



Newsletter



For 2 weeks from Sunday 12th June 2011

Our aim is to *KNOW* God through Jesus, *GROW* in faith, and *SHOW* God's love in our community

Rev'd Lisa writes...

Pentecost Praise

Pentecost is a *second* fulfilment of the promise that Jesus only goes away so that something better can be given to those he leaves (John 14:3). First time he came back in human form and 'for forty days ... appeared to them many times in ways that proved beyond doubt that he was alive' (Acts 1:3 GNV): he could be touched; he ate food; he insisted that he was not a ghost; and yet he came and went with a new freedom; he could walk through locked doors (Luke 24:43, 39, 36). Second time he goes so that the Holy Spirit can come instead. It was a 'phased withdrawal' of Jesus' physical presence, helping his friends adjust faith in Him without sight of Him. In the interval we are told that Jesus instructed them, so they could be 'open' to God's breath when it came to them as a 'strong wind blowing' while praying together on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:2).

God leads us similarly, in stages we can cope with: perhaps you were led gently, from the experience of loss of certainty as you grew up into a time of the occasional glimpse of the Saviour, and then into the experience of the breath of God fanning the fire of the Spirit within you... or perhaps you were brought into the Kingdom 'by fire', and then felt the cooling breath of renewal, the dawning of new peace, and the joy of a new and deeper kind of certainty. What's *your* story?

Next Saturday Catherine is responding to the glory of Pentecost with a wholehearted commitment to the work of a priest. We who stand with her are privileged to be a cloud of witnesses to someone dedicating their whole life in service to God. If this complete folly in the world's eyes causes you to catch your breath then so be it. It is only through dedications like this, multiplied down the ages and across the seas, that the fire of Pentecost can continue to spread. May Catherine's ordination prompt each of us to recommit our own selves to our own whole-of-life discipleship.



SERVICES

Sundays: St Paul's 10am: St Andrew's 11am
St Paul's, 7-8pm: 'Still Hour' of quiet prayer, but Parish Prayers, 7 – 7.30pm, on last Sunday in July & Sept

Wednesdays: St Paul's 10am: St Andrew's 2pm

Weekday Morning Prayers: St Paul's 9.05-9.25am. Come & join us - all welcome.

NOTES

URGENT: Spring Harvest 2012 booking forms to be with Mike or Lisa or Catherine at the latest by 6pm Tuesday evening 14th June.

St Paul's Christian Aid collection was £310.35p. Many thanks to all who supported it.

Mary Duffy would like to thank everyone at St Paul's and St Andrew's for being so kind with prayers and cards. She writes, 'My loving son Roy past away peacefully in his sleep. He was always giving and loved by all.'

Thank you to Val Cope, her team, Puppet Power and everyone else who made the **Strawberry Tea** last weekend such a splendid event.

