

Hope in the Future Reflection Seven

Making Mission Possible The work of the Holy Spirit

(NIV) Acts chapter 2 (This is a shortened account)

The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost

2 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

⁵ Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. ⁶ When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. ⁷ Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸ Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language¹² Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"¹³ Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."¹⁴ Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. ¹⁵ These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

17 "In the last days, God says,
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your young men will see visions,
your old men will dream dreams.



¹⁸ Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy......

²² "Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. ²³ This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. ²⁴ But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him²⁵ ³² God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. ³³ Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. ³⁴ For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said.

"The Lord said to my Lord:
"Sit at my right hand

35 until I make your enemies
a footstool for your feet."

³⁶ "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah." When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

³⁸ Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

⁴⁰ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.



"We are living in the age of the Holy Spirit"

I am alive in the Spirit in these ways......

My life and Relationships reflect the loving action of Jesus when I.....

How important is our Sunday Mass as an experience of belonging and impetus to SERVICE in our Parish?

"The message of the Church is GOD IS LOVE..... Everyone seeks love.



To me this means

Is this your experience of the Church?

"The Holy Spirit is the prime agent of evangelization..... The Holy Spirit works through us, you and me."

I let the Holy Spirit work through me in these ways

Looking at myself I realise that the blocks to the work of the Holy Spirit in my life include

I think this affects the mission of the Church in these ways.....

"We share Jesus <u>out of our own</u> relationship with him."

This challenges me to

In our 'Vision' of the Church I think we are lacking in.....?



