

SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST



Come, Holy Spirit, Come!

Come, Holy Spirit!

Shine the light of your presence into
our hearts.

Fill us with the goodness of your love
and mercy.

Free us from the darkness of doubt
and fear,

and open us to your healing love.

Soften our hearts that are hardened
by anger and distrust,

and guide us to know your power
present in every human heart.

May the witness of our lives be
a source of hope

to all seeking your comforting presence.

We seek to honor you all our days.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Prayer adapted from the Sequence
for Pentecost)

Sunday, June 5, 2022 The Power of the Spirit



Today's readings: Acts 2:1–11; Psalm 104:1, 24, 29–30, 31, 34; 1 Corinthians 12:3b–7, 12–13; John:19–23. Imagine the energy that must have been in the room where the disciples had gathered to await the coming of the Holy Spirit. Anticipation may have been mixed with fear as the disciples pondered the words about the Advocate. And then the driving wind and tongues of fire settle over them all.

Compelled to leave the locked room, the disciples find themselves in the midst of a crowd from all ends of the known world. Inspired to proclaim the “mighty acts of God,” they are understood in the native languages of the gathered. Filled with the Holy Spirit, the disciples are

bolstered by the gift of courage. Never again will they live in fear.

This Pentecost day we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit given to us in baptism and affirmed in confirmation. This Spirit is our life force as disciples. As followers of Christ, we simply need to be open and ready for all that this Spirit will do in and through us. It is the power of the Spirit that will give us the courage and wisdom to be the people God has called us to be. Through that Spirit, we bear witness that we are adopted children of God and, as St. Paul says, we can cry, “Abba, Father.” As joint heirs with Christ, we live to glorify God.



THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Thursday, June 23

Called to be Prophetic

John the Baptist can be seen as a bridge between the Old Testament and the New Testament. The Gospel for today proclaims that “He (John) will be filled with the Holy Spirit . . . and he will go before him (Jesus) in spirit and power . . . to prepare a people fit for the Lord.” We too are called to prepare a way for Jesus by our words and our actions. We are called to be a prophetic voice calling for a just and peaceful world. *Today’s readings: Isaiah 49:1–6; Psalm 139:1b–3, 13–14ab, 14c–15; Acts 13:22–26; Luke 1:57–66, 80.*

Wednesday, June 29

Sts. Peter and Paul

Two men could not have been more different in their approach to ministry than Sts. Peter and Paul. They disagreed upon how to spread the good news, but both possessed passion and commitment to the Gospel. Each of us has been called in our baptism to take the message of God’s love, mercy, and compassion to the world. How we accomplish our common mission will be as individual as our gifts and talents. *Today’s readings: Acts 12:1–11; Psalm 34:2–3, 4–5, 6–7, 8–9; 2 Timothy 4:6–8, 17–18; Matthew 16:13–19.*

Friday, July 22

St. Mary Magdalene

Mary Magdalene is referred to as the apostle to the apostles. While she is the first person to see Jesus after the resurrection, she only recognizes him after he says her name. With her faith awakened in the encounter, she sees Christ. At his request, she goes to the disciples and announces, “I have seen the Lord!” If we slow down, we too will hear Jesus call our name and our eyes will be opened to see him in those around us. *Today’s readings: Song of Songs 3:1–4b or 2 Corinthians 5:14–17; Psalm 63:2, 3–4, 5–6, 8–9; John 20:1–2, 11–18.*

Saturday, August 6

Transfiguration of the Lord

The account of the transfiguration is proclaimed twice during the liturgical year, on the Second Sunday of Lent and on August 6, the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord. Atop a mountain, Peter, John, and James witnessed an event that left them in stunned silence. First, they saw a transfigured Jesus speaking with Elijah and Moses. Then they heard a voice from the cloud say, “This is my chosen Son, listen to him.” Take some time today to reflect on how you see Jesus as your king in the fullness of his majestic glory. How do you share your belief that Jesus the Lord is king, and most high over all the earth? *Daniel 7:9–10, 13–14; Psalm 97:1–2, 5, 6, 9; 2 Peter 1:16–19; Luke 9:28b–36.*

Monday, August 15

Solemnity of the Assumption

As Catholics we believe that Mary was full of grace. This is the angel Gabriel’s greeting in the account of the Annunciation. The doctrine of the Assumption of Mary that we celebrate today proclaims that at the end of her life, full of grace, Mary was taken into heaven body and soul. Today we ask Mary to show us the way to live full of grace. *Today’s readings: Revelation 11:19a, 12:1–6a, 10ab; Psalm 45:10, 11, 12, 16; 1 Corinthians 15:20–27; Luke 1:39–56.*

Saturday, August 27

St. Monica

St. Monica is known for her perseverance in praying for her son, Augustine. Her deepest desire was for Augustine to turn to God. Today’s first reading proclaims: “This is the will of God, your holiness.” Monica believed this with her whole heart, and through an answer to her prayer, her son found God and holiness. Will God do any less for us when we pray? *Today’s readings: 1 Corinthians 1:26–31; Psalm 33:12–13, 18–19, 20–21; Matthew 25:14–30.*

