
FROM THE PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

At Pentecost, we remember the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles. It was a powerful experience, when along with wind and fire, *'all of them were filled with the Holy Spirit'* (Acts 2:4). Power is experienced in two ways: it can be either unleashed or harnessed. The energy in petrol can be released explosively by dropping a lighted match into it. However, in the engine of a car, it will transport people in a controlled way! The Holy Spirit works in a similar way. At Pentecost, he exploded onto the scene and 3000 people were added to the Church, as they heard Peter preach. He also equips us with his gifts to engage in the mission and ministry of the church.

However, the Spirit's power also enables us so to grow in our faith. He assures us of God's love and acceptance in our lives, despite our fears, doubts or failures: *'God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us'* (Romans 5:5). The Holy Spirit is also committed to producing the life of Jesus in us: *'the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.'*

The Spirit gives us a new love for God, a longing to celebrate the sacraments, to pray and a readiness to share our faith. He will also challenge wrong habits, attitudes, words or lifestyle in our lives.

Live in Pentecost!

Fr. David