ST MICHAEL'S ARDKENNETH (www.uist-rc.org.uk)
ST MARY'S BORNISH

Parish Priest : Fr Michael J. MacDonald
tel: 01870 610243
Email: ardkenneth@rcdai.org.uk
Mobile: 07900223763

22nd May 2022 Sixth Sunday of Easter: C

MASSES DURING THE WEEK

Monday, 23rd May
Gerinish 10am
Bornish 7pm
(Requiem Mass - Helen MacDonald)

Tuesday, 24th May
Bornish 10am

Wednesday, 25th May
Howbeg 10am

Vigil of the Ascension
Bornish 7pm
Thursday, 26th May
Ascension Thursday
Bornish 10am
(Anniversary Mass - Robert Bell)
Ardkenneth 7pm

Friday, 27th May
Ardkenneth 10am

Saturday, 28th May
Bornish 10am

Seventh Sunday of Easter
29th May May
Vigil Mass 6pm

Sunday Masses
Bornish 9.30am
Ardkenneth 11.30am

Confirmation: Bishop Brian celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation for two boys at Bornish and for two girls and three boys at Ardkenneth. We are grateful to the bishop for coming to our parishes and for conferring this sacrament on our young people.

Ascension Thursday: Thursday is the Solemnity of the Ascension and is a Holyday of Obligation. I will be celebrating two Masses for the Feast, one at Bornish the evening before at 7pm and the other at Ardkenneth at 7pm on Thursday evening. On Thursday morning at 10am I will be celebrating a First anniversary Memorial Mass for the repose of the soul of Robert Bell. This Mass will not be the Mass of the Feast.

Communications Sunday - Special Collection: Communications Sunday occurs next Sunday. There will be a special collection in our parishes at the Masses of next weekend to support the Church's work in the Communication of the Gospel.

Synodal Meeting: The second Synodal Meeting for Ardkenneth parish will take place on Sunday, 22nd May, after 11.30am Mass in the church.

Requiem Mass—Helen MacDonald: As many of you will know, my Aunt Helen died at Colchester, Essex, at the beginning of April, aged 102. Her Requiem is taking place at Colchester on Tuesday with burial the following day at Teddington, London, alongside her husband, John. I will celebrate Requiem Mass for her in Bornish on Monday at 7pm. All are welcome to come along.

Acts 15,1-2.22-29; Apoc 21,10-14.22-23; John 14,23-29

Our reading from the Acts of the Apostles gives us the account of how the apostles deal with the first major challenge to the developing faith. People, who had been Jews before they were baptised, were insisting that the requirement of circumcision as a sign of identification as someone dedicated to God should apply to all Christians. Although the apostles 'rule', under the influence of the Holy Spirit, that this is no longer necessary to be a Christian, they, nevertheless, insist that those members of the Church who are uncircumcised, should abstain from practices which would annoy those Christians of Jewish origin. Being 'right' is not a virtue. Nowhere does Jesus teach 'Blessed are those who are right'. Yet, for many of us 'be ing right' a great of time is presented as though it is.

The new 'Jerusalem', described in our second reading is the Church. The new Jerusalem has no temple in it as the old city had: 'The Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple'.

There is no description of the event of Pentecost in the Gospel of John but the reality of the Holy Spirit runs through the whole Gospel. As we reach forward towards the celebration of the Feast of Pentecost, the Church invites us to listen to what Jesus says today. One of the tasks of the Holy Spirit is to 'teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you'. The Holy Spirit isn't just handing over information but he invites us to live in a certain way, a way which is expressive of the love of the Father and the Son which dwells within us. If 'love' is one of the characteristics of those who live with the Spirit dwelling in them, then 'peace' is another characteristic. The person, who belongs to the Father, the Son, and the Spirit will be a person of peace.

The living of the Christian life is not about who is 'right' and who is 'wrong' but is about expressing the love and peace of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.