



The Saint

All Saints Episcopal Church
Jackson, MS

May, 2010

THE PENTECOSTAL BLESSING

In Acts 2:1-13, we find the record of the event which completed the Church, and endowed it with that mysterious power which then was, and ever since has been, the source of its true life and of its highest success. This is how the writer of Acts of Apostles describes it: The disciples were met in an upper room on the day of the festival of Pentecost. They had been in almost constant prayer for ten days. Stoke observes, "They had thought much of Jesus, especially of His promise that the Spirit of God should be poured out upon them. They had waited in eager expectancy for the fulfillment of that promise. They had broken bread together, keeping the sacrament as He had taught them" (G.T. Stokes, *Commentary on Luke and Acts*, p. 216). Suddenly the spirit came- a Divine ardor, an unwonted energy and peace! This experience of Pentecost was beyond words. There was a "sound," we are told, "as of a mighty rushing wind." There were "tongues," we are told, "like as of fire" as if a wave of fire came down upon them, and then divided so that a torch flamed above the head of each man in the room. Then they all "received utterances," we are told, and began so to speak that every man present, though he came from Phrygia or Egypt, heard in his own language. What a transformation experience changed men and women forever. A power beyond the earth, yet redeeming, was poured out on them. Someone has said that Pentecost is "God visited His people with dynamic cleansing and tides of joy."



Acts 2:1-13, is about the Jewish ceremony of commemorating the 50th Day after the Passover while they were in exile in Egypt. Pentecost was one of the Jewish festivals called, 'the feast of Weeks' or "the harvest festival,' (cf: Ex. 23:16, Lev. 23:15-21, Deut 16:9, I Cor. 16:8), which originally marked the end of the grain harvest. Pentecost feast fulfilled in the Jewish system a two-fold place. At the festival of

Passover the Jews celebrated the first fruits of the harvest. Barley was the first grain to ripen; and at the Passover a sheaf of barley was waved by the priests in the Temple in praise and gratitude for the bounty of God. Fifty days later came the festival of Pentecost. Then was celebrated the final fruits of the harvest (Keith Hunter, p. II). According to Leviticus 23, no one was permitted to partake of the fruits of the earth till the harvest had been sanctified by the presentation to God of the first ripe sheaf. At the greatest paschal festival ever celebrated, Christ - the first ripe sheaf of the vast harvest of humanity - was taken out of the grave and presented in the inner temple of the universe, as the first-fruits of humanity unto God. At Pentecost, on the other hand, a loaf was offered to signify the completion of the work begun at the Passover (S.S. Scranton, *An Exposition of the Bible*, p.317).

G. T. Stokes alliterates that, "Pentecost was the feast of ingathering for the Jews; and when the type found its completion in Christ, Pentecost became the feast of ingathering for the nations, when the Church, the mystical body of Christ, was presented unto God to be an instrument of His glory and a bless-

What do we know about the feast of Pentecost? First of all the word "Pentecost" in Greek means fiftieth. However, what we read in the Book of

All Saints Episcopal Church
147 Daniel Lake Boulevard
Jackson, MS 39212
601-372-5185

The Rev. William Ndishabandi
Rector

The Rev. Bill Hanna
Deacon

The Rev. Cathy Halford
Deacon

THE VESTRY

Greta Lovell	Senior Warden
Tim Ryan	Junior Warden
Jolinda Charbonnet	Treasurer
Therese Hanna	Clerk

Kenny Hall	Vanessa Kelly
Tori Meyers	Shungu Nhema
Lissa Nelson	Christine Nelson
Danielle Gallagher	Jason Kelly
Alec Valentine	

The Vestry meets after the 10:30 service on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

Our Mission

"We strive through prayer, worship, study, and fellowship to be a people, individually and corporately, in whom and through whom Christ lives and changes the world with his Love."

Sunday Services

8:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist
9:30 A.M. - Sunday School
10:30 A.M. - Holy Eucharist

Healing is offered on the 2nd Sunday of each month.

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ing to the world at large. This feast, as we have already intimated, was a fitting season for the gift of the Holy Spirit, and that for another reason" (Stokes, p. 315). According to the Old Testament theology, the feast of Pentecost was much favored by the Jews as a commemorative festival of the giving of the law at mount Sinai in the third month after they had been delivered from the bondage of Egypt"(cf. Jeremiah 31:33). It was a fitting season, therefore, for the bestowal of the Spirit. God promised through his prophets: "It shall come to pass afterward, that I shall pour out My Spirit on all flesh (Joel 2: 28) ... With joy you will draw water from the well of salvation (Isaiah 44:3).

In a nutshell, Acts 2 celebrates the birth of the church. We saw, that on the day of Pentecost, a new kind of harvest was launched. Three thousand souls were gathered into the kingdom of God. The harvest day began a reaping process. Pentecost, through the power of the Holy Spirit, proclaims a fundamental transformation - the transformation of a religion for a specific people to a faith for the whole world. You see, before the death and resurrection of Jesus, the Jewish religion taught that God's favor and mercy were available to only one group of people who spoke a specific language, honored specific traditions, worshiped in specific places, and had flowing in their veins a specific bloodline. Those people were the Israelites, God's chosen and beloved children.

Smith, in his article, "The Birthday of the Church, adds, "On the feast of Pentecost, just over twenty-one centuries ago, there occurred the event which was the evidence that the Christian church had got off to a good start. God poured out his spirit upon a multitude of waiting, to the uttermost parts of the earth (Acts 1:8). From that day to this day the witnessing has been going on" (Fred Smith, p.557). According to Jones, a New Testament theologian, we should observe the feast of Pentecost as much as we do for other major Christian feasts. Thus, Pentecost stands for life appropriated, lived to its full, unafraid, and clearly and powerfully witnessing to an adequate way of human living. Through the feast of Pentecost, Jesus became not merely the Christ of the Galilean road, nor even the Christ of the Emmaus road, but the Christ of every road. He was there, He was everywhere, He was within. The greatest hour of human history had dawned. God was utterly available to human need" (Stanley Jones, 235).

It is instructive to read the book "Acts of the Apostles," which illustrates the profound changes that were happening to society as it became renewed by the grace of God. Indeed, we see how former unbelievers, who had been driven by selfish desires and had no higher aspirations, after turning to Christ and receiving the Holy Spirit, became deeply believing, pious men filled with diligence and ardent love for God and people. Let us pause on this birthday of our ongoing Church that we may learn afresh the way of her beginning and the manner of her unbuilding. For many, not doing this, have erred in not remembering aright the nature of the Church came to build. I implore you to learn from the early church disciples, pray for the power of the Holy Spirit, and wait upon the Lord! I wish you a fruitful season of Pentecost!

William+

Prayers of the People

Please remember to pray for Edward, Scott, Lissa, Marion, Vicki, Jennifer, Adelaide, Betty, Mary Jane, Janis, Mary Lane, Stephen, Chase, Lela, Lori, Bill, Michelle, Kinsey, Melissa, Anna and Colin;

For a safe trip to Africa for Naomi and Joel;

For Daniella Hines during her pregnancy;

For Adam Pastor and Marc Hines, serving in military duty in Iraq;

In thanksgiving for our Mothers .





Outreach Opportunity

We are requesting casseroles to be put in the church freezer. These will be given out as needed to our parish family members who have had surgery, a death in the family or any other urgent need for help.

We need to have a list of volunteers, and would like have 3 casseroles in the freezer at a time. If you are willing to help, please contact Tori Meyers at deartoto36@att.net or 601-925-4210.

May Birthdays

Goerge Lovell III	May 4	Anna Langafor	May 20
Zach McCullough	May 9	Tim Ryan	May 22
Mimi Bradley	May 16	Vanis Ely	May 22
Victoria Meyers	May 16	Debbie Weathersby	May 30

May Anniversaries

Ross & Pam Turner	May 13
Donald & Jolinda Charbonnet	May 25
Rev. William & Naomi Ndishabandi	May 26

Pentecost - May 23, 2010

We will have an outdoor Eucharist on Sunday May, 23 at the 10:30 service (weather permitting), followed by a picnic on the church grounds. Please bring your picnic basket with food for your family and/or others. Also bring your beverage of choice.

Remember to wear "RED" on the 23rd!

BILLY BRUMFIELD MEAL

All Saints will be serving the Sunday evening meal at the Billy Brumfield shelter on Sunday May 23. Please come and help serve the meal that Scott has prepared.

We will leave the church at 5 p.m.

Junior Warden Report

I've initiated work on the clearing of tree debris on the west side of our property. I realize it has been an unsightly mess for the past month or so and I apologize for that. Please be patient as this process will take a number of weeks to complete. Also, for security purposes I will be clearing out shrubbery along the south side of the property. I would be grateful for any assistance with these tasks.

I'm happy to report that the DVR security system at the rectory has finally been completed and removed from my to-do list. The system was ordered last summer and the installation work started last fall.

Some people have reported erratic results in the operation of the Sanctuary furnace, and more recently the Sanctuary A/C. The HVAC repair people suggested I replace the thermostat, but I have some doubts about that solution. I'll keep an eye on this. Please report to me any further problems with that unit.

Tim Ryan





Bishop's Barbeque

The Bishop's Barbeque is Saturday, May 29, 2010 at Gray Center. For tickets or more information, see Greta Lovell.

Diocesan Vision Survey

The Diocese of Mississippi is requesting all parishioners to complete a short survey on the diocese mission statement. All surveys are requested to be completed on line. We will have laptops available on May 2 before and during Dish and a Donation for parishioners to complete the survey. However, if anyone needs to complete this on paper, we will have someone enter your responses on line for you. The link for the survey is:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BH3MH9R>

This survey needs to be completed by June 1, 2010. Thank you for your participation.

All Saints Directory Update

Vicki Miles has volunteered to up date the All Saints Directory. Please contact her with any changes. Her phone is 601-951-4838 or e-mail vickimiles@aol.com. You may also call or e-mail the Church. We are also working on a comprehensive e-mail list for the Church and are requesting that anyone willing to receive Church info by e-mail - e-mail the Church so we will have one list in one computer.

GRAND COTEAU UPCOMING WEEKEND RETREATS

June 3-6 "Workshop on Spirituality for Second Half of Life"

June 17-20 "Retreat in the Tradition of Anthony de Mello"

August 21- "Day of Renewal for Women"

Sept. 10-12 -"Workshop on Life Transitions"

If you are interested in more information, some of our parishioners have been to Grand Coteau for retreats. It is a beautiful spot and "holy place" in Louisiana near Lafayette - a 4 1/2 hour drive from Jackson. The official name is the "Jesuit Spirituality Center." For more information, or to sign up for a weekend, call 337-662-5251.

Dinner with Bishop Gray

I want to thank everyone for making "Dinner with Bishop Gray" such a success, but especially Chef Scott Essex for a wonderful meal. The evening was very special. Christine Nelson and Tori Meyers were Scott's kitchen help and worked diligently all day. Alex Bradley and Lissa Nelson provided more help in the kitchen during the dinner. Rev. Cathy Halford decorated the tables with beautiful flowers and she played the piano during the social hour before dinner. Many Saints provided delicious appetizers. Vicki Stuart organized the wonderful wait staff which included several Saints and a few ministers. Alec Valentine procured the silverware and dishes from St. Andrew's Cathedral. Alex Lovell tended the nursery. And many Saints helped to clean up after. The clean up crew was blessed with music played by Willie Cook. Forgive me if I missed anyone, but you know

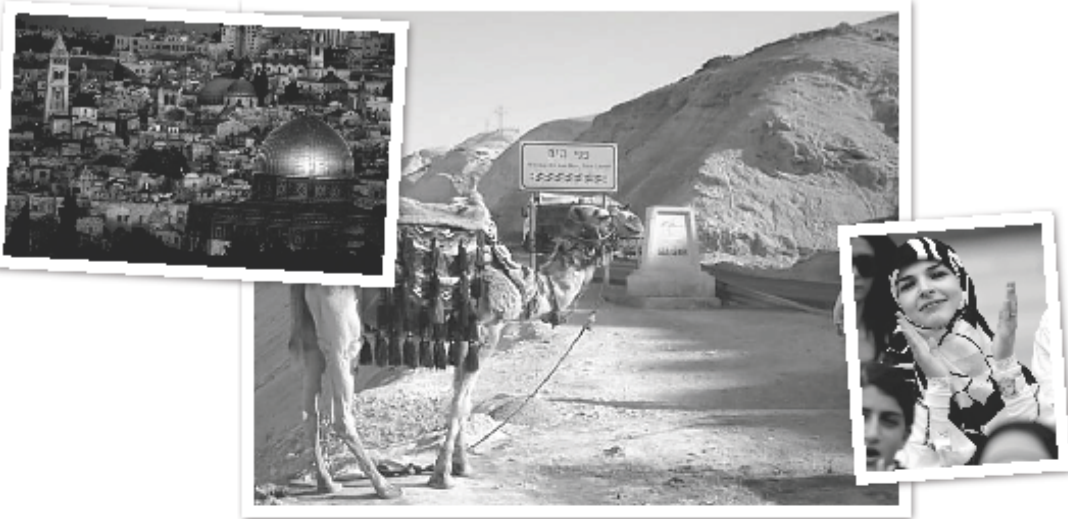




Tornado Clean Up

Help is needed with the clean up from the tornadoes in Yazoo County. Please contact Butch Jones at (228) 234-5169 or bjones@lesm.org to find out how you can help.

Butch and his wife Elizabeth Wheatly Jones are the directors of Mission By the Bay on the Coast.



Middle East Mission Trip

Sports Camps for local children and students

My Role

I will be working with a group of missionaries at a sports complex. One of my Hinds Community college teammates and I will be working with people in the community starting teams and leagues to compete in sports through the summer months. Our goal will be to establish new relationships with people in the community in order to lead them to a personal relationship with Christ.

Your Role

Romans 10:15 says "And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'"

I am giving you the opportunity to help me with this trip. I need people to commit to praying for me, and I need people to send me. My expenses for this trip are \$3500. I'm asking friends and family to help with my expenses for this trip. I have enclosed a note for you with an amount that you may consider donating. Please feel free to give more or less depending on your personal financial situation. If you would like to make a donation, please make any checks out to Ian Lovell.

I am thankful God has given me this opportunity to work with the people of the Middle East, and I look forward to sharing my experience with you when I return.



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Expect a Miracle!

May, 2010
Altar Guild for May: Vanessa Kelly & Vicki Stuart

	May 2 5th Sunday of Easter	May 9 6th Sunday of Easter	May 16 7th Sunday of Easter	May 23 Day of Pentecost	May 30 1st Sunday After Pentecost	June 6 2nd Sunday After Pentecost
Crucifer	Pam Turner	Christine Nelson	Emily Saucier	Christine Nelson	Kinsey Narmour	Pam Turner
Server	Ross Turner	Tori Meyers	Vicki Stuart	Tori Meyers	Greta Lovell	Ross Turner
Thurifer				Hank Holmes		
Layreader 8:00 10:30	Emma M. Jolinda C.	Emma M. Jolinda C.	Jolinda C. Cindy G.	Emma M. Jolinda C.	Jolinda C. Cindy G.	Emma M. Jolinda C.
Chalice Bearer			Lisa Saucier	Hank Holmes	Alec Valentine	Greta Lovell
Lectors			Stephen S. Lisa Saucier	Hank H. Lissa N.	Joy P. Connie Taylor	David C. Vicki Miles
Host Family				Lisa Saucier	Nancy H.	Lauran & Kenny Hall
Coffee Host	Dish & Dollar		Scott Essex	Picnic on the Grounds	Gallagher Family	Greta Lovell
Nursery Worker	Cindy G. Dorothy N.	Dorothy N. Alex L.	Alex L. Naomi N.	Dorothy N. Cindy G.	Alex L. Naomi N.	Dorothy N. Doreen N.

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