Anglican Parish of St Thomas Corner Synnot & Greaves Streets. WERRIBÉE VIC 3030

Sunday 31st May 09 Praver Group: Cathy Addamo (email) Fr Max Bowers (email)
Fr Max Bowers (email)
Fr Ron Browning (email)
Fr Ron Browning (email)
Barbara & Ron Bubeck (email)

Prayer Sheet for Pentecost

Norah Chipman Val Clewer (email) Fr Noel Cockings (email) Betty Creighton (email) Andrew Dalton (email) Dorren Gilchrist (email) Revd Nan Good Margaret Malone Jeremy Morgan (email) Dawn & Gordon Morrow (email) Louisa Ramudu (email) George Roberts (email) Wilma Tucker John While (email)



The word "pentecost" means "fiftieth day" and the sanctuary colour for Pentecost Sunday is red, symbolising both, the fire of Pentecost as well as the apostles and early followers of Jesus who were gathered in the Upper Room for the empowerment from God to proclaim the Gospel throughout the world.

Intense Prayer (DAILY)

St Thomas' Incumbent Committee

Arthur Burton – awaiting surgery. Anne Clarke - diagnosed with ovarian cancer. Jenni Chapman - back at home but in need of assistance. Margaret Islet & her family.

Gordon Morrow - slowly improving. Kevin & Howard Morrow - very ill. John Swift – recovering from spinal surgery. Ruth Tindall – recovering after surgery. **John Tomlison**

Daphne Womserley - recovering from breaking her leg. For those who are distressed by issues within families. For those going through separation and the ones who are love and support them through the rough times. For the ability to know what to say, when to say it and when not to say anything.

Reading: John 15:26-27

When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

John 16:4b-15

But I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them. I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me: vet none of you asks me. "Where are you going?" But because I have said these things to you. sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless. I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Christianity is a missionary faith. When our faith ceases to be outreaching, when it ceases to be missionary, then it ceases to be truly Christian. But how could eleven simple disciples steeped in religious prejudice, reach out into a pagan world? Only through the power of God's Holy Spirit, who was to come upon them at Pentecost. They needed the very breath of God if they were ever going to do God's work. Pentecost was the great day when the flood-gates of faith were opened, and the Gentile converts first streamed into the kingdom of God, as Christians.

Continuing Prayer – (LONG TERM)

Michael Belacic, Rosa Brighthope, Leela Dorai. Alvie Henderson **Miness Family Hazel Morrow** Pauline Portelli **Doris Wilson** Julie Wilson.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (24/5/09-3/6/09)

May 31. In Uganda, pray for the provision of Scriptures in the Luo and Lugbara languages to use in ministry work throughout northern Uganda and the West Nile region. Pray for people's hearts to be open to God's Word as many read it in their language for the first time.

June 1. Praise the Lord for the more than 200 churches in Peru who are reaching people with Project Philip Bible studies. Pray for God to lead more people to be trained as Project Philip trainers and coordinators.

June 2. Pray for the ministry of Bible League in the Middle East. Pray for Christians as they share their faith with friends and neighbours, that the Lord will bless their witness and cause the church to grow.

June 3. Pray for Bible League in Mongolia as they go through a re-registration process as a religious organisation. Pray that God will provide a wise lawyer to help Bible League re-register and continue ministry in the country without further restrictions.

June 4. Praise God for Bible League team in Romania. Pray that they will be encouraged by what God is currently doing in the country and that they will have wisdom and foresight as they continue to advance the Gospel through their ministry work.

June 5. Pray for the new *Church Planting Institute* group that began in Colombia. Pray that each new church planter will be raised up to plant a church and that these churches will impact Colombia with God's Word.

June 6. Pray for Christians in **Central Asia** affected by a new law that has been implemented into the legal system. The new law which restricts religious activities has brought great concern among evangelicals. Pray for boldness in the face of new restrictions. Pray that Christians will not turn away from Jesus as the pressure continues to grow for believers to abandon Christianity.

PENTECOST represents God's gracious, enabling presence actively at work among His people, calling and enabling them to live out in dynamic ways the witness of being His people.

For Christians, Pentecost Sunday is a day to celebrate hope, a hope evoked by the knowledge that God through His Holy Spirit is at work among His people. It is a celebration of newness, of recreation, of renewal of purpose, mission, and calling as God's people. It is a celebration of God's ongoing work in the world. Yet, it is also a recognition that His work is done through His people as He pours out His presence upon them.