

# CLONGUISH PARISH NEWSLETTER

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### Pentecost Sunday

#### Come Holy Spirit

The first reading for today's Feast of Pentecost shows what the Spirit does if people are open to the coming of the Spirit. The Spirit works to bring together people from very different traditions and cultures. You could say that the Spirit helps us to discover and give expression to what is common to all of us as human beings. Whenever people of very different cultures and backgrounds recognize each other as brothers and sisters under one God, there the Holy Spirit is at work.

We are all very aware that in the world in which we live, blowing up bridges can be more common than building them. Some people seem intent on driving deeper and deeper wedges between those already estranged. There are forces at work in the world that are the opposite of the power of the Holy Spirit. We may even be conscious of the presence of such forces in our own hearts. We can shut out people simply because they are different to us.

The Spirit will always be moving us to work for the kind of unity and communion that we see in today's first reading.

Today, we pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon us so that we may have a new desire and a new energy to do the work of the Lord.

Fr Martin Hogan

### The Deer's Cry

**I arise today through the strength of heaven; light of sun, brilliance of moon, splendor of fire, speed of lightening, swiftness of wind, dept of sea, stability of earth, firmness of rock.**

**I arise today, through God's strength to pilot me,  
God's might to uphold me, God's wisdom to guide me,  
God's eye to look before me,  
God's ear to hear me,  
God's word to speak for me,  
God's hand to guard me,  
God's way to lie before me,  
God's shield to protect me,  
God's host to secure me: against snares of devils, against temptation of vices, against inclinations of nature, against everyone who wishes me ill, afar and near, alone and in a crowd.**

Anonymous, 8<sup>th</sup> century; Translated from Old Irish

### Be prepared – in good time

A priest waited in line to have his car filled with diesel just before a long bank holiday weekend. The attendant was working the pumps as fast as he could but there was still a long line of cars waiting to be filled. Finally, the attendant motioned the priest forward to a vacant pump. "**Father**" said the young man, "*sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip*". The priest chuckled, "*I know what you mean. It's the same in my business*"

