Pentecost

May 28, 2023

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Scriptures tell it like it is, and like it could be or should be. We are candidates for an infusing of God's Spirit, Christ's mind. In Christian practice, Pentecost occurs as the fiftieth day of Easter, the time in between Easter and Pentecost are times of festivity and joy. Originally, fasts were not to be observed, and people prayed standing, symbolizing the resurrection. And now, following Pentecost, the mood is festive: a new age has broken in, the church is reconstituted. Christ's work begun at Easter comes to fruition. We're empowered; the Church gets new action. The early church has a visible display of signs and wonders attesting God's presence. People are asking, what must they do as they are confronted by God's word. Gathered together, people hear a great sermon by St. Peter. There's spectacular vision, and they experience a shattering noise.

We too could have the "old" shattered. We too may have a spectacular vision. We too may have the four wonderful experiences of Pentecost.

How we all long for dream fulfillment. "That's something I always wanted...it's a dream come true...I really looked forward to this day." Old Testament prophet Joel longed for the day when exiles could come back home, when things would work out for good, when the people of God could realize new visions.

We all wonder whether it is possible for our dreams to be fulfilled. When the prophet Joel asks, will our wastelands of destination be redeemed? When will our catastrophes turn out to be blessings? St. Peter preaches: and we paraphrase, "I have a dream that someday this world will be cleansed of war and the idols of status and class, I have a dream that young people will work for justice. I have a dream when old people will know that they are not has-beens: I have a dream."

Interpersonal communication "how-to's" abound. In genuine communications, our uniqueness is respected and affirmed. And so are our individual differences. Bland and inspired uniformity does not obliterate individuality. We create corporate understandings and harmony. We share a common language; now another's speech as our own. We share a common planet and a common life. There is peace. We are hopeful!

Pentecost is the tower of Babel reversed. No longer are our languages confusing or our relationships conflicting. There's a given: we have a Spirit given to us. We are provided with tools of understanding which lead us into fellowship of reconciliation.

Jesus still breathes upon us and says "Peace". What a gift. And in recognition that we are all equally inherited, ours is a common confession: Jesus is Lord.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	**May 30**	**11:00AM**
Teresita Festa †		Lily Militar
Wed.	**May 31**	**11:00AM**
Living Memorial		
Thur.	**June 1**	**11:00AM**
Violeta Tiongson †		Pena Family
Fri.	**June 2**	**11:00AM**
Nicolas Cachaper †		Jong & Alma
Sat.	**June 3**	**4:30PM**
Joe†& Stella Noe		Family
Sun.	**June 4**	**9:00AM**
Jorge, Tomasa, Jose & Manuel †		
Port Costa		**11:00AM**
People of the Parish		

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