

Today's Gospel invites us to think about truth. That is a word people use often, but not always carefully. Truth can sometimes seem to have become like an old jumper passed around at a jumble sale, stretched, reshaped, and made to fit whoever is wearing it. We hear people say, "my truth," "your truth," or "a different version of truth." Some politicians are especially gifted at this. They can take a plain fact, polish it nicely, add a ribbon, and present it as something entirely new. In the end, we may wonder if we are listening to a speech or watching a magician pull rabbits from a hat.

Yet the Gospel speaks of truth in a clearer and steadier way. The truth of God is not slippery or changing with the weather. It doesn't depend on opinion polls, headlines, or who shouts loudest. God's truth is rooted in love, mercy, justice, and faithfulness. It shines quietly but firmly, like a lamp in a dark room.

Of course, we don't always see the whole truth at once. We are human. We misunderstand, we make mistakes, and sometimes we only know part of the story. There can be shades in our understanding, but that does not mean truth itself has changed. If I wear dirty glasses, the world looks dirty, but the world itself has not become dirty.

Jesus did not say, "I offer several interesting possibilities." He spoke plainly and called people to walk in the light. Truth may sometimes challenge us, but it also sets us free. It saves us from the exhausting task of pretending black is white simply because someone powerful says so.

So perhaps the real question is not whether truth has shades, but whether we are willing to step out of the shadows and face it with honesty and humility.

And as Jerry Lee the cat stretched in the sunshine and flicked his tail, he offered this bit of wisdom: "If the bowl is empty, it is empty. Calling it 'a developing situation' doesn't fill it."



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THIS WEEK

Sat 16 ^h May	Easter Feria	4.00pm
Sun 17 th May	SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.30am
Mon 18 ^h May	Easter Feria	10.00am
Wed 20 ^h May	Easter Feria	10.00pm
Fri 22 nd May	Easter Feria	10.00am
Fri 22 nd May	Taizé evening for Pentecost	7.00pm
Sat 23 rd May	Easter Feria	4.00pm
Sun 24 th May	SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST	9.30am

The Bible Time-line
 7:00pm
 Every Monday Evening
 St. Benedict's Community Hall



Safeguarding: The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the national and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is

Mrs. Jo Currie who can be contacted at

sg.stbenedict.atherstone@rcaob.org.uk

For Your Diary
Milestone events in 2026 in our parish

First Holy Communion Saturday 6th June at 10.30am

Confirmation Tuesday 30th June at 6.00pm.

Taizé evening for Pentecost Friday 22nd May at 7.00pm.



The Taizé Group
Taizé evening for Pentecost
Friday May 22nd
at 7pm In Church.



Chinthowa Development Trust AGM
Tuesday 19th May at 6.30pm
In Church Hall
EVERYONE WELCOME

Volunteers for Cleaning Rota

Could you spare a little time to help clean the Church?
If so, clipboards will be provided at the back of the church. If
you could sign and include your email address or telephone
number so Noreen Wightman can contact you.

Volunteers for Reading

If you would like to read on a Saturday or Sunday Mass
please can you add your name and email or telephone
number to the clipboard at the back of church so that
Clare Forbes can contact you.

ON SALE NOW
2 new books for Children by
Brian and Rosa



“The Long Path”

“The Miracle of the Roses”

£6.99 each with all profit going to Charity.

Collections

1st Collection £ 141.81
2nd Collection £ 211.95

TOTAL £353.76

Please pray for those whose anniversaries fall at this time;

Istvan Dulai, Alfred Albrighton, Barbara Clews, Thomas Swarbrick,

Frank Flint, Elsie Byrne.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord...