

Pentecost

- So – Jesus is crucified, suffers and dies
 - Apostles run and hide (then in comes Mary Magdeline)
 - He rises from the dead – shows them hands and feet – and they Rejoice!
 - 40 days of resurrection appearances THEN-
 - ASCENSION – He rises and returns to the Father (Now what?)
 - Alone again – back to the Upper Room (imagine the scene, the turmoil)
 - (Mary was with them) Fear/Uncertainty – Mary says: “Peter, Let’s Pray”
 - What happens?
 - Get out of their fear and into the presence of God
 - After crucifixion they were empty – but
 - After Pentecost, they were filled - filled with the Holy Spirit!
 - Peter preaches and everyone understands - they shared their fullness
 - Remember the Tower of Babel?
 - **At Babel** people challenged God (let us build a tower to heaven and make a name for ourselves) PRIDE - & were **divided** by language
 - The people left the Tower of Babel confused, in turmoil
 - **At Pentecost** people submit to God, surrender to the HS - & were **united** by language of the Holy Spirit
 - The people left Upper Room on Pentecost united – on fire for God.
 - It was no longer right for the disciples to be afraid and hiding
 - They had been prepared to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ
 - They had been prepared to form the People of God
 - They had been given the power to forgive sins
 - ***Now they had to get to work***
 - Let me tell you a story about my mother
 - Empty perfume bottle and scarf –
 - The bottle is empty, she’s getting by on fumes.
 - Apostles were filled with the HS!
 - Are we filled with the HS or getting by on fumes?
 - As Christians – that same fire, that same power is ours today.
 - Flesh and Spirit are at war, but with HS we have power
 - “Dunamus” - DYNOMITE
 - Church has been empowered to change the world!
 - J the B said “One is coming after me that’ll baptize with fire & HS”
 - What happened on Pentecost? Exactly that!
 - RCIA – teach converts to Catholicism
 - This year 4 new members thru RCIA & *Church grows*
 - CCD – First Communion & Confirmation
 - 20 Receive Eucharist in 1st year - & *Church grows*
 - This year another 8 receive Confirmation - & *Church grows*
 - Baptisms throughout the year & the list goes on and on - & *Church grows*
 - ***Power of HS is in our midst***
 - It all began on Pentecost Sunday – the birth of the Church
- Prophets proclaimed “A day is coming when I will be your God and you will be my people”
- We rejoice that today is that day. On Pentecost HS fills the People of God
 - HS fills us that we can go forth from here and build the Kingdom of God
 - Let’s get busy – if our perfume bottle is empty He wants to fill it, He wants to set us afire, Dyno