

# St Francis of Assisi, Baddesley Clinton

[Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216]

Fr John Sharp

[www.sfachurch.org.uk](http://www.sfachurch.org.uk)

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Seventh Sunday of Easter (A)

24<sup>th</sup> May 2020

In John's Gospel, Jesus refers to the hour of his death as his glorification. As he tells the disciples in today's gospel reading, addressing the Father: 'I have glorified you on earth and finished the work you gave me to do.' After his resurrection, that glorification is made manifest to the disciples in the appearance of Risen Lord in his glorified body, yet it is still somewhat veiled, for 'I have not yet ascended to the Father.' Jesus' ascension into heaven is the full manifestation of the glory of the risen Christ, who takes our humanity to the Father's right hand. As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states, 'Left to its own natural powers humanity does not have access to the "Father's house", to God's life and happiness. Only Christ can open to man such access that we, his members, might have confidence that we too shall go where he, our Head and our Source, has preceded us' (§ 661).

Please keep in touch, either by telephone (above) or email ([sfa.bc@outlook.com](mailto:sfa.bc@outlook.com)) and remember to pray for one another.

## PARISH LITURGY – MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS

### Seventh Sunday of Easter

9.30 am People of the Parish

### Monday [St Bede the Venerable, priest, doctor of the Church]

9.00 am Intentions of J.P.

### Tuesday [St Philip Neri, priest]

9.00 am Private Intention

### Wednesday [St Augustine of Canterbury, bishop]

9.00 am Eleanor Massey

### Thursday [Easter Feria]

9.00 am Private Intention

### Friday [**Dedication of the Church (1894)**]

9.00 am Private Intention

### Saturday [Easter Feria]

9.00 am Intentions of Anthony and Marie Fildes

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Please pray for the sick in our parish and those who have died: **Henry Chinn; Fr John Joseph Dale (former parish priest)** (anniversaries).

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*May is a month of special devotion to our Blessed Lady. You might like to recite this prayer, the oldest known prayer to Mary, which will be said at the end of every Mass during the month:-*

We fly to thy patronage, O holy Mother of God. Despise not our prayers in our necessities but deliver us from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

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O world invisible, we view thee,  
O world intangible, we touch thee,  
O world unknowable, we know thee,  
Inapprehensible, we clutch thee!

Does the fish soar to find the ocean,  
The eagle plunge to find the air –  
That we ask of the stars in motion  
If they have rumour of thee there?

Not where the wheeling systems darken,  
And our benumbed conceiving soars! –  
The drift of pinions, would we hearken,  
Beats at our own clay-shuttered doors.

The angels keep their ancient places; -  
Turn but a stone, and start a wing!  
'Tis ye, 'tis your estranged faces,  
That miss the many-splendoured thing.

But (when so sad thou canst not sadder)  
Cry; - and upon thy so sore loss  
Shall shine the traffic of Jacob's ladder  
Pitched between Heaven and Charing Cross.

Yea, in the night, my Soul, my daughter,  
Cry, - clinging Heaven by the hems;  
And lo, Christ walking on the water  
Not of Gennesareth, but Thames!

Francis Thompson (1859-1907)