

## **Easter Tuesday Wk 2**

First Reading: Acts 4: 32-37;

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 93: 1ab, 1cd-2, 5;

Gospel Reading: John 3: 7b-15.

**Theme:** Using His Power to Witness

The power and energy of wind makes us appreciate the power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is called the Wind/Breath of Yahweh. In the Old Testament, He is called Ruah Yahweh. At Pentecost, the Wind and Tongues of Fire were present signifying the Holy Spirit. As Wind, the Holy Spirit goes wherever He chooses to go. Nobody can contain or stop Him. He gives power/dunamis to whatever he enters.

The period after the Pentecost is called the Era of the Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit took possession of the Apostles, nothing could stop them from proclaiming and witnessing to Christ the Risen Lord. In the Gospel, Christ affirmed that we must be filled with this Spirit so as to live radically for God. That is the meaning of being born again: “from above” in the Spirit. The Holy Spirit made the Apostles to have “one heart and mind” such that animated by TRUE love, they were emboldened to put their possessions together for the sake of witnessing to the Good News. The Holy Spirit gave power and the gifts of wisdom, understanding, right judgment, courage, knowledge, and reverence for God which enabled the Apostles live radically as NEW people. The first reading is a description of the communal ownership and mutual responsibility for each other. Some people falsely accuse the Early Christians of being socialists, Communists, or Marxists. These isms are based on forced equality by the state. Their ideals are completely different from the underlying intention for the Acts of the Early Christians. The Early Christians were reborn in the Spirit of the Risen Christ and wanted to reproduce Jesus’s self-emptying and sacrifice of what is most precious to them for others. They were animated by the Spirit of Christ and acted because of LOVE of Christ in the neighbor. They gave witness to their faith in the Risen Jesus. May we always pray for the same Spirit to take possession of us and fill us with His power to witness with greater works to the mighty deeds of God.

By Fr. Sev Kupo, Associate Pastor