

# Prayer for Sydney – Pentecost 2016

## Transforming Sydney and the Parramatta Pastors Network

Dear fellow servant of Christ,

We invite you to join together with Christian leaders, pastors, ministers and intercessors from across the Sydney region on the evening of 14<sup>th</sup> May at the Parramatta Salvation Army.

Last year on Pentecost, over 120 leaders came together in Newtown to pray and intercede for you and us.

This year we have been invited by the Parramatta Pastors to pray in and for their region.

### *Why at Pentecost?*

According to Jewish tradition, seven weeks after Passover is the time of Shavu'ot ( 'Pentecost' in Greek – the 50<sup>th</sup> day), a commemoration of when the Law of God was given by the Lord God to Moses at Mt. Sinai for the people of Israel (and the entire world). On the night before Shavu'ot, many Jews stay up all night reading the scriptures and praying.

The prophet Jeremiah wrote of the promise that God made regarding His Law:

*“This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the Lord. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the Lord,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the Lord. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.” (Jer. 31:33-34)*

John the Baptist prophesied of the first Pentecost when Jesus would baptise with the Holy Spirit and with fire (Matt. 3:11).

Jesus confirmed this prophecy with the promise of the Holy Spirit to the disciples (John 14:26). He told the disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the Father's gift of the Holy Spirit, *from whom they would receive power to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth* (Acts 1:3-8).

On the Day of Pentecost *“when it had fully come”* (i.e. in the morning after a night of prayer and reading the scriptures), just as promised the disciples were baptised with the Holy Spirit and given the power of communication, which Peter used to begin the ministry for which Jesus had prepared them. After the coming of the Holy Spirit, the disciples did not stay in the room basking in God's glory but burst out to tell the world. This was the beginning of the Church.

For Christians therefore, Pentecost is a celebration of the day the Church was truly born.

### *What are We Praying For?*

We will stand together in faith and in the unity of the Holy Spirit and call out to God for:

- All people in our communities across Australia to receive a revelation of the glory of Christ
- Our homes and our churches to be known as places of prayer; our Father's house
- Brothers and sisters out in the marketplace: for courage, wisdom and love towards each other and towards those who do not yet know God

### *Where and When?*

This prayer event will be at

**The Salvation Army, 34 Smith St, Parramatta NSW 2150  
Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May from 7pm to 10pm.**

*Buses and limited street parking are available along Smith St and Phillip St.  
Parramatta Station and the Horwood Place Council Car Park is nearby.*

**Let us know you are coming and bring your people; we look forward to seeing you.**

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For the Parramatta Pastors: Ps. Gerald James, Ps. Simon Black and Ps. Lois Barron