

St Margaret's Church

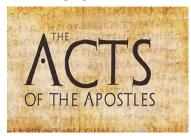
Together we aim to: Worship God, Proclaim Jesus, Grow in the Spirit and Serve the World

In Contact

8th June 2025

ACTS 2. 1-21

PENTECOST: Who is the Holy Spirit?



This Sunday, we joyfully celebrate Pentecost, the day when the coming Holy Spirit came upon Jesus' disciples in great power (Acts 2). Jesus himself had promised this wonderful gift (Acts 1: 4-8), and after His ascension, the disciples only had to wait ten days for his promise to be kept. This outpouring was the very breath of God empowering His people.

But who is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is fully God, one person of the Trinity, our God whom we worship as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit was not invented at Pentecost; He is eternal and has always been a part of God's being and work throughout all of history. Jesus spoke of Him, promising "another Counsellor to be with you forever" (John 14:15-16), the "Spirit of truth" who "will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13). And indeed, after His resurrection, Jesus "breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit'" (John 20:22), anticipating this full impartation.

The Bible uses different images to help us grasp who the Holy Spirit is and what He does. In church, we shall offer interactive prayer stations. These are listed below. Take time to look at each area to encounter different aspects of the Spirit's work in and through us.

- At the **FIRE** station, we engage with the Spirit's purifying power, reflecting on His ability to cleanse and refine us.
- The **WIND** station invites us to consider His unseen yet powerful presence, moving within and among us, empowering us for God's purposes.
- Through the **FRUIT** station, we contemplate the Spirit's role in cultivating Christlike character – love, joy, peace, and more – within our lives. (Galatians 5. 22-23)
- And at the **GUIDE** station, using symbolic tools like a map (God's Word), compass (inner peace), guidebook (wise counsel), and torch (clarity for the next step), we explore the diverse and personal ways He leads us.

The original Pentecost event, where disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit and boldly proclaimed the good news, marked the birthday of the Church. It was the starting point for remarkable growth and

transformation.

Today, as we remember and celebrate, we too seek to be open to the Spirit's filling, to be purified, empowered, and guided by Him. Let us respond with hearts ready to receive from God, who continues to pour out His Spirit upon us.



Steph O'Hanlon

Parish Office Tel: 0161 432 4606 E-mail: M19stmargarets@gmail.com

Bible Verse for 2025: Philippians 4.4 Rejoice in the LORD always. I will say again: Rejoice!

This week- Sunday 8th June 2025:

Pentecost morning service at 10.30am. Please be aware that If the weather is good, we might go outside for the service.

BCP Communion at 3pm.

Next Week 15th June 2025:

Special family service at 10.30am. to celebrate Fathers' day and Trinity. **21st June– Victorian Themed Summer Fair, 2-4pm.** Helpers needed. See Catherine or Angela.

June 8th - 14th, Please Pray for:

- People living in Westdean Crescent, Alston Gardens & Ashburn Avenue.
- The next Alpha Course which starts on Wednesday in HMP Manchester.
- Helpful Mission Community Chapter meeting on Friday.
- Us in 2025 to learn more of what it is to "Rejoice in the Lord always" (see motto).
- Preparations for the All Age service on Trinity/Fathers' Day on Sunday 15th.
- Open Doors partners to help displaced Christians in Nigeria spiritually & practically.
- Volunteers to help with our Victorian Fair on Saturday 21st.

Thank you: to all those who supported the Burnage Open Gardens and the refreshments at Church. We collected over £320 for the Burnage foodbank.

Looking Ahead:

This Time Tomorrow: you may have heard others being interviewed in church and asked about what they are doing this time tomorrow and how we can pray for you. Would you be interested in being interviewed? If so, see Helen Hardy or Matt.

12th July: 7pm. A concert by Vivaldi ensemble in aid of Falconer Home in church.

13th July: 10.30am. Sunday service to give thanks for the Falconer Home. Theme is **'Called to Go.'**

Mission Action Plan 2026-9: At the end of this year, we will be starting to form our next plan for growth, so please chat to Matt or any member of the PCC if you have ideas and thoughts that could feed into this.

Food bank: are in urgent need of some new items. Please see bottom of page.

If you are visiting St Margaret's for the first time we hope you will enjoy worshipping with us today.

For more information please visit our website: www.stmargaretsburnage.org.uk

Come and join us for tea or coffee after the service.



URGENTLY NEEDED: Please concentrate on <u>Tinned Tomatoes</u>,

<u>Tinned Sweet Corn/Peas</u>, <u>Tinned Carrots/Potatoes</u>, <u>Tinned Corned beef/ham</u>, <u>Long life Fruit juice/ Long life Semi milk</u>, <u>Tea/</u>
Coffee, Tinned Fruit/ Custard, Jam/Peanut butter, Shampoo.