

## 2016 Rector's Pentecost Penning

Seven weeks from Easter fly by – and Pentecost is at hand! It took the disciples seven weeks to accept, digest, and live into the reality that Jesus has risen from death, taught them a lot more on things they should have learnt from him when he was with them for three years (though they never managed to grasp the depth of such truths as they got too hung up with their own perceptions, fascinations and desires), and finally got themselves prepared for their onward-moving journeys as followers of Christ, with the Holy Spirit 's coming as pivotal point.

How long will it take us to walk through similar paths of getting ready to live out our calling as disciple of Christ? Do we want to stay on with the 'incubation period' forever? The Holy Spirit is ready to anoint us with courage, strength and wisdom, if our hearts are ready with love - for God, for one another and for our neighbors. Where do our hearts lie?

Meanwhile, life moves on no matter what. Like everybody on earth, we are all getting older, our elderly friends are getting frailer, while our younger friends are moving on to pursue their next stage in life . . . Keep waiting to stall our saying 'yes' to the Spirit's anointment for us to take up seriously our discipleship is not an option. Christ said: 'see, I am coming soon' and we replied with the Holy Spirit: 'Come'. By that we echo St. John's saying: 'let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.' Yet, do our postures and daily deeds, thoughts and words live out that good wishes for all to abide in God's will for all? If not yet, how many more years of 'no' will we say to Pentecost? Let's be wary and girdle up with love in response to God's love for us through Christ!

Pentecostal blessings to you all,

*Paulina Lee*



## 2016 年聖靈降臨節牧者隨筆

當年的門徒在經歷了為期七週的時間，始完成接受基督已從死裡復活，趕緊學習他們本該在過去三年就隨主學習的真理，至基督升天後他們專心虔誠的禱告，以等待聖靈降臨而成爲他們作門徒的生命轉捩點。

那我們可需要多久的時間來準備好讓聖靈把勇氣、力量和智慧沛降我們以能認真作主門徒？我們心中可真愛主愛人，並彼此相愛，好能接受聖靈的恩霖嗎？

可別忘記：不管我們是否如昔日門徒那般作好準備以接受聖靈降臨以作主忠實門徒，時光都繼續在飛逝－生、老、病、死的巨輪不會停下來等待我們一次又一次的拖延準備自己以接受聖靈的沛降，來認真作主門徒，讓天父的美意成就在地如同成就在天。不久前我們在經文裡聽見「主耶穌說：『我必快來。』聖靈和新婦（即教會，也就是我們）都說：『來』。聽見的人也該說『來』。口渴的人也當來。願意的都可以白白取生命的水喝。」那我們可已經身體力行地準備好以愛主愛人而把主愛傳揚，好讓口渴的人都得生命的水喝？抑或我們仍在拖延，未準備好接受聖靈降臨於我們生命中，以活出作主門徒的生命？

願聖靈降臨的祝福，早日臨於你們的身上，

李志敏

