



## **Pentecost Sunday**

**Services – Sunday 28 May, 2023**

### ***Pentecost***

**9.30am** Five Dock

*Preacher:* Rev Wattson Pualilo

*Reading:* 1 Corinthians 12: 3-13

*Theme:* "A gift for the body"

*We are glad to have you with us today in worship.*

*It is our hope that you will not only learn more about God, but that you will encounter Him and experience His presence, love and grace for you.*

## **DIARY DATES**



**TODAY** after worship

A meeting of **Church Council** will be held.

**Monday May 29**

***Monday Afternoon Lenten Bible Study***

meeting in the church at 3 pm

*Reading:* Ruth 1: 1-18; 2: 8-13; 4: 13-17

*Topic:* 'Loving you in-laws'

If you have time you could read the whole Book of Ruth to remind yourself of the wonderful story of love and acceptance.

### ***Rosters***

The rosters for Church and Meal on Wheels participants will soon be drawn up for 2 July to 31 December 2023.

If you intend being away during this period, please advise the church office. Thank you

***E-waste pick up*** between Mon 12 and Fri 16 Jun

If congregation members have any electronic equipment eg. old TVs, computer equipment, telephones etc, they can be dropped at the church office before **Saturday 10 June**.

***Cancer Council Biggest Morning Tea***

was an enjoyable time. The cakes etc were generously provided and an amount of \$275 was contributed for Cancer Council.

A worthwhile occasion and thanks to all.

Last Sunday, Ascension Sunday, Wattson reminded us that on this day Jesus gave His disciples a promise of the Holy Spirit and a command to wait and pray for this promise to be fulfilled.

Today, Pentecost Sunday, the waiting is over and the prayer answered as the Holy Spirit descended on them.

Today's liturgical colour is red, signifying the tongues of fire which rested on each of the believers gathered together.

Tongues symbolise speech and the communication of the gospel.

Fire symbolises God's purifying presence, which burns away the undesirable elements of our lives and sets our hearts aflame to ignite the lives of others with God's love, as the chorus goes:

*'It only takes a spark to get a fire going, and soon all those around will warm up to its glowing, that's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it . . . you want to pass it on'.*

Pentecost means 'fiftieth day' and is celebrated on the seventh Sunday after Easter and since Jesus' followers, empowered by the Holy Spirit on this day, went out to spread the Good News Pentecost signifies the beginning of the Christian Church.

Jesus, promised a Comforter, the Holy Spirit, to all who believed in Him and that same Holy Spirit is available to all those who acknowledge Jesus as Lord, today.

We give thanks for the light of the Holy Spirit given to us that we may continue to walk in the light.

**Prayer:** 'Almighty God, on this day you opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.' Amen

(from the Australian Book of Common Prayer)

