

Homily for Pentecost Sunday, Year B 2021

Theme: Come, Spirit of Truth!!

A story is told about a little boy who was flying a kite. It was a windy day, and the kite kept going higher and higher. Finally, it got so high that it was out of sight. A man passed by and saw the little boy holding onto the string. The man could not see the kite, and so he asked the boy, "How do you even know you have a kite up there?" The boy replied, "Because I can feel it."

And this happens to be the message we are invited to have at heart on this day.

Although we cannot see the Holy Spirit with our human eyes, we should always be able to sense His work in our lives, changing us into being better persons.

In the Gospel reading of today (John 15:26-27; 16:12-15), Jesus prepares the hearts of His disciples for the coming of the Holy Spirit. The promised Spirit of Truth will guide them into all the truth. This was fulfilled for our God is ever faithful, as recounted in the first reading.

In this first reading of today (Acts 2:1-11), the disciples are gathered together in a place, and the promise of the Father is fulfilled. They are filled with the Holy Spirit, a Spirit which descends upon each one of them in the form of a strong wind, and tongues of fire. And while under the Spirit of God, all barriers of nation and language were broken. They were able to speak one language (That language is the first fruit of the Holy spirit: Love).

The second reading of today (Galatians 5:16-25) brings to light the outcome of those led by the Holy Spirit. It tells of the effects of the work of the Spirit of God in our lives. As a tree is known by its fruits, so will the lives of individuals be known by what is brought forth.

Truly, we cannot see the Holy Spirit but we can bear witness to the visible works of the invisible Spirit in our lives. Perhaps we can do well to set a tribunal at the base of our hearts and so ask: am I under the influence of the Spirit of God?

The Venerable Fulton J. Sheen once said about the Church – about you, about me, that ... "Even though we are God's CHOSEN people, we often behave more like God's FROZEN people. Frozen in our prayer life, frozen in the way we relate with one another, frozen in the way we celebrate our Faith, frozen because of sin ..."

How FROZEN am I? Today is a great day to ask the Holy Spirit to rekindle in us the spirit of new life.

May we learn to observe Pentecost everyday by invoking the presence of the Spirit of Truth. Remember: The Spirit of God remains invisible but He stands visible when He is at work in us. May our insistent prayer be our responsorial psalm: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

May the ever-Blessed Virgin Mary intercede for us.

Fr. Albert Kemboi