

I was in Salisbury last week and went into the cathedral as they were preparing for the opening of their installation. The visitor is greeted with a huge flock of paper origami doves flying down the nave in a formation which changes shape depending on the direction from which you are looking at it. From the west end the flock seemingly moves as a wave, together and yet separated. From the east end it looks as though a dense mass is flying towards you. It is stunning. And as you walk through the city there are more doves in the shops and public buildings. They are all made to the same pattern and yet are individual. In the cathedral some bore inscriptions, some drawings, some obviously the work of a child.

The cathedral installation was intended to be part of their events programme marking the centenary of the end of World War One with its message of peace, hope and new beginnings, but that message has become even more poignant as Salisbury and its communities recover from the aftermath of the nerve agent attack in the city centre in March. The cathedral initiated the project but that was then developed into a community project in which shops, businesses, schools and individuals are making paper doves and displaying them in their windows as a simple but powerful symbol of the city's resilience after recent events.

The dove is one of the symbols of the Holy Spirit. We encounter the dove at Jesus' Baptism

And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.

The dove a visible representation of the presence of God on Jesus and with the people of Salisbury.

The dove with its connotation of peace makes the connection to another manifestation of the Holy Spirit about which we read in John's Gospel about one of Jesus' post resurrection appearances.

The disciples had locked themselves in a house in fear for their safety after Jesus' crucifixion when suddenly he appeared among them, blessed them with his peace and then, breathing on them, said

Receive the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit as the breath of God, breathing new life into his disciples then and now, new courage as he releases them from their fear to go out into the world for him.

The Holy Spirit in the dove, in the breath of God and now, in today's reading from the Acts of the Apostles, in a sound like the rush of a violent wind and in tongues of fire.

God can no longer be contained in any particular form or in any particular people or in any particular language. At Pentecost God has been released into the world and we must look for him with open eyes, with open ears and with open hearts and minds. And that is both exciting and challenging.

So where do we find God's Holy Spirit? How does God reveal himself in and through his Holy Spirit among us today? Well, how about in a football tournament? With the World Cup just around the corner and to celebrate, Gloucester Cathedral will be hosting a football tournament in June in a huge Multi-Use Games Area which will fill the Nave of Gloucester Cathedral. There will be skills demonstrations, various free games and refreshments provided, people can either just come along or sign up their team for 5-a-side glory.

The Diocese explains that the thinking behind hosting the tournament is that

Church is for all of life. We want to show young people that the Cathedral is for them as much as everyone else, and to demonstrate Jesus' words, "I have come that they might have life, and have it to the full."

The turbulence of the Holy Spirit will certainly be present there in all the physical activity but all that will be happening in a building imbued with the breath of God, speaking to, in this case, young people in a language they understand, namely sport.

And then there's FestivALL, a month long celebration of inclusive communities in Gloucestershire which started on Thursday in the grounds of the cathedral. The FestivALL is about relationship and the Diocese and cathedral have teamed up with various organisations to nurture and celebrate community, aiming to bring together people from across the county to learn about the community in which they live and work, to build relationships and strengthen networks. On Friday, for example, you could have heard the Lord Lieutenant of Gloucestershire and South Gloucestershire deliver her keynote speech followed by workshops on subjects varying between "nature for all" run by Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust to St John's School pupils running a workshop on anti-bullying, and much in between.

The Holy Spirit as the presence of God among ALL his people from different backgrounds, different cultures, different ages, different standing in society - the inclusive God.

The disciples on that first Pentecost were certainly fired up - literally - by God's Holy Spirit descending on them in the tongues of flame and we have to ask ourselves about how fired up we are. It doesn't all have to be about exuberance and ecstatic worship. Fire and passion can be found in the deepest silence. One of the loveliest services I

take here in the Parish Church is the Midday Eucharist. There have only been a couple of occasions when no-one has attended. Usually there are always a few, people from the parish congregations and/or visitors – often from abroad. There's a real sense of holiness as those in the chapel gather round Christ's altar but also the sense that God through his Holy Spirit is also present in the whole of the church building among those who are wandering around as they hear the service broadcast.

And there's the reminder of the job to be done amongst God's people as some approach the screen and hover just outside, watching what is happening over the threshold, sometimes lingering for just a few moments and then moving on, but others staying for a while and occasionally moving to the adjoining chapel, seemingly to a safer space but where they can still observe what is happening. People are curious but also hungry for meaning and purpose in their lives and we have to find ways of sharing the good news of God's presence in the world and in the lives of each one of us which people can understand today. And sometimes that will be in the holiness and mystery of a Communion Service.

One size doesn't fit all – and God has shown us that as he manifests himself in his Holy Spirit as the dove of peace, as he breathes new life, new hope, new courage over us, as he fires us up through the power of the elements, as he encourages us to form relationships in our communities and as he meets us in the breaking of the bread. May it be our prayer that working in us through his Holy Spirit God will open our eyes to his presence in our world and in each other and surprise us as to where we will meet him next.