I always think there is a humorous side to one of the most important feasts of the Church, the Ascension, being based around people staring at the sky. It initially seems a lonely scene for the Church, eleven broken people who are given God's authority to make the Sacrament of the Church present to the world. Under the influence of the Holy Spirit these apostles are to make the truth and love of the Trinity a reality in our world.

Be sure these are very broken people: they betrayed their friend Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane; they failed to understand who Jesus is and his message after His Resurrection. Maybe this reminds us that the message they share is God's love for us, despite their brokenness.

Like the apostles, we too are asked to make the truth of Holy Spirit real in our world, not primarily because of our abilities, but through a knowledge of our brokenness, and more importantly an awareness of the love of God made present through the Holy Spirit. What we walk away with is God's love for us despite our faults and failings. The Holy Spirt makes this truth accessible to us to share with others.

## Fr Paul O'Donoghue