

St. Augustine's Church Limerick

Pentecost Sunday



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23rd May 2021

Mass Times

Monday –Friday
7.30am, 8.30am,
10.15am, & 4pm

SATURDAY
8.30am, 10.15am

SUNDAY
9.00am, 11.15am
& 7.30pm

CONFESSIONS

MONDAY & FRIDAY
10.45am-12 Noon
3.00pm-4.00pm
SATURDAY
10.45am-12noon
2.30pm-4pm

Thought for the Day

The extraordinary happenings on that first Pentecost Morning beggar belief. Timid and fearful disciples transformed into the world's greatest witnesses. They preached in many languages to the throngs gathered in Jerusalem for the great feast of Pentecost. Thousands of converts. People thought that they were drunken men! No wonder Peter had to stand up and say "these men are not drunk; it is only 9 o'clock in the morning! Yes, it was the very Spirit of Jesus that got into the disciples and no longer were themselves. Again and again during those 40 days after the Resurrection and before the Ascension Jesus had instructed the disciples to go to the ends of the earth and preach, baptise, declare forgiveness and God's love for everyone. But on their own, they simply could not do a thing - they had to wait in Jerusalem for the Spirit of Jesus to come into them and drive them to it. The result was breathtaking to say the least. Jesus has given us all His Holy Spirit, but for most of us It is not really on fire! More like the pilot light of the gas fire, only a tiny fire that would not boil a cup of water. The Spirit becomes ablaze when we really desire It with all our hearts, regularly, daily in prayer,; yearning for the Spirit, asking for the Spirit, longing for the Spirit, crying out for the Spirit. Day in day out - our constant desire and yearning.

This is the New Heart that the Gospel speaks about, not just a transplant under anaesthetic - and the effects, like drink and drug, wear off. The shortest route is the Gospel route of Love. Lovers know the effects of being in love: a swelling of joy, longing, goodwill, giving and receiving, all flowing outwards to the world. It produces what Pope John Paul II called a Civilization of Love, with the culture of Life and Love, not a culture to Death. It is a Gift. Today we pray for the great Gift of the Holy Spirit. promised by Jesus Himself. God wants His Spirit to reign, not just in Jerusalem but over all the world. ML.

**Spirit of Pentecost,
teach me
the value of silence,
the art of listening.
To listen without
judgement,
to listen without
answers,
to listen to the
unspoken pain.
From many languages
give me the universal
language of love.
Amen.**

Fr. Liam Ryan O.S.A.

