

# Sub-Dean's Devotional, Sunday 23 May 2021,

## The Feast of Pentecost

The Feast of Pentecost is the final day of the Season of Eastertide. On the day of Pentecost, we remember the descent of the Holy Spirit on the apostles, and therefore always have the reading from Acts 2:1-21. We also have a reading from the Gospels where Jesus encourages the disciples to look forward to the coming of the Holy Spirit who will empower them. This year we read from John 15:26, "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf."

In thinking about the Holy Spirit, Richard J. Hauser, S.J. writes:

The New Testament message on love and the presence of the Spirit is simple: where there is love there is God. The main problem for me is not understanding the message but drawing out its implications for my life. Do I adequately acknowledge that the Spirit is present and working in me every time I move toward God or others in love? Do I recognize the Spirit or do I attribute these movements solely to my initiative? ... God's Spirit joins my spirit and is continually moving me not only toward others but also toward God. I know that I am personally unaware of the extent of this movement in me. Almost every day some new aspect of the Spirit's work becomes clearer; what I had previously seen as only a natural phenomenon, I can now see as the work of the Spirit because love was present.

My love to you all

*Sub-Dean Melany Adonis*