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**SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2020**

# PENTECOST SUNDAY



Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." - Jn 20:21

# WEEKLY PRAYER

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 31, 2020

- SUN 5/31** **Vigil:** Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/  
Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 [cf. 30]/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39. **Extended Vigil:** Gn 11:1-9/Ps 33:10-11, 12-13, 14-15/Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b/Dn 3:52, 53, 55, 56 [52b] or Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/  
Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [1]/Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 [cf. 30]/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39. **Day:** Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 [cf. 30]/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/  
Jn 20:19-23
- MON 6/1** Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14/Ps 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7/Jn 19:25-34
- TUE 6/2** 2 Pt 3:12-15a, 17-18/Ps 90:2, 3-4, 10, 14 and 16 [1]/Mk 12:13-17
- WED 6/3** 2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12/Ps 123:1b-2ab, 2cdef [1b]/Mk 12:18-27
- THR 6/4** 2 Tm 2:8-15/Ps 4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [4]/Mk 12:28-34
- FRI 6/5** 2 Tm 3:10-17/Ps 119:157, 160, 161, 165, 166, 168 [165a]/  
Mk 12:35-37
- SAT 6/6** 2 Tm 4:1-8/Ps 71:8-9, 14-15ab, 16-17, 22 [cf. 15ab]/Mk 12:38-44
- SUN 6/7** Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/2 Cor 13:11-13/  
Jn 3:16-18

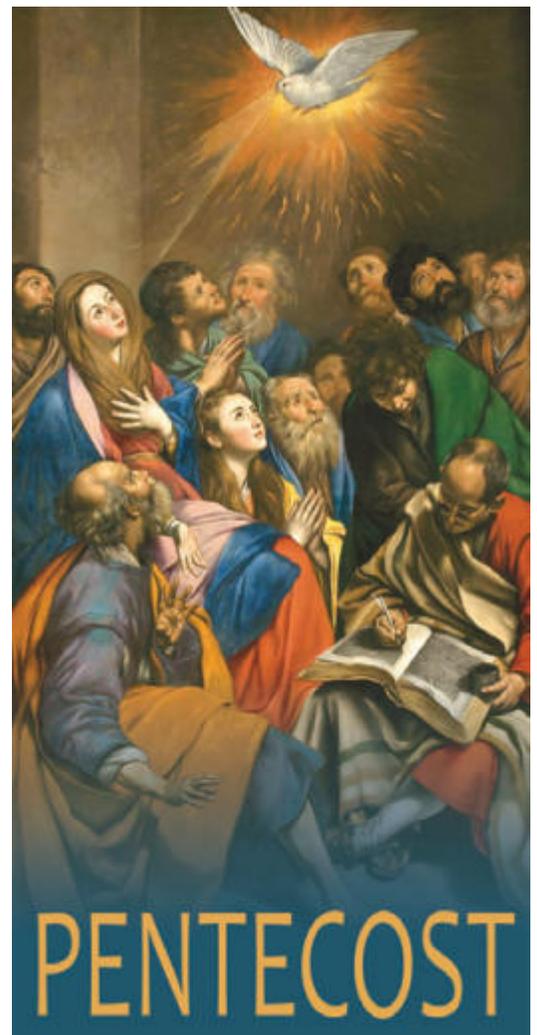
## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 31, 2020

- Sunday:** Pentecost Sunday
- Monday:** The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church
- Tuesday:** Sts. Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs
- Wednesday:** St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs
- Friday:** St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr
- Saturday:** St. Norbert, Bishop

## LIVE THE LITURGY

### Inspiration for the week

With Pentecost, the disciples significantly changed. They were charged up and ready to go. They received the Holy Spirit and no longer harbored fear and apprehension. They knew who they were and what needed to be done. With the peace of the Lord and the power of the Spirit within them, they set out to do amazing things with simple means. We have received the Holy Spirit as well. What keeps us from truly understanding the mission of Christ and continuing the advancement of the Gospel? Some may think this was a work of the past and not relevant now. Others may believe that the work set before me is simply about doing what I need to do to merit heaven and has little to do with my brothers and sisters. Take a good look at the world. More are in need of hearing the Good News than there ever were. We have the power to get up and out and start doing life changing things!



*And they  
were all filled  
with the  
Holy  
Spirit*

-ACTS 2:4

# WORSHIP & MEDITATION



## FIRST READING

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim. (Acts 2:4)



## PSALM

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. (Ps 104) or Alleluia



## SECOND READING

As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. (1 Cor 12:12)



## GOSPEL

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." (Jn 20:22-23)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.*



## GOSPEL MEDITATION

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

You can feel so small standing by the seashore. The vastness of all that is before you expands much farther than your eye can see. What is happening on the other side? As tides continue to ebb and flow, what occurs as they come and go remains largely a mystery and the effects of their presence unknown in your sight. Yet, things are moving and changing as you gaze upon the water, as the thumbprint of their presence is left behind. The greater the wind and wave, the greater the effect. But even a gentle breeze leaves its humble mark upon the seashore on which you stand. The smallest pebble still makes a ripple in the great blue expanse of ocean waters. It doesn't need to be big.

You never know the full impact of your smallest gesture or simplest of words. A yes or no, agree or disagree, here or there, this or that can influence time and history in ways you may never know. The Holy Spirit is like that: fierce and torrential, and then almost still and silent, creating and recreating nonetheless. Coming as a gentle breeze or a gusty wind, God's Holy Spirit continues to move over, around, and into the waters of our lives. The Spirit brings fruit and unknown possibilities to what we humbly bring with us and that same Spirit eventually brings all to fulfillment in Christ.

The first disciples didn't have much. They possessed simple faith and a willingness to go into uncharted territory with a love of their friend-God, humble offerings, and a knowledge that they were not alone. This allowed them to do amazing things with very little. Do you believe that you are being led and that you have a purposeful life? We often do not realize our value because we do not think that the little we have is good enough. How wrong we are! A little flour mixed with water and embraced by a prayer of blessing transforms simple offerings into the magnificent Eucharistic presence of God. If the Holy Spirit can do such amazing things with these humble gifts of the earth, even more can happen with you. Don't underestimate the value of the smile you gave a stranger, the door held open for an elderly widow, the listening ear offered to one who was lonely, the tolerance given to the wounded soul who is angry, and the loving shoulder you offered as a cradle under the head of someone in pain. Modest gifts offered with love can be transformed by the Spirit into wondrous blessings you may never know. It's Pentecost. Trust. You are not alone.

# LITURGICAL LIFE

## RESPONDING *to the Call*

### EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

#### Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

##### *We Are Never Alone*

My children want my help sometimes, and other times, not so much. I remember being a teenager and young adult myself. At times, I thought I knew everything. I didn't need help because I was just so darn smart. Truth is, I needed to find my own way. I needed to stretch my wings and prove to myself and my family I could fly. I assume that is what is happening with my own children as well. It just seems so different now that I'm the parent.

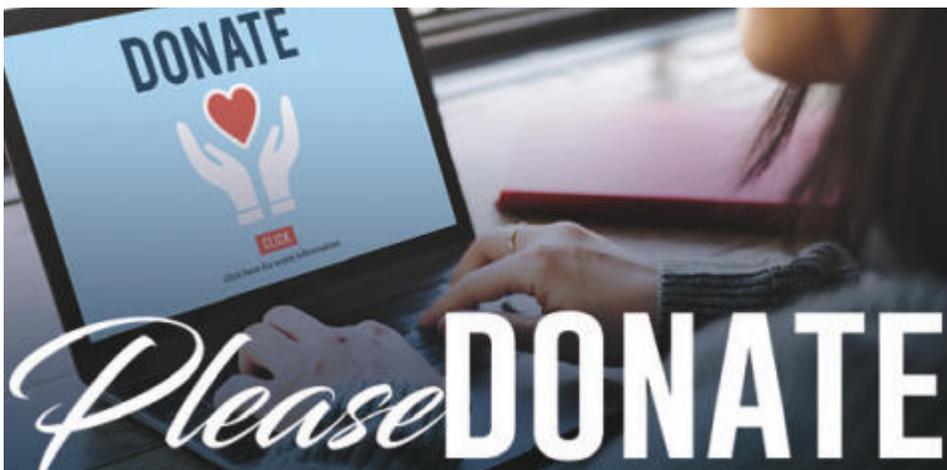
Human beings need help. We need community, and we need to rely on one another. At Pentecost, we reflect on Jesus sending to the Church a helper, the Holy Spirit. God interacting with us in this manner means we are never truly alone. We focus most of the time on the Spirit of God as the assistance we need, and we do need Him for sure. However, since it is that very same Spirit that turned us into "Church" from a band of people looking to carry on after Jesus' ascension, at Pentecost we gained more than divine help: we gained each other.

Today, the Church needs help in a profound way. We need to lean on the Holy Spirit to blow through the Church with a profound renewal. But we cannot forget that we have been given each other to lean on as well. We are a gift to each other, and together with the Spirit's help, we are the Body of Christ here on earth. We must be strong and stand for one another. If we do that, this Pentecost will bear fruit that will be with us for many Pentecosts to come.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

### PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

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### WHY DO WE DO THAT?

#### Catholic Life Explained:

##### *Tithing vs. Stewardship*

#### Question:

What is the difference between tithing and stewardship?

#### Answer:

Both tithing and stewardship are part of a spiritual way of life that calls us to use all of our resources for the service of the Gospel. Everything we are and everything we have comes from God. Offering back to God what He has given us is part of how we worship and give thanks to God.

Tithing is the practice of giving back 10 percent of what we earn. It comes from the Old English word for "ten." The first Scriptural example of tithing came from Abraham who gave a tenth of his possessions to the priest Melchizedek. He did so as an act of thanksgiving to God.

Stewardship as a way of life calls us to use well all that we have and all that we are, placing all things in service of others and God. Stewardship helps us see the good we can accomplish by making God and our spiritual life the most important values in our life. Whatever we accumulate in this life stays here. We can't take it with us! Both tithing and stewardship help us remember that nothing is mine or even ours ... all belongs to God.

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“Peace be with you. As the  
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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.”

— Jn 20:21-23

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass  
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## QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

### First Reading

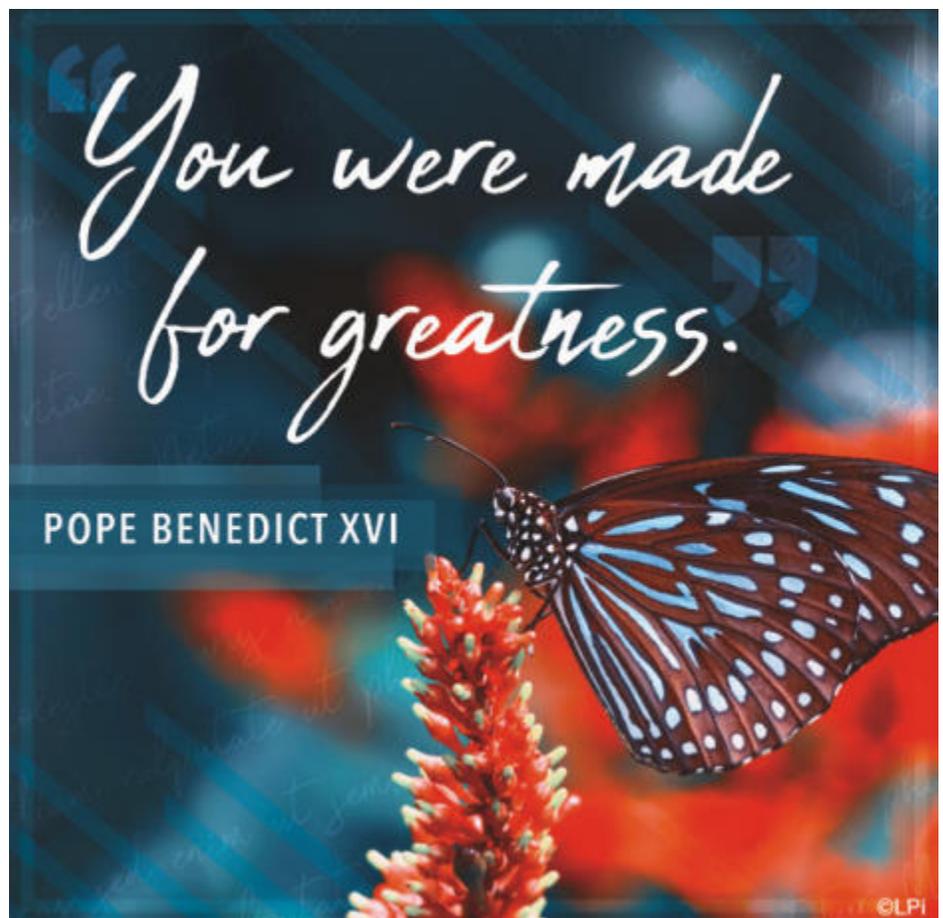
The birth of the Church occurs with the descent of the Holy Spirit onto the Apostles. Luke presents this as an experience of unity. How do you see your faith community promoting unity of mind and spirit?

### Second Reading

Paul speaks to the Christians in Corinth of the gifts and benefits of the Holy Spirit for believers. What Spirit-driven gifts do you possess?

### Gospel Reading

John tells us how the resurrected Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit directly to the disciples, empowering them to forgive sins. How often do you use the gift of forgiveness?



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