

Newsletter for Pentecost

Across the Rector's Desk

One of my favourite hymns is "I Feel the Winds of God Today", a hymn that uses the metaphor of sea and sailing ship to describe the journey of faith and the work of the Holy Spirit as the "Winds" within the life of the Christian.

These winds may be of change, of growth, of witnessing to the love of God in Jesus. The lyricist doesn't pretend that all is smooth sailing: "though heavy oft with drenching spray and torn with many a rift". Our life in Christ is not a cruise in the Caribbean on one of those huge ocean liners with stabilizers. It is not a Disney cruise or one organized by Carnival. This life is more like a precarious voyage on a sailing ship of the 18th and 19th centuries. Not for reasons of health but for our ability to just let our lives drift along with no thought or Christian purpose and the ever-present rocks of temptation.

And yet because of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives we are prepared to "brave another cruise". When our life is "cast on shores of selfish ease" we ask for God's "freshening breeze" to encourage us to start again, to leave the comfort of what we know, of what we're used to.

The writer of the Gospel of John says one of the actions of the Holy Spirit is to bring to our mind the work of Jesus in his life, death, and resurrection: the why of our lives, the love of God. The hymn asks the Holy Spirit to "lift high the blood red flag" whenever we forget whose we are, why we're here and what we are to do.

The season of Pentecost in the Church year comprises 23 weeks (this year) in

which we learn, grow, and to better live our faith: to "lift our sail".

Pentecost

Fire burning bright
is offered you.
More than mere
enthusiasm of emotion.

God in person offers to
fill you with power.
Open yourself to
the Holy Spirit.

This is an awesome
encounter with divine.
More than simple
sappy spirituality.

Let the paraclete
permeate your soul.
The Holy Spirit will
empower your life.

Open your heart.
Go serve your Lord.
Be hands and feet
to bless the world.

*Inspired by Dennis S. Homily
© Presbypoet, May 27, 2007*



*Office hours are 9:30am-12:30p,m
please come in for a visit if you are in
the neighbourhood or call for an
appointment.*

*Please let me know if you or anyone you
know have gone into hospital.*

*If you have a pastoral emergency
please call 416-226-2486*