



**CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEALESVILLE, INCORPORATING HEALESVILLE (ST BRIGID'S),
YARRA GLEN (ST ALOYSIUS) & MARYSVILLE (OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS)**

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23rd May 2021

PENTECOST SUNDAY (Year B)

First Reading: Acts 2:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome - Jews and proselytes alike - Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34

**R. Lord, send out your Spirit
and renew the face of the earth.**

Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches.

**R. Lord, send out your Spirit
and renew the face of the earth.**

You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth.

**R. Lord, send out your Spirit
and renew the face of the earth.**

May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord.

**R. Lord, send out your Spirit
and renew the face of the earth.**

Second Reading: Galatians 5:16-25

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians

If you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence, since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit, the Spirit is totally against such a thing, and it is precisely because the two are so opposed that you do not always carry out your good intentions. If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you. When self-indulgence is at work the results are obvious: fornication, gross indecency and sexual irresponsibility; idolatry and sorcery; feuds and wrangling, jealousy, bad temper and quarrels; disagreements, factions, envy; drunkenness, orgies and similar things. I warn you now, as I warned you before: those who behave like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. What the Spirit brings is very different: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control. There can be no law against things like that, of course. You cannot belong to Christ Jesus unless you crucify all self-indulgent passions and desire. Since the Spirit is our life, let us be directed by the Spirit. The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sequence

Holy Spirit, Lord of Light,
From the clear celestial height
Thy pure beaming radiance give.
Come, thou Father of the poor,
Come with treasures which endure
Come, thou light of all that live!
Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow
Thou in toil art comfort sweet
Pleasant coolness in the heat
Solace in the midst of woe.
Light immortal, light divine,
Visit thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill:
If thou take thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay
All his good is turned to ill.
Heal our wounds, our strength renew
On our dryness pour thy dew
Wash the stains of guilt away:
Bend the stubborn heart and will
Melt the frozen, warm the chill
Guide the steps that go astray.

Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and thee adore,
With thy sevenfold gifts descend:
Give us comfort when we die
Give us life with thee on high
Give us joys that never end.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Alleluia!

Gospel: John 15:26-27; 16:12-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:
'When the Advocate comes,
whom I shall send to you from the Father,
the Spirit of truth who issues from the Father,
he will be my witness.
And you too will be witnesses,
because you have been with me from the outset.
'I still have many things to say to you
but they would be too much for you now.
But when the Spirit of truth comes
he will lead you to the complete truth,
since he will not be speaking as from himself
but will say only what he has learnt;
and he will tell you of the things to come.
He will glorify me,
since all he tells you
will be taken from what is mine.
Everything the Father has is mine;
that is why I said:
All he tells you
will be taken from what is mine.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

General Intercessions

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Thanksgiving – 16th May 2021

St Brigid's Healesville,
Thanksgiving: \$389.40
Presbytery: \$124.60
Special Collection: \$98.20

St Aloysius, Yarra Glen – 16th May 2021

Thanksgiving: \$220.00
Presbytery: \$228.15
Special Collection: \$107.70
Yarra Glen Op Shop: \$4500

Our Lady of the Snows, Marysville 20th May 2021

Thanksgiving: \$50.00

QR CODE APP - Please download the Services Victoria app from the Apple App Store for iPhones (<https://bit.ly/SBHCO>), or the Google Play Store for Android phones (<https://bit.ly/SBSAFE>). This will make the check in a bit more efficient

LOOKOUT FOR CHILDREN- Please come along and join us for the next Lookout meeting: Monday 24th May, 1 pm, Golden Wattle house, 1 Joffre Street. Trudi Maiden will share with us of her work in Lifeboat, a group set up by Father Kevin Dillon to support survivors of church sexual abuse.

Care Group Meeting

Our next care group meeting will be Friday 4th June 1.30 to 3.30pm in the parish hall. All Welcome

Can you help?

This is a shout out for volunteers for the following rosters:
Reading, Church cleaning and Sunday Cuppas.
If you can go on our roster please let Denise O'Dwyer or the office know. Denise will get the rosters together in the next week or so. "Many hands make light work"

Chaplaincy Sunday

Chaplaincy Appeal 2021 Thank you! Last weekend, we conducted the annual Chaplaincy Appeal in our parish. The presence of Catholic chaplains is a crucial witness to our faith, a crucial dimension of our service of love, and a vital testimony to the value of life in all its stages. Thank you to those who have donated to this Appeal. If you still wish to donate or if you would like to have more information about Chaplaincy services, please visit www.ccam.org.au or call (03) 9287 5513..



Holy Spirit window, St Peter's Basilica, Vatican City

The account of Pentecost comes to us from the Acts of the Apostles. Sometimes Acts is referred to as the 'Gospel of the Holy Spirit' since it tells the story of the nascent Church which comes to life through the Holy Spirit. We might think of Pentecost as the "birthday" of the Church, the moment when the Church first bursts into the world in broad daylight. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost transforms the apostles from timid mice into fearless lions. We see them acting with a

confidence that demonstrates their unshakeable conviction that they are fulfilling a God-given mission with Divine assistance. With hearts aflame with the Holy Spirit we see the apostles spread the gospel of Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth, fulfilling Christ's instruction to make disciples of all nations.

The universality (catholicity) of the Church's mission is one of the four 'marks' of the Church ('one, holy, catholic, and apostolic') – which is what we mean when we speak of the Catholic Church. We see the use of the name "Catholic Church" at least as early as AD 110 in St Ignatius of Antioch's letter to the Smyrnaeans (though there is no reason to suppose that the name doesn't predate the letter). In other words, from the very outset Christianity always saw itself as being *universal* in outlook – not some obscure Middle-Eastern sect, or a religion tethered to a single nationality or language. The first manifestation of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost was the apostles' ability to speak in 'tongues', proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ in all the languages of the world. This universality marks a Copernican revolution in the history of religion since all pre-Christian religions (including Judaism) were effectively confined to a particular race and culture.

Interestingly, the expression "Roman Catholic" only appears after the Protestant Reformation and was propagated by the reformers in an attempt to make the Catholic Church appear as nationalistic as the many Protestant churches. In reality the Catholic Church comprises twenty-four particular churches (Ukrainian Catholic, Greek Catholic, Chaldean Catholic, Syro-Malabar, etc.), all of which can rightfully be called 'Catholic' since they are in union with the Pope, even though they each have their own particular Rites, governance and canonical rule. The universality of the Church is something to be celebrated – it is a sign of God's plan to reunite the human race into one, loving family through the power of the Holy Spirit.

There is another ancient letter that dates from shortly after Ignatius wrote his letter to the Smyrnaeans. The anonymous author calls himself a student ('mathetes' = disciple) of the Apostles and the letter is addressed to one 'Diognetus'. The text is a remarkable account of how the early Christians perceived themselves, that continues to ring true today:

"Christians are indistinguishable from other men either by nationality, language or customs. They do not inhabit separate cities of their own, or speak a strange dialect, or follow some outlandish way of life... With regard to dress, food and manner of life in general, they follow the customs of whatever city they happen to be living in, whether it is Greek or foreign.

And yet there is something extraordinary about their lives. They live in their own countries as though they were

only passing through. They play their full role as citizens, but labour under all the disabilities of foreigners. Any country can be their homeland, but for them their homeland, wherever it may be, is a foreign country. ... They pass their days upon earth, but they are citizens of heaven. Obedient to the laws, they yet live on a level that transcends the law.

The author goes on to make this striking analogy:

To speak in general terms, we may say that the Christian is to the world what the soul is to the body. As the soul is present in every part of the body, while remaining distinct from it, so Christians are found in all the cities of the world, but cannot be identified with the world. (Letter to Diognetus, c. AD 130).

The Church, animated with the life of the Holy Spirit, is called to vivify the whole world. The mission of the Church is to sanctify the peoples of every time and place, so that the love of God can fill the whole world. As we celebrate Pentecost this year we can renew our personal commitment to living the life of grace through the power of the Holy Spirit and to be instruments of unity in the Body of Christ, the Church.

Yours in Christ,
Fr Francis Denton

Debbie's thoughts

With a blank screen before me and no idea of what to write, I sat down at my computer this morning to come up with some words about the great Feast of Pentecost, which we as a parish family celebrate this weekend. My eyes settled on my cup of tea with "I love Mum" printed on the mug, front and centre. The word love was represented by a symbol of a very big red heart, very fittingly, for the word cannot capture the fullness of reality. What more inspiration do I need for a celebration of the presence of the Holy Spirit in our world? I do indeed love my mum, and the children who chose that mug for me.

Our Grade 6 children will shortly begin preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, an experience which will shower them with the exact same graces that the Apostles received 2000 years ago. Our children will be anointed by the Holy Spirit to 'go out' to the world, as the apostles did on that first day of Pentecost. Inflamed by the Holy Spirit, Jesus' friends took his message 'out', literally to the ends of the earth, and to the ends of time. Our experiences are just as real today in 2021. The needs of others waiting to be touched by our lives are just as real as the needs of those who listened to Jesus' non-remarkable, ordinary friends, powered by the Holy Spirit's dynamic action within them. Through Confirmation, they became the fire of Jesus' words and actions that spread to light up the world, and the centuries. What a gift! We share that gift of Confirmation with the Apostles, and with all who have

received this priceless gift since. This is the inheritance we are choosing for our children! This is the inheritance that my grandparents chose for my mum and dad, that they chose for me, and that I in turn, chose for my children. They have then gone on to impart the same gift for their children. Please God, the story will repeat, on and on, the most precious inheritance I can organise for my grandchildren's grandchildren.

I am aware that the Gifts of the Holy Spirit which I received at my own Confirmation keep me afloat in every moment. I pray for Wisdom regularly, in particular, fully aware that my own resources feel precarious for what I am likely to encounter as I open my eyes on a new dawn. Some days feel ordered and 'under control', while on other days, I feel like a white-knuckled passenger on the Scenic Railway at Luna Park. God always comes through when I need him to. Like every other individual on the planet, my own personal resources are stretched to the max in simply getting through my relationships with those near and far, my obligations, and the unexpected twists and turns of my daily living. I know, with certainty, that the Gifts that the Holy Spirit planted within my heart on the day of my Confirmation keep me moving forward in each and every waking moment, and I regularly flash a smile or a grimace in the direction of the Holy Spirit, with thanksgiving for my 'achievements', (often amounting to simply not making things worse!), and asking for guidance and strength when I know my own inner resources are floundering. The Gifts we receive in Confirmation are just what we need to negotiate life with courage, as disciples of the Lord. Knowledge, Understanding, Wisdom, Council, Fortitude, Reverence and Fear of the Lord all lead us to grow in simple trust, as they feed our awareness that God loves us, and those to whom he sends us.

We are guided and strengthened along our individual roads to have eyes to see and ears to hear, and with the stubborn tenacity to keep on going, through each day we are given as ours to 'spend'. To spend our days in the service of others is a great challenge. The Holy Spirit directs us 'out', often when we simply want to curl back 'in'. Like a snail moving in and out of its shell, God encourages us to move forward, inch by inch. We each have a mission, like those very first apostles anointed on the day of Pentecost, to go 'out'. They launched into the world with the fire of the Holy Spirit propelling them forward, despite their very clear appreciation of their own limitations. The miracles they performed in the name of Jesus speak volumes of the dynamic power of the Holy Spirit, who directed their steps away from the safety of familiar shores. We instinctively curl up as often as we can to the safe places we create for ourselves, but through the action of the Holy Spirit, we too are encouraged to 'peep out', to expose ourselves to the needs of others. In doing so, we become whole. For we are born to look outwards, not inwards. We are encouraged from birth to respond to the smiles and encouragement we find in the faces of those who love us. Slowly, our circle of familiar faces extends to friends,

and then to those who may be less familiar. As we mature, we are encouraged to reach out to those who may not want to be touched at all, but who still need our presence. We are people who bring life to ourselves through the life we encourage in others. Our hearts burn with the fire of the Holy Spirit, who encourages us to share of ourselves, of our talents, of who we are.

And how did I get to the point of opening myself to those Gifts of the Holy Spirit? The mug says it all for me.

Parish Prayer List

We pray for all who have died, for those who are sick and those who care for them.

Babies Emmett, Noah Glen Christie, Tedi and Santi; Roman, Blake Smith, Trish Leahy, John Snell, Abby Sharp, Peter Munro, Megan, Bernie Jansen, Andrew Sharp, John, Glenn, Lyn Francis, Dorothy Barber, Fiona, Annie Preuss, Michelle Ryan, Damian, John, Alison, Heather, Julie Bates, Garry Dettman, Bradley Jordan, Jeanette Henkel, Richard Galbraith, Debbie Huby, Geoff Lucas, Sandra Donkin, Dorothy Fraser, Glen, Fred Bullas, Fred Coullas, Evie Gleeson, Indy Dawes, Rade Krstic, Megan Williams, Michael Wood, Bill Howie, Jennie, Michael, Margo & Stephen Youngberry, Marie Hammond, John Mulholland, Rhiannon Days, Val Savitt, Ron Garland, Jaz Nueber, James Cooney, Robert, Mary & Gerard Bariola, Tilly Van der Zee, Lydia, Joyce Slattery, Lawrie Field, Annie, Bob Ireland, Val & Michael Christie, Ted & Peter Bowling, Natasha, Mia, James, Richard Adams, Mitchell & Wynn Wilson, , Anne Bateman, Veronica Ireland, Wendy Turner (Ireland), Lauren, Brooke, Anthony, Laura Baosde Pinto, Michelle, Judy, Annette Fromholtz, Bill Skate

We pray for those whose anniversaries are in April

Tanya Grizic (03.04.06), Emil Weklak (11.04.11), Paul Nielsen (07.04.08), Shane O'Meara (14.04.69), Fr Tim Tolan (15.04.08), Frank Wilson (16.04.06), Beryl Perrin (19.04.06), Brendan Hammond (23.04.12), Fr Robert Coughlin (24.04), Edgar Snell (26.04.93), Violet Brooks (26.04.08), Alan Thompson (26.04.00), Jean Malcolm (26.04.17), Janine McIntyre (28.04.07), Reg Fraser (Good Friday 1997), Marshall McLinden, Teresa Toscano, Rosa Toscano, Richie Youngberry (20/4/18)

