

### Pentecost C

- There was a mother who wanted her son to learn piano – but he didn't
    - So she took him to a concert – to watch a famous maestro play
    - At Concert Hall, she meets friends, gets distracted & when lights dim, no son
    - Searching frantically until curtain rises & there he is sitting on stage
    - He starts playing Twinkle Twinkle Little Star with 1 finger (Crowd giggles)
    - Maestro strolls onstage and whispers “keep playing”
    - Reaching around the boy he plays base with one hand, then melody w other.
    - Years later nobody remembers what else Maestro played, all remember Twinkle
  - This is what Pentecost was like for the Apostles
    - After crucifixion they were empty – but
    - After Pentecost, they were filled with the Holy Spirit!
    - That power enabled them – filled them with power from on high JC promised
    - Before HS Apostles are operating from a position of fear
      - They had gone into a house and locked the doors
        - Fear is not of God – where's it come from? Seriously →
        - If fear prevents us from proclaiming WOG where's it from?
        - We need to get beyond fears (what'll they think of me? ...)
        - How do we get beyond our fear? – same as Apostles – w/HS
    - It was no longer proper 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
      - Now they had to get to work
  - Pentecost was a major feast (initially Harvest, then commemorate giving of Law).
    - People filled the city (Norwood Day)
    - When HS comes upon Apostles they get a suitable language to proclaim the Good News to EVERYONE in the city
    - When they spoke, everyone understood – regardless of their country
      - Its not about their language – Its about the hearing
      - They spoke 1 language – they heard in every language they UNDERSTOOD in every language
      - There is a difference between hearing and understanding
      - Ask any teacher – students hear, but don't always understand -
      - All understood men/women old/young jew/gentile
      - When Church evangelizes it includes everyone
      - All races, all genders, all cultures
      - HS enables ALL to understand the message
      - HS pointed to Church's role to proclaim Good News to ALL--Us too
    - It all begins on Pentecost Sunday – the birth of the Church
    - We pray to the Holy Spirit among us today
      - To enlighten us - To open us to His promptings
      - To help us to serve the People of God - To evangelize
      - To live our vocations as married Christian people, as single Christian people, as Christian parents and grandparents, as children.
- 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 too can go forth from here and build the Kingdom of God