

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEKEND

SAT 5:00 pm	5/30	Holy Spirit Church and Parishioners, All People Suffering from Illness
SUN 10:00 am	5/31	Holy Spirit Church and Parishioners, Joseph Loi Tran, Ngo & Nguyen Family Living and Deceased, All People Suffering from Illness

MASS INTENTIONS NEXT WEEKEND

SAT 5:00 pm	6/6	Holy Spirit Church and Parishioners, All People Suffering from Illness, All Souls
SUN 10:00 am	6/7	Holy Spirit Church and Parishioners, Joseph Loi Tran, Ngo & Nguyen Family Living and Deceased, All People Suffering from Illness

WEEKDAYS

MON 6/1	Nguyen Family, Living and Deceased
TUE 6/2	All Souls & The Conversion of Sinners
WED 6/3	All Souls & The Conversion of Sinners
THU 6/4	Lien Nguyen
FRI 6/5	Victims of Pandemic

The Pentecost - Lectionary

Reading 1 - *Acts 2:1-11* - When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. **And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.**



Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem. At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd, but they were confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language. They were astounded, and in amazement they asked, "**Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans? Then how does each of us hear them in his native language? We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites, inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene, as well as travelers from Rome, both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs, yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God.**"

Reading 2 - *Rom 8:8-17* - Brothers and sisters: Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; on the contrary, you are in the spirit, if only the Spirit of God dwells in you. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is alive because of righteousness. If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit that dwells in you. Consequently, **brothers and sisters, we are not debtors to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.**

Gospel - *Jn 20:19-23* - On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "**Peace be with you.**" When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "**Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.**"

And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "**Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.**"

Pentecost Means for Humans

1. **A New Movement in Human History** - Pentecost rewrites the old pattern of human society first seen at Babel.

At Babel, humans try to make a name for themselves by raising themselves up to heaven. God responds by confusing their languages and scattering them across the face of the earth. Babel (Babylon) is the symbol of human pride and defiance throughout the Bible. It also provides the template for much of human history in its oscillation between humanistic confidence and fractious rivalry.

But at Pentecost everything is reversed: people come together from all over the ancient world to Jerusalem, the city of God. Speech differences are overcome, and each hears the praises of God in his or her own language. Pentecost reveals the start of a new stage of history where God sends out the Gospel into “all creation under heaven” to create a united people from “every tribe and language and people and nation.”

2. **The Exaltation of Christ** - People sometimes describe the post-Pentecost age as the Age of the Spirit. But Peter puts the spotlight on Jesus: “Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing” (Acts 2:33).

The Spirit’s arrival shows that something new has happened to Jesus. Before this, his earthly career issued from the Father by the Spirit. It was through the Spirit that he was conceived, anointed, empowered, directed; given words to say, made a sacrifice, and raised from the dead.[1]

But now, with his atoning work finished, Jesus is elevated and becomes a sender of the Spirit – just like the Father. The completed man Jesus has received “all authority in heaven and earth” and has been made “first in everything.” God’s name is now his name; God’s power is now his power;[2] God’s Spirit is now the Spirit of Christ.

The Glorification of Humans in Jesus (and vice versa) - Jesus tells his disciples that the least of them will be greater than the greatest of the prophets (Luke 7:28). He also says that those who come after him will do even greater works than he did (John 14:12). The only way to make sense of this is to see that this greatness is proportional to our ability to testify to the Christ in the context of his death and resurrection.[4]

And it is also the Holy Spirit who enables it. Jesus makes his comment about “greater works” in the context of talking about his ascension and the sending of the Spirit (John 14:12,16). The overall aim is that “the Father may be glorified in the Son” (v 13).

In keeping with this, Jesus later tells his disciples that Pentecost will bring power and will enable them to “be my witnesses to Jerusalem, and ... Judea and ... to the ends of the earth,” (Acts 2:8). Peter sees it the same way: the pouring out of the Spirit “on all flesh” makes all God’s people – sons, daughters, young old – into prophets (Acts 2:17).

The coming of the Spirit incorporates ordinary humans into the cosmic theatre of God’s glory. As we speak and live in light of the cross, God sends forth his Spirit to glorify his Son and Christ sends forth that same Spirit to glorify his Father.

Living in Light of Pentecost - In these dark days, we need to remind ourselves and each other that all of these things are still true.

God is still at work through his Spirit, calling people from every nation as the Gospel of his Son keeps spreading.

Jesus is still King, he is still at work in his Spirit to bring the world under his control and to set it praising the Father.

We can still share in the glory of this enterprise by bearing witness to Jesus and his work; by supporting the spread of the Gospel here and abroad; and by reminding each other that it is still Pentecost.

