

Today is the feast day of Pentecost, that is to say the feast of the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples gathered in the cenacle. Jesus, who had the fullness of the Holy Spirit in him, came to us to communicate this fullness to us; as Saint Paul says, to associate us with his fullness. And the sign of this communication is precisely this feast of Pentecost. Remember that on the cross it was said that Jesus gave up the spirit. This means that he communicates this spirit of purity, holiness, divinity which was in him. But it is only on this 50th day that this comes true in a spectacular way. So, what is the fruit of the Spirit? The fruits of the Spirit are many but in the context of this celebration today it is the Spirit of unity in diversity.

In the unity people understand each other and that is what happened in Jerusalem. Everyone spoke his own language but everybody understood. Everyone is accepted as he is in a community; that is the communion that makes a good family and this is how the Church came out. Saint Paul will explain it very well by saying that there are many members and one body; various gifts but one Spirit. This is what we call diversity and unity.

In this 20th century, we are discovering that our world is infinitely diverse and multifaceted. What people, what race, what cultures, what languages! And all of this builds a single community which is humanity. In other words, it is diversity harmonized by love.

On this feast of Pentecost, let us ask the Lord for his Spirit; his spirit for the rulers of this world, his spirit for a world in search of unity knowing that this spirit will always be there for us because Jesus told us so well: "How much more will the Father will never ever refuse his spirit to those who ask for it.

So, it is this certainty that the Spirit invites us to go further to open up to each other, to understand one another, to accept one another.

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will always be with us; so that we get strength to carry out God's love and to announce the good news in a world around us for the Pentecost is about sending us on a mission.