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## **(Food for thought)**

Gospel: John 20: 19-23

### The Language of the Spirit



For Fifty Days we have lived and breathed the miracle of Easter/Pentecost. For us as a people of faith, Easter/Pentecost is NOW. It is the continuing invitation from our God for an ongoing, ever new encounter with Him and with others.

Change is always threatening. The human spirit is really torn in two directions: we have a deep hunger for stability and security, but we are also aware of a profound thirst for knowledge, for growth and improvement, for expanding horizons and fulfilling innate potentials. We have to break out of ourselves if we really want to live.

So Pentecost is not just a feast; it is not just the "birthday of the Church" - it is a "state of mind"; it is the "soul" of Christianity. It is the unending miracle of God's love poured out in the hearts of believers. It is the abiding power-source of Gospel living.

These are all vibrations of the Easter/Pentecost miracle. We cannot and must not be passive. We cannot resist change, but welcome it, foster it. Above all, we must not fear the movements of the Spirit, but embrace them with trust, with generosity and with courage.

The message of Jesus is intended for all people, in all times and places. The language of Jesus is the language of the spirit, one that transcends nationalities and all other divisive elements. We must learn the language of the Spirit. Change and diversity are integral elements of the vocabulary of the Spirit.

St. Paul tells: "As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, Though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit." (1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13)

