



## PENTECOST 2020

COME DOWN, O Love divine,  
Seek thou this soul of mine,  
And visit it with thine own ardour glowing;  
O Comforter, draw near,  
Within my heart appear,  
And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.  
For none can guess its grace,  
Till he become the place  
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

*Bianco di Siena d 1434*

Dear Friends:

Few words, married to such a perfect melody, are more memorable; and not being able to sing them together this Pentecost feels like a profound loss. And yet, the One of whom they speak 'blows wherever he pleases' (Jn 3:8). During the most disorienting Easter we can remember, we have felt his mysterious presence, 'for he lives in them and will be in them' (Jn 14:17), moving where he wills.

The restrictions of the last two months have brought many challenges to many people; and Christians feel very painfully their separation from the sacraments and one another. But the coming months and years look set to bring even greater challenges; and we shall need let the Spirit work effectively within of each of us, as in a new Pentecost, so that the Church can serve the mysterious designs of God. That means that we shall all, without exception, need each other. Please then, 'pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you shepherds' (Acts 20.28).

in Xto:

+ *Jonathan*

Bishop of Ebbsfleet, Hill House, The Mount, Caversham RG4 7RE  
bishop@ebbsfleet.org.uk / +44 (0)118 948 1038 / +44 (0)7801 551 035