



Father Danny Murphy is a retired Pastor from Brooklyn NY. A gifted man with a God given talent to inspire and God's gift to us at Holy Cross Church in Vero Beach Florida. This is just one of his inspirational homilies.

Fr. Danny Murphy – Pentecost 2018

(Singing) "Happy birthday to us, happy birthday to us, happy birthday dear Church, happy birthday to us!" Pentecost is the birthday of the Church and we are the Church, right? So, Pentecost is our birthday. The Church was born on Pentecost. So, what do you do on your birthday? Well, as you are blowing out the candles on your cake, you make a wish, right? Well even if we don't have a cake, none of us is too young, none of us is too old to make a birthday wish. I suggest that we pause for a moment, so each of us could ask ourselves, "For what do I wish in my life?" (Pause) Ok, Pentecost, the Feast of the Holy Spirit. We hear in our reading today that the Holy Spirit, on that first Pentecost, rested on the people in "tongues of fire." So, on this Pentecost, the Holy Spirit rests on us in tongues of fire. We should be filled with the fire of the Holy Spirit! If I'm not filled with fire, could it be that

perhaps I'm filled with fear? The apostles, on that first Pentecost, were filled with fear. They were hiding behind locked doors and Jesus said to them: "Receive the Holy Spirit!" then, instead of being filled with fear, they were filled with fire, and the Church was born! The Holy Spirit freed the apostles from their fears, the Holy Spirit frees us from our fears – from ALL our fears! Jesus said to his disciples then, Jesus says to us, his disciples now: Peace be with you! Instead of being filled with fear, we can be filled with peace. We continue reflecting upon that first Pentecost, we read that people from all different backgrounds and languages could understand the language that the disciples were speaking because the disciples were filled with Holy Spirit. Today, we are his disciples, so we have to speak a language that people can understand – people today. Now people today are not speaking the language of the Parthians, or the Medes or the Elomites. People today are speaking the language of Secularism, of Skepticism. People today are speaking the language of being overworked and overwhelmed. People today are speaking the language of indifference and being dispirited. So, today, we have to speak a language that people of today can understand. On Pentecost, each of us receives the twelve fruits of the Holy Spirit. It seems to me, that if we become the twelve fruits of the Holy Spirit, we will be speaking a language that people of today can understand, no matter how jaded they might become. So, let me be Patience, let me be Peace, let me be Joy, let me be Love, let me be Faith, let me be Generosity, let me be Goodness, let me be Gentleness, let me be Meekness, let me be Kindness, let me be Chastity, let me be Humility. Do you agree with me, that if you and I

