

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