

As you see, I have a balloon today. Look at the balloon I am holding. I think it is a very nice balloon. It is a pretty color, red is one of my favorite colors, and by looking at the shape of it, I think it would be a very nice round balloon – but here seems to be something missing. What does this balloon need?

You are right. It needs to be filled with air!

Before a balloon can fulfill its purpose, someone must breathe some life into it.

On Pentecost God sent his Holy Spirit to breathe life into His church **so that it would be what it was intended to be.**

Before God sent his Holy Spirit, the church was lifeless -- like this balloon.

The church was not witnessing and telling people about Jesus.

In the Gospel Jesus breathed on them (blow it up) and said "Receive the HS"

After the Holy Spirit breathed life into the church, it fulfilled its destiny – people began telling everyone they saw about Jesus. Thousands of people were added to the church.

The church became alive and was doing the things God had commanded.

Listen:

How many of you have ever seen the wind? No one has seen the wind because it is invisible.

Well, if we can't see the wind, how do we know that it is there? **3 ways**

One way we can know the wind is there is that we can hear it.

I can hear it whistling through the trees and around the windows and doors.

We can't see the wind, but we know it is there because we can hear it.

Another way we can know that the wind is there is that we can see it moving other things.

We can see it moving the leaves on the trees and blowing bits of paper around.

We can't see the wind, but we know it is there because we can see what the wind is doing.

Still another way we can know that the wind is there is that we can feel it.

Blow onto the back of your hand. Did you see anything? No, but you could feel something.

We can't see the wind, but we can feel it blowing against our faces and blowing through our hair.

Today, we celebrate a special day called Pentecost.

It was on the day of Pentecost that God sent his Holy Spirit to the church.

1st Reading tells us that the apostles were all gathered together when suddenly there was a sound like a mighty, rushing wind. Then, it says, they were filled with the Holy Spirit.

God's Holy Spirit is like the wind, we can't see him, but we can know that he is there, just like we can know that the wind is there.

We can know that the Holy Spirit is there because we can hear him.

(Revelation 3:20) says, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock, and if any man hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him." We can't see the Holy Spirit, but we know he is there because he speaks to our hearts.

Another way we know that the Holy Spirit is there is that we can see him moving people to do God's will.

(2 Peter 1:21) says that the Spirit of God moves his people to speak and to do things for him. We can't see God, but we can see people doing things that God's Holy Spirit has moved them to do.

We can know that the Holy Spirit is there because we can feel his presence.

(Psalm 23:4) says, "I will fear no evil for Thou art with me." We can't see the Holy Spirit, but we know he is there because we can feel his presence in our life.

- The same HS of Pentecost is alive and well on Andros – and He wants to fill us
- Just as the balloon needs to be filled to be what it was intended to be, you and I need the Holy Spirit to fill us so that we can be all that God wants us to be.
- So we pray the Psalm today – "Lord send out your spirit, and renew the face of the earth"