

Pentecost Sunday 2018

My beloved brothers and sisters, when we read about the Pentecost event, we can be filled with a sense of awe and wonder before so great an event; however, we may also be tempted to ask ourselves: well, how come flames of fire didn't appear upon my head, why weren't the extraordinary signs not present at my Confirmation when I received the Holy Spirit? My brothers and sisters, we all like fireworks because they are exciting, exhilarating and spectacular, but, that is not the usual way in which God works in our lives. For one thing, it would be totally exhausting!

The Gospel tells us that the Apostles and the Mother of the Lord were gathered into one place. It was probably the same upper room wherein the Resurrection Event took place; however, it is important to note, that they had been gathered into one place. This was the work of the Holy Spirit, to create One Body, through the One Spirit of the Father and the Son of these very disparate men!

The Work of the Holy Spirit was to prepare these first missionaries for the first missionary journeys, which would convert the whole Roman World in the space of three hundred years. The same work of the Holy Spirit which was visibly manifested upon the Apostles, disciples and the Mother of God was present in the huge crowd of people who had gathered in the city of Jerusalem first, for the Feast of the Passover, and now for the Feast of Pentecost, a major Jewish Feast Day. God had gathered them also, into one place. Each one heard the Gospel in their own language, the Revelation of God's Divine Love and Divine Law, was no longer limited to only Jews speaking Aramaic, or Greek, but was heard in their own languages. God was gathering a universal Church, a universal expression of the People of God.

However, this work was not a fireworks display; rather, it was a hunger that men and women felt within their souls, for the salvation of God. IT was quiet, subtle and silent, moving the soul to cry out: "Brothers, what must we do?" It is the same work of God at work within us that makes open souls cry out, I want the great work of God, His Divine Life, to come and fill my soul as well. It is what so

many of you have experience in longing for and responding to all of the initiatives of Grace that are at work now in the Church!

It is the work of God, the very interior life of the Holy Trinity that guides us into the Commandment of Jesus to love like God loves, and drives us to show that love and live it out for others. It is the Divine Work of everyday holiness, which transforms us and makes us into the Saints that God created us to be. It is the work of God that transforms bread and wine into the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Christ, and transforms us into His One Body, One Spirit with Christ, one Intimacy with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. That's the Fire of God that I want, don't you?