

Reflection on The Readings for Pentecost Sunday

Pentecost is the day when, true to his promise, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to the Apostles. Before the coming of the Holy Spirit the apostles were hiding in the upper room, timid and afraid. When the Holy spirit came down upon them they were transformed, and went out boldly to proclaim Jesus as Lord. Pentecost is not just personal, it is communal as well. The church was launched on its mission to proclaim the Good News of Jesus. The message of the "Good News" has travelled around the world to people of every race and nationality.

Baptism marks the day when all of us began a new life in Christ. Pentecost makes it a lived reality. It is a spiritual transformation which sets the focus and direction for our lives. The words of Our Lord Jesus Christ "As the father sent me, so I send you" should have an impact on us as how we are going to put it into practice. We are invited to live out our faith with the same passion as the apostles.

Pentecost is a call to personal action. The Holy Spirit continues to act in our time just as the Holy Spirit did in the time of the apostles and can work very quietly in the background of our lives, guiding us in our choices in life. Paul proclaims in the 1st letter to the Corinthians that there are a variety of gifts, services and skills that same Spirit that directs and enables each of us to fully use our gifts and abilities. Each of us has been endowed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. We are called to use our gifts and share our unique abilities for our own welfare and the betterment of humanity. People tend to recognize the power and force of the Holy Spirit in other lives such as St. Teresa of Calcutta and St. John Paul II. Yet that same Holy Spirit is given to each one of us. There is a story of a tourist who visited Niagara Falls and was told that Niagara Falls was the greatest unused power in the world. The visitor was duly impressed but replied, "the power here is great, but the greatest unused power in the world is the Holy Spirit."

We may reflect and ask ourselves, what role does the Holy Spirit play in my life?

Do I Pray to the Holy Spirit?

Come Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit, O Lord and renew the face of the earth. O God, on the first Pentecost you instructed the hearts of those who believed in you by the light of the Holy Spirit. Under the inspiration of the same Spirit, give us a taste for what is right and true and a continuing sense of his joy-bringing presence and power through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

O come, O Holy Spirit, come!

Come as holy light and lead us.

Come as holy truth and teach us.

Ancient Prayer

Fr. Robert Love