

PENTECOST SUNDAY



Come, Holy Spirit

O God, ablaze with love,
you sent forth your Holy Spirit
to kindle the hearts of your people.
May your Spirit illuminate our minds
and teach us your mercy and compassion.
Melt our frozen hearts and wills
so that the Light of Christ may burn
brightly within us.

Bestow upon us your sevenfold gift,
with gifts that bring us to serve those
most in need,

a grace that helps bind wounds and
heal divisions.

Let us taste the Spirit's sweet refreshment
and burn with passion to share your
Holy Word.

Grant that we, who follow your commands,
may be filled with abundant joy
and boldly proclaim your marvelous deeds.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, May 15, 2016

Come, Holy Spirit



Today's Readings: At the Vigil Mass: Genesis 11:1–9 or Exodus 19:3–8a, 16–20b or Ezekiel 37:1–14 or Joel 3:1–5; Psalm 104:1–2, 24, 35, 27–28, 29, 30; Romans 8:22–27; John 7:37–39. During the Day: Acts 2:1–11; Psalm 104:1, 24, 29–30, 31, 34; 1 Corinthians 12:3b–7, 12–13 or Romans 8:8–17; John 20:19–23 or 14:15–16, 23b–26. It's hard to imagine what the Pentecost experience was like for the disciples. The First Reading depicts a bit of chaos with the driving wind and tongues of fire. In Baptism, we too received the fullness of the Holy Spirit, the Advocate promised by Jesus. Like all those before us, the Holy Spirit teaches us the ways of Christ and calls us to live out our

baptismal promises by sharing the Good News of salvation.

Reflecting on these readings, I begin to wonder where the inbreaking of the Holy Spirit is most needed today? If we look around our neighborhoods, and even throughout the whole world, there is much violence and oppression. People still suffer and haven't heard the Word of God. We need, just as did those who witnessed Christ's Paschal Mystery, for the Spirit to shower gifts upon us and to renew us in our mission to proclaim salvation with our lives. As we know from our Lenten reflection, it is easy to become distracted and turn from God, but the Holy Spirit is here to help guide our hearts on the right path. Let us give thanks for our many gifts!



THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Ordinary Time

With the celebration of Pentecost over, the Church enters into the second period of Ordinary Time. Over the summer and into the fall, the Body of Christ is invited to reflect on mission and discipleship. This period is filled with feasts and memorials of women and men who dedicated their lives to the Gospel; take time each week to read about a saint or feast. Contemplate how their story and the Scriptures for the day invite you to live more genuinely in hard times and celebrate joyfully in good times. This is just a sampling of feast days, so consider finding a book about the saints to read.

Wednesday, June 29, 2016

Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles

Try to map out the different journeys of Sts. Peter and Paul. Some Bibles will have a map of Paul's journeys. Read 1 and 2 Peter to get an idea of the homelands that Peter addresses. *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.*

Monday, August 15, 2016

Solemnity of the Assumption

Research how the Eastern Churches celebrate this feast. *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.*

Tuesday, May 31, 2016

Feast of the Visitation

Meditate on the *Magnificat*. Consider making it part of your daily prayer. *Today's Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-18a or Romans 12:9-16; Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6; Luke 1:39-56.*

Monday, June 6, 2016

St. Norbert

Explore this saint's passion for the Eucharist and Reconciliation. *Today's Readings: 1 Kings 17:1-6; Psalm 121:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; Matthew 5:1-12.*

Wednesday, July 6, 2016

St. Maria Goretti

Pray for those who suffer from any form of abuse. *Today's Readings: Hosea 8:4-7, 11-13; Psalm 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Matthew 10:1-7.*

Thursday, July 14, 2016

St. Kateri Tekakwitha

Kateri Tekakwitha had an inner strength to withstand disfigurement from smallpox at a young age. Later, her decision to be baptized led to estrangement from her family. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Psalm 102:13-14ab and 15, 16-18, 19-21; Matthew 11:28-30.*

Thursday, September 29, 2016

Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael

Find a craft on Pinterest to make while talking about angels. *Today's Readings: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 or Revelation 12:7-12a; Psalm 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5; John 1:47-51.*

Thursday, November 24, 2016

St. Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions

Pray for all who suffer religious persecution. *Today's Readings: Revelation 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a; Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Luke 21:20-28.*

