

RUMBLINGS FROM THE BUNKER

PENTECOST - ROAR OR SQUEAK?

It's getting exciting now! I am so looking forward to the big birthday bash. This year it's May 24th.

I am planning on fire and hopefully a drum roll at the liturgy. This is surely the one day in the year that the liturgy can't be confused with the lethargy?

Outside that, in preparation for, or in the post savouring of, maybe Glendalough.
Certainly Silence. Sacred Silence. Silence to savour the dance of the Spirit..and afterwards cake!

Hopefully we will celebrate this beautiful day with some gusto, panache, verve!
It would be great to celebrate this Pentecost day like it was our last.
I'll be listening out for the roar of the Lion (of Judah!)

Yes I know, I know, the said feast often comes and goes with little more than a squeak. The squeak of a mouse (Mickey more likely than Minnie!) Yet it doesn't have to be like that. We still have time. This could be our best Pentecost yet!

Maybe it's that we are not sure what exactly we are celebrating.

Of course we are celebrating the coming of the Holy Spirit. We are giving thanks for the power with which the Spirit set them on fire with Mission rooted in the new knowledge of how much they were loved.

Yet that is all a little retrospective, what about now?

Surely we should be celebrating the great pruning that is taking place?
Isn't it time to rejoice in the crumbling of the old clerical model?
Isn't it great to see the emptying of churches as the Spirit clears the way for the new?
How encouraging it is to see the new shoots!

Ouch! How it hurts to discover that we can be part of the chaff. Dead wood.
Rust. Rust never sleeps!

Lord help us get out of the way!

This Pentecost we clerics have a great opportunity to lead by letting go.
Less chat and more actual empowerment of our sisters and brothers.

I mean surely we wouldn't be prepared to let it die rather than share the power with mere lay people, worse still, pesky women?

Let's conclude with a delicious lump of Easter joy: this is the truth, no matter how resistant, how self congratulatory, how puffed up with pride, how stuck we are, we need to be clear, we are no match for the Holy Spirit.

Let's find a way of toasting Her this Pentecost and as a faith community give thanks that she dances amongst us!

Happy Birthday to the Church! Happy Birthday to all of us!

Fraternally, JoeMcD 21. 05. 26