

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT PRAYER MEETING 3 JUNE 2020

Thanks again to the 23 people who were able to join our online prayer meeting by Zoom yesterday.

Just a short summary this week of the key reflections that came out of the meeting. I recommend that you use these as the basis of prayer over the coming week.

We reflected on ways that we had experienced something special this Pentecost:

- The image of the Holy Spirit descending on the Apostles: of heaven and the presence of God coming close to earth
- The joy of sharing teaching among families, and of being led by the Holy Spirit. The importance of stepping out in faith, trusting that the Holy Spirit will help us.
- A powerful sense of God's presence, both now and throughout life. The more we can understand the depth of God's love, and surrendering to it, the deeper our experience of the Holy Spirit.
- An image of Jesus on the cross, looking peacefully surrendered (to the Holy Spirit) - just as we need to be surrendered with an open heart..
- An image of the Holy Spirit as a dove with an olive branch.
- The importance of recalling things that God has done for us in the past. For the Jewish people, remembering means making past things present now: just as in the Mass, Jesus's actions are not just remembered but made present.
- The importance of unity in the Holy Spirit, emphasised by Pope Francis in the ecumenical "Thy Kingdom Come" Pentecost Service
- The need to be open to a much greater experience of the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives: not to be satisfied with just a little but to thirst for more of him.

We prayed:

- for a greater thirst for God, a deeper surrender and for the Holy Spirit to fill us with a deeper experience of God's love for us.
- that the Holy Spirit would use the present situation for the same purpose as Pentecost - to renew our own faith and to send the Church out into the world rather than being inward looking.
- that the churches will be allowed to reopen soon.
- for all those who are ill in various ways.
- for children going back to school
- for those worried about jobs and finances.

Recommended Pentecost videos:

Pentecost online gathering UK with talk from Jenny Baker. (Programme starts after about 10 minutes, so fast forward)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KgRhMVJ2rVg>

International Pentecost vigil (including message from Pope Francis after 16 minutes)

<https://www.charis-pentecost.com/>

Pentecost Live with Damian Stayne.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-V0_EL59JrM

Thy Kingdom Come Ecumenical Pentecost service

<https://www.youtube.com/user/ArchbishopsCouncil>

We will be meeting by Zoom again next Wednesday at 8. I will send round the invitation nearer the time and hope once again many can join in.