirit raise us up to be worthy of our calling.

**Fr. Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap.**

## St. Mary's Catholic Church, Euxton - Tel: (01257) 262665

Mass Intentions for w/c Sunday May 29 2022

**Sun:** 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

8.30.am. The Parisioners

10.30.am. Margaret Dickinson

Mon: No Mass

Tues: No Mass

Wed **Funeral Service**

10.00.am. Vincent Kiernan

Thurs: No Mass

10.am.

Fri: No Mass

7.00.pm.

**Sunday: Pentecost Sunday**

8.30.am. Parisioners

10.30.am. Eddie McDermott

0771 942 7926 (only for emergency use)

### **Confessions**

At your request

### **On Admittance to Hospital or Nursing Home**

Staff need to be made aware by you: that you, or the member of your family, or the person you accompany, are Catholic, and require the services of the Catholic Chaplaincy.

**Mass Intentions received upto 28/05/2022**

**We pray for the Sick, especially the sick of the parish** including Ryan Troop; and Catherine Thompson; Maureen Beardsworth and Desmond Gorman Poppy Charlotte Wilkinson (7th May) and Alexander John Morley (14th May) on their Baptisms here and welcome them as followers of Jesus.

### World Communcations Day 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection

“Among the five senses, the one favoured by God seems to be hearing, perhaps because it is less invasive, more discreet than sight, and therefore leaves the human being more free!”

“Listening corresponds to the humble style of God. It is the action that allows God to reveal himself as the One who, by speaking, creates man and woman in his image, and by listening recognizes them as his partners in dialogue.”The pope laments what he describes as an absence of listening in public discourse. Good communication, instead, does not try to impress the public with a soundbite, but pays attention to the reasons of the other person and tries to grasp the complexity of reality.”wake.”“In order to provide solid, balanced, and complete information, it is necessary to listen for a long time. To recount an event or describe an experience in news reporting, it is essential to know how to listen, to be ready to change one’s mind, to modify one’s initial assumptions.”

Platinum Jubile 70 Acts of Service is an opportunity to celebrate the Queen’s Jubilee by looking at ways to support our communities with 70 acts of service. For ideas we are invited to [www.theplatinumjubilee.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Platinum-Jubilee-70-Acts-of-Service-3.pdf](http://www.theplatinumjubilee.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Platinum-Jubilee-70-Acts-of-Service-3.pdf)

It’s that time of year again. We pray for all our young parishioners who are currently negotiating exams and tests. We pray that they will negotiate them free of anxiety and stress and that they will be able to do their best. We remind our young parishioners that we love them not based on success but by who they are. We remind our young parishioners that whatever the results, there will always be fresh opportunities and our unconditional support and love.

“You never get people's fuller attention than when you're listening to them.”

Robert Brault, rbrault.blogspot.com