

Thought for the week
26th May 2019
Sixth Sunday of Easter

The Gospel this week is clearly pointing us towards Pentecost. We are all familiar with this cycle of Easter, followed by Ascension Day, followed by Pentecost. It usually coincides with the transition of spring into summer.....although the warm weather over the Easter weekend may have tempted some of us into putting away our winter woollies!

The disciples who lived through the first Easter did not have this hindsight. How might they have felt?

Their teacher had been arrested and crucified ignominiously, only to rise from the dead and appear to them several times during the following weeks. This must have seemed unreal even to those men and women who were accustomed to miraculous events. Coming from the despair of Good Friday they must have been overjoyed to see Jesus and realise that His previous references to His Resurrection had been fulfilled.

The news that Jesus was only going to be with them for a short while longer must have been unwelcome even with the promise of the coming of the Holy Spirit.....another change in their world so soon! Jesus knew how much help they would need in the time ahead.

The Holy Spirit was vital in the guidance of the early church as shown by the first reading and is still important today, both in the Church and in our own lives. When we are faced with changes, not always of our own choosing, we can take time to consider our options and ask for help in making decisions.

God's Holy Spirit shows us the way and gives us the direction.

A Parishioner