



Pentecost 2008 Message

May 10th, 2008

May the Spirit of Jesus fill the earth and your minds and hearts!

Send forth your spirit, O Lord. And renew the face of the earth!

This is our prayer today on this great feast of Pentecost. We want to welcome into our minds the Spirit of Jesus. We want the Holy Spirit to renew us and change our world.

In praying these words on this feast of Pentecost, do we mean that we really want the Spirit of Christ to come and renew our world of today? Does today's world not need to be renewed? Is it not full of injustice, pride and oppression? Is our world not becoming the world of the rich, the powerful and the famous?

What about ourselves? Do we, as well as our world, not need to be changed and transformed by the Holy Spirit? Are we not compromising with injustice, falsehood and pride? Do we allow our minds to be filled with the spirit of this world, worshipping money, power and fame; Or do we welcome into our minds the Spirit of Jesus, which is a spirit of poverty, humility and meekness?

Warning the early Christian, Paul wrote to the Romans: "Do not conform to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind."

Now, what about the Church? Does the Church of today not need to be transformed and renewed in the way Christ wanted the Church to be, when he founded it on the day of Pentecost? Is the Church of today the church of the poor, of the meek and of the humble?

Do we members of the church put into practice the teaching of the church, regarding social justice for instance? For, if we fail to do so, then the message of Christ will lose its credibility.

Do we Christians or do we not want the Holy Spirit to give us strength to change what has to be changed in us and around us, in the Church as well as in our world? If we do want, we can sincerely pray 'Send Forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.'