



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

24th May 2015
THE FEAST OF PENTECOST



Parish Priest:
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Also in Residence
Bishop John Crowley
– Retired.

Luke doesn't say the Spirit came for the first time on Pentecost, rather, that 'They were all filled with the Holy Spirit'. The dramatic setting - the sound like a powerful wind, the tongues of fire, the sudden ability to speak foreign languages which are understood by all the bystanders - is an unforgettable way of giving a picture of what a difference the Spirit makes. The Spirit has always surrounded us, holding all things together. The difference is in us, as we come to recognise that presence. Look what this means in the second Reading today. If you are guided by the Spirit, you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence.... What the Spirit brings is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness... To talk of 'having a devotion to the Holy Spirit' as if we were doing ourselves a favour is meaningless. Whenever we show any of these good qualities it is the Spirit guiding us. Luke's story is one of sudden realisation: we can do all these things, but we never realised we could! It is a story being sent out, to speak in a language others can understand.

SMILE LINES

During a visit to my doctor, I asked him, "How do you determine whether or not an older person should be put in a Care Home?"

"Well," he said, "we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the person to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand," I said. "An average person would use the bucket because it is bigger than the spoon or the teacup."

"No" he said. "An average person would pull the plug."

Do you want a bed near the window?"

* * * * *

Little Johnny went downstairs in floods of tears. "What's the matter" said his mother. Johnny said "Dad was hanging a picture and hit his thumb with the hammer." "That's not so bad," said his mother. "I know you're upset but a big boy like you shouldn't cry at something like that. Why didn't you just laugh?"

"I did," sobbed Johnny.

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Did you know.....?

In 2010 the BBC spent £230,000 on tea, but only £2,000 on biscuits.

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Caffeine is made of carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen and oxygen: the same as cocaine, thalidomide, nylon, TNT, and heroin.

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MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 23rd May

10.00am People of the Parish

6.00pm Intentions of Bridie Fox

Sunday 24th May PENTECOST

8.30am Vivienne & Tommy Bradley (RIP) Anniv.

9.45am Christina Portman (RIP)

11.30am Sarah Sherwood (RIP)

Monday 25th May BANK HOLIDAY

9.15am Maurice Hughes (RIP)

Tuesday 26th May

9.15am People of the Parish

Wednesday 27th May

9.15am Michael Kneale (RIP)

Thursday 28th May

11.00am Service of the Word with Communion

Friday 29th May

9.15am

Saturday 30th May

10.00am

6.00pm Margaret Gross (RIP)

Sunday 31st May

8.30am Intentions of TR

9.45am Private Intention

11.30am Intentions of PR

QUOTE - Pope Francis

"I, many times, want a bit of tranquility, to rest a bit more. This is true. But being with people does not take away my peace. What takes away peace is jealousy, envy, avarice, to take things from others: that takes away peace. But being with people is beautiful; it does not take away peace! It is a bit tiring because one can become tired, I am not a young man...But it does not take away peace."