

Jubilee and Pentecost Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at St Edmunds

Act 2:1-21, John 14.8-17,25-27

Sit down/ In the Name of the Father Son and Holy Spirit, Amen.

Our reading today from Acts reflects the celebration of a special day – Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit. We hopefully have some film of the Anointing of the Queen at her Coronation, or rather not the actual moment because it was regarded as too holy to be filmed like the rest of the ceremony.

*Coronation film* - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZYay408Rd7c>

It was certainly an event in the past, a bit like my first real memory of celebrating Pentecost in a church, by singing in a musical version of the Pentecost story. It was not a major production, and the rhymes set to jolly music of the time would probably set our teeth on edge, but I still remember some of the lines from that reading to music...

Another memory of Pentecost past is when the Deaf Church from Bury St Edmunds attended a service at the Cathedral, and we all wondered how the person signing the reading in British Sign Language would cope with the place names that Diane read so beautifully. Apparently she just did the sign for “And various other places”...

Present, the second film we are going to see hopefully is of the Queen’s visit to Derby not that many years after the Coronation, in 1957. I should say that if you want to, and you are technically up to date, we have put the references to the films on the order of service, so you can find them later. Maybe you are going to be trying to spy yourself or someone you know in the background ...

*Show film 2* – <https://www.macearchive.org/films/midlands-news-28031957-royal-visit-derby>

And the future, or at least a bit more up to date, we will be watching the Royal visit to Derby to distribute the Maundy Monday in 2010. I think the ceremony represents the events of Maundy Thursday when Jesus washed the disciples’ feet. The Monarch of more recent times – centuries, has wanted to avoid

touching the subjects too much, so has distributed purses of money. This film is far more recent, so maybe you will remember the event ...

*Show film, 3 – Royal Maundy 2010*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Ruzq\\_Emwg0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Ruzq_Emwg0)

Our reading from John's Gospel today reflects how the disciples were understandably concerned about managing to see God the Father. Jesus comforts them with the promise of the Holy Spirit when he leaves, to help them as they will need. John states that he promises Peace. Peace is definitely something we need today. In our world there is actual War, battles for territory in Europe that rages on in Europe, in Ukraine, and other places. But peace of this type goes beyond the absence of war, it is a feeling of comfort in the pain, fear and upset caused by quieter forces, like inequality, climate change and poverty. Discrimination, enforcement of oppression and other awful things in our world, our country, can only be changed by something dramatic. Maybe faith, maybe the actions of people insisting that things have got to change for the better, is what is needed.

So whatever you think of the Jubilee celebrations, what ever your understanding of Pentecost, I hope that you have had a good time over the last few days, today, and at this special time.

Julie Barham

4 June 2022