

Sermon Summary

Pentecost Sunday

27th May 2012

- After the “we must have 12 apostles” conservatism of last week’s reading, Acts 2 gives a blunt and challenging statement
- All Christians are gifted with the Spirit
- Most churches spend their time limiting this.
- Anglicans have been notoriously bad at putting all the ministerial eggs in the priestly basket.
- We’re not even sure what to do with deacons (counted as P-platers)
- Or bishops, who are there as scapegoats when it all goes pear-shaped, but otherwise rarely appear over the parochial horizon.
- Others do it differently....
- Pentecostals may try to limit the Spirit to speaking in tongues- a manoeuvre which flies in the face of Paul’s writing to the Corinthians.
- Pentecost asks each one of us to
- Give thanks for the gift of the Spirit manifested not just in our church-y experience,
- but in the mundane realities of day to day life,
- in the qualities of living life in relationship with others,
- in simple acts of kindness and service.
- And simply ask,
- Where is there room for improvement?
- So that we may reveal God’s love to his world through our thoughts and actions....

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