

PENTECOST SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 2014

HAPPY PENTECOST!!!

LET ME BEGIN WITH A QUESTION?

*WHAT, IN YOUR VIEW, IS THE MOST OVERLOOKED WORK OF ART IN THIS
CHAPEL?*

THE LEAST NOTICED WORK OF ART IN THIS CHAPEL??

AS YOU LOOK AROUND.....

THE DOVE IN OUR "SKY DOME" - I BELIEVE....

INVISIBLE - PRETTY MUCH....

PERHAPS THAT IS APPROPRIATE ---

THE SPIRIT IS INVISIBLE....OVERLOOKED...EASILY MISSED

ALTHOUGH, ALWAYS, ALWAYS THERE - NOT DEPENDING ON OUR GAZE

A DOVE BECAUSE THE SPIRIT APPEARED IN THE FORM OF A DOVE AT

JESUS' BAPTISM AND THE WORDS WERE SPOKEN,

"THIS IS MY BELOVED SON" LISTEN TO HIM.....

THE DOVE IS ONLY ONE OF MANY SYMBOLS USED IN SCRIPTURE TO

EXPRESS THE SPIRIT OF GOD

E.G. IN OUR READINGS TODAY.....

WE HAVE JESUS BREATHING ON THE APOSTLES - EXPRESSING THE

SPIRIT, CONFIRMING THEM IF YOU WILL, WITH THE SPIRIT....

IN OUR FIRST READING, ACTS OF THE APOSTLES, WE HAVE A MIGHTY

WIND - A DISRUPTING WIND, AND FIRE, TONGUES OF FLAMES....

THE SPIRIT OF GOD, THE SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST IS SO RICH, SO

*DYNAMIC, SO POWERFUL AND SO GENTLE, THAT IT CAN TAKE MANY
CONCRETE FORMS, EXPRESSIONS....*

*EVERYONE KNOWS ABOUT THE TRIPLE CROWN RIGHT IN HORSE RACING?
I.E. THE KENTUCKY DERBY IN LOUISVILLE, THE PREAKNESS IN
BALTIMORE AND THE BELMONT STAKES IN NEW YORK....*

*WHAT YOU MAY NOT KNOW IS THE CHURCH IN ITS LITURGICAL YEAR
ALSO HAS A TRIPLE CROWN - EVERY YEAR - WITHOUT EXCEPTION
CHRISTMAS, EASTER AND PENTECOST....*

THE HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR LITURGICAL YEAR.....

*OF COURSE, PENTECOST GETS THE LEAST ATTENTION IN OUR
CULTURE....*

ONE REASON, IT IS HARD FOR US TO IDENTIFY WITH IT....

*CHRISTMAS, OF COURSE, WE HAVE THE BIRTH OF A CHILD - WE HAVE A
NATIVITY SCENE UP HERE EVERY YEAR.*

WE CAN ALL UNDERSTAND AND "GET INTO THAT"

EASTER - THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST....

A LITTLE HARDER TO IDENTIFY WITH.....

HARDER TO PRODUCE A SYMBOL.....

E.G. AN EMPTY TOMB UP HERE OR AN EMPTY CASKET

PENTECOST - EVEN MORE DIFFICULT YET....

*E.G. A MONSTROUS FAN BLOWING
E.G. A SWEEPING FIRE????*

*IRONIC - PENTECOST IS THE LEAST CELEBRATED BUT THE ONE THAT
HAS THE MOST IMPACT, POTENTIALLY, ON OUR LIVES RIGHT NOW, THIS*

VERY MOMENT IN OUR LIVES....

*IT SAYS THAT THE SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST IS STILL ALIVE AND BEING
SHARED WITH US.....*

NOW - AVAILABLE TO US -NOW

*NOT LIKE THE RECENT D-DAY CELEBRATION WHERE REMEMBER AND
ARE ENCOURAGED TO CARRY ON THE SPIRIT OF THE GREATEST
GENERATION*

*THROUGH OUR BAPTISM, THRU OUR CONFIRMATION AND THROUGHOUT
OUR LIVES POTENTIALLY - IF WE ARE OPEN AND ATTENTIVE TO THAT
SPIRIT....*

THAT SPIRIT, THE VVERY SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST, IS WITHIN US.....

THETAME SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST, IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE TO US

CAN ALWAYS EXPAND AND GROW WITHIN US

WE NEED ONLY PRAY - COME, HOLY SPIRIT, COME....

THAT SPIRIT IS "POWER FROM ON HIGH".....

AND GOD KNOWS, WE NEED POWER FROM ON HIGH, DON'T WE???

BUT ALSO, IT IS POWER FROM WITHIN, AS LINDA REMINDS ME - SO

WELL AND SO RIGHTLY

POWER FROM WITHIN.... WE NEED THAT ALSO

WE NEED BOTH - POWER FROM ON HIGH AND POWER FROM WITHIN..

YOU CANNOT TIE DOWN THE SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST....

*YOU CANNOT REALLY EXPLAIN OR CERTAINLY CONTAIN THE SPIRIT OF
JESUS CHRIST....YOU HAVE TO EXPERIENCE IT*

***THE SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST IS ALWAYS CHALLENGING US TO EXPAND
OUR MINDS AND OUR HEARTS***

***ON THE ONE HAND - ACCORDING TO OUR FIRST READING, IT IS
POWERFUL - A MIGHTY WIND, A DISTURBING WIND - POWERFUL
ENOUGH TO SHAKE UP OUR LIVES, TURN OUR LIVES AROUND,
TRANSFORM OUR LIVES IN NEW WAYS - IF WE ARE OPEN TO ITS POWER
THE SPIRIT IS ALSO GENTLE, INCREDIBLY GENTLEA DOVE....***

***IT IS A GENTLE BREATH - ACCORDING TO OUR GOSPEL READING....
BRINGING PEACE INTO OUR ANXIOUS, FEARFUL LIVES OF THE
APOSTLESAND OUR ANXIOUS, FEARFUL LIVES....***

BREATHING A GENTLE BREATH UPON US...NEVER FORCING ANYTHING.

"PEACE BE WITH YOU" "PEACE BE WITH YOU"

***THE SPIRIT IS ALSO CERTAINLY RELATIONAL - AS WE LEARN IN OUR
FIRST READING...***

OPEN TO ALL PEOPLE, ALL NATIONALITIES, ALL RACES.....

ALLOWING US TO COMMUNICATE ACROSS BOUNDARIES....

***THE TOWER OF BABEL HAS BEEN OVERTURNED AND EVERYONE IS ABLE
TO UNDERSTAND ONE ANOTHER.....***

WOULDN'T THAT BE WONDERFUL....

***E.G. WELCOMING THE 3,000 SOME TURKISH REFUGEES IN DAYTON WE
READ ABOUT IN AN ARTICLE IN THE MOST RECENT ISSUE OF TIME
MAGAZINE AND OTHER IMMIGRANTS....***

WHERE THE SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST IS PRESENT THAT IS HAPPENING....

*GOD KNOWS WE NEED THAT TODAY IN OUR GLOBAL VILLAGE...
THAT SPIRIT WE CELEBRATE TODAY IS NOT SOME AMORPHOUS,
AMBIGUOUS SPIRIT....IT IS THE SPIRIT OF THE PERSON, JESUS CHRIST
AND WE KNOW ABOUT HIM....WE READ ABOUT HIM EVERY SUNDAY, AT
LEAST.....HIS LIFE, HIS TEACHINGS, HIS VALUES....*

*THIS SPIRIT IS HIS SPIRIT, IT IS POWERFUL, IT IS GENTLE AND IT IS
AVAILABLE TO US TODAY AND EVERYDAY, IN THIS PLACE AND
EVERYPLACE WE GO...*

*THIS SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST COMES TO US WHENEVER WE CALL OUT
AND THIS SPIRIT COMES TO US WHEREVER WE CALL OUT*

THIS SPIRIT COMES TO US FROM ON HIGH AND FROM WITHIN...

BUT WE MUST CALL OUT...

LET ME END WITH SELECTIONS FROM....

FROM THE SELECTIONS FROM THE SEQUENCE OF TODAY'S LITURGY.

*COME, HOLY SPIRIT, COME!
...WITHIN OUR BOSOMS SHINE
YOU, OF COMFORTERS THE BEST;
YOU, THE SOUL'S MOST WELCOME GUEST
SWEET REFRESHMENT HERE BELOW;
IN OUR LABOR, REST MOST SWEET
GRATEFUL COOLNESS IN THE HEAT;
SOLACE IN THE MIDST OF WOE....
SHINE WITHIN THESE HEARTS OF YOURS,
AND OUR INMOST BEING FILL;
....HEAL OUR WOUNDS, OUR STRENGTH RENEW;
ON OUR DRYNESS POUR YOUR DEW;
MELT THE FROZEN, WARM THE CHILL;
....GIVE US JOYS THAT NEVER END....
AMEN....ALLELUIA*