

May 31, 2009
Pentecost

As we celebrate Pentecost we remember that the Spirit is still leading and instructing God's people, the Church. Paul told us that the Spirit teaches us to pray with longings that are deeper than our words can express. The Spirit works all things to the good for those who believe. We see the work of the Spirit in many ways in recent events.

The whole painful series of sexual and financial scandals that have shamed our Church have also shone a light on serious problems that are societal as well as Church-related. Hopefully exposure of abuses will lead not only to more careful protective measures, but also to new structures of accountability to disarm the corruption and temptation that comes with unchecked power. May the Holy Spirit lead us to reflect on the horrors of these scandals and strive for true holiness and transparency in our ministry and governance of the Church.

The current poor economy, while certainly not a good thing, has also called into question our materialism, and our excesses, as well as exposing some of the questionable ethics in business and politics. Hopefully we will take from it a renewed gratitude for what we have, a new responsibility to be wiser stewards of what has been entrusted to our care, a new appreciation of what is important in life, and a sense of empathy for the poor and the unemployed. May the Holy Spirit lead us to new insights and values.

The Holy Spirit is working always in our world helping us to become a more enlightened and loving people. May we open our hearts to the change and growth toward which the Spirit leads us.

God bless you.

Fr. Pat