

Alleulia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Easter season is nearly at an end.

The Day of Pentecost, when we receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit will be with

us on June 9<sup>th</sup>. “When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.” Acts 2. 1-4.



I wonder how open we are to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit today. I attended a Leadership Conference early in May and certainly felt the presence of the Spirit there, as I did while attending Army Cadet Force Chaplaincy training. Sometimes, I think we are so busy just getting on with things that we forget to look and listen for the presence of the Spirit. Maybe we could try through the month of June as we hear the stories of the Acts of the Apostles.

Another event that I felt the presence of the Spirit was in a beautiful wedding I had the great privilege and joy of performing at the end of April. So many connections with our church, it was lovely to welcome the family back. Christopher’s great grandfather was organist and choir master (with a plaque in the choir stalls). His grandparents, Brian and Ann Thornton, met in the choir as children and were married here and his parents and aunt were also married here, along with a number of baptisms.

From the Day of Ascension to Pentecost, the diocese will be participating in ‘Thy Kingdom Come’, an international event inviting us to pray exactly that. Ten churches in the diocese will be open 24 hours each day for prayer. Our 24 hours is 9am 6<sup>th</sup> June

until 9am 7<sup>th</sup> June. Come and join us if you can. More details will follow in the pew sheet, on facebook and on the website. There will also be a sign-up sheet at the back of the church if you are able to volunteer to 'man' the church during the night, as we will need a minimum of two to do this.

I hope you have all been enjoying the beautiful weather we've had in May and ask you to remember our youngsters who have been studying and taking exams throughout. I am sure they will be looking forward to their summer holidays, as am I.

Every blessing.

*Nicki*