

## HOLY TRINITY SUNNINGDALE

Readings: 1 Corinthians 12:7-11, 27-31

John 3:5-8

Date: Sunday 1 May 2016

Theme: What does the Holy Spirit do? He gives gifts

Varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit

To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good

Activated by the Spirit

Allotted by the Spirit

Paul is making it very clear that we don't all have the same function

Eg. Pack of cards –

You have been given a card

Please now turn it over

Reflect for a moment on the card you have received.

How do you feel about what you see?

High/Low;

Red/Black;

Picture/Number

Are you pleased/disappointed/sad/delighted?

N.B. as with the building of a house of cards:

everybody has **at least one**,

they are all **necessary**

they are all the **same size**

Paul goes on to name the gifts ...

To each is given ...

To one ... to another ... to another ...

We might think about ourselves and the gifts we feel/know we have been given. Please see if any of these descriptions resonate with you:

- Wisdom: knowing the right thing to do
- Knowledge: knowing something you could only know if God revealed it to you
- Faith: confidence in God/ trust in Jesus
- Healing: ability to pray for people
- Miracles: ability to do miraculous things
- Prophecy: speaking for God/often against the current prevailing wisdom/to encourage and build up/challenge
- Discernment: knowing the voice/fingerprint of God
- Tongues: a private prayer language
- Apostles: clear godly leader
- Prophets: those who exercise the gift of prophecy
- Teachers: those who teach the bible/about God
- Deeds of power: a bit like miracles
- Assistance: the second chair/helping
- Leadership: responsibility/initiative

Often it's in times of transition/vacancy that people's gifts are discovered, released and expanded. Watch this space!

Let's pray ...