

JULY-AUGUST 2005

*The Greening of Life*

Green is the constant color of the Sundays of Pentecost. It is also the color of Nature prefers in the summer months of July and August.

Green is a color associated with hope. It is a sign of abundant life, of promise and fulfillment.

The Sundays after Pentecost celebrate the fact that the Spirit has been given to us, the promise has been fulfilled and we are meant to live in a maturity of grace and love. Pentecost, in a sense, brings the mission and ministry of Christ to a close and sends us forth to live the message in the remaining months of the liturgical year. And, so, green is a fitting color for our celebration.

These many Sundays after Pentecost take us through the summer months when Nature itself has been brought to maturity.

It is not only the youth of our lives which we must celebrate but also the maturity and fulfillment of the promise, the maturation of our lives, and the realization of our hopes. Hopes are not infinite (we are, after all, human) and maturity is not perfect. There are times to celebrate not only all we will be but what we are right now.

Anthony