

The Work of the People  
*Pentecost Sunday*

The Greek word for Pentecost means "fiftieth," and in early Christianity it referred to the entire fifty days of Easter. The roots of Pentecost can be found in the Jewish Festival of Weeks (Shavuot), the fifty-day celebration following Passover. It was a harvest festival in which the first fruits of the harvest were offered to God in gratitude. It eventually became associated with giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai. Early Christians reinterpreted the Jewish festival as a commemoration of the coming of the Holy Spirit since Acts records that the Holy Spirit came to the disciples when the festival of Pentecost was fulfilled.

The Solemnity of Pentecost has two sets of readings, one for the Vigil Mass and one for the Mass During the Day. The first reading for the Mass During the Day is from the Acts of the Apostles. The outpouring of the power of God and the Holy Spirit fulfills and renews: the rush of wind is reminiscent of the theophany on the mountain of Sinai at the covenant between the Israelites and God; those who are filled with the Spirit speak in many languages, with people from throughout the world hearing and understanding the mighty acts of God.

In his Letter to the Corinthians Paul tells us that it is through the Spirit that we are able to claim Jesus Christ as Lord. The gifts, forms of service and workings of disciples are manifestations of the Spirit, given to each individual for some benefit. In the Spirit, there are no distinctions among people, nor among the gifts which are given to them. Each part of the Body of Christ is essential; all are drawn toward unity in Christ through the Spirit.

The post-Resurrection narrative in John's Gospel places the disciples behind locked doors when Jesus comes into their midst. His presence signals a new era in which the disciples and Christ are united in mission through the Holy Spirit. The despair of the crucifixion gives way to Easter joy. In the risen Christ, disciples are offered peace and sent on to mission; they are given the Holy Spirit and charged with the continuation of Christ's life of mercy and forgiveness.

The reflection for Pentecost Sunday is from Fr. Columba Stewart, OSB, who is a monk of Saint John's Abbey and the author of *Prayer and Community: The Benedictine Tradition and Cassian the Monk*.

Spirit is breath, the most personal and intimate of things. The average person takes 600,000,000 in a lifetime, few of them noticed, but each essential for life. The word "spirit" seems far from lungs and bodies. Spirit too quickly becomes the opposite of flesh, or gets abstracted into a distant force occasionally blasting its way into our world. "Holy Spirit" sounds even loftier and remote, a fickle window-rattling gale that seems to come from nowhere, as it did in that Upper Room on the first Pentecost, a spirit that "blows where it wills; you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from, or where it goes."

Today's Gospel puts spirit back where it belongs, in the living body of the Risen Lord, who breathes it upon his disciples in a tender gesture of presence and empowerment. This scene could not be more flesh and blood, with showing of wounds and the leaning in as Jesus imparts the Father's gift to a broken world: the breath of life and the promise of life renewed through forgiveness of sins. This reminds us that the Holy Spirit is God's way of staying close, as Jesus' physical presence had been for his followers. Such is the Spirit sealing and confirming each baptized Christian, the Spirit called upon bread and wine to make them Body and Blood, the Spirit sent among us for the forgiveness of sins. The Spirit is God breathing with us.

#### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 1:12-14/Jn. 19:25-34  
Tuesday: Sir. 35:1-12/Mk. 10:28-31  
Wednesday: Zep. 3:14-18a/Lk. 1:39-56  
Thursday: Sir. 42:15-25/Mk. 10:46-52  
Friday: Sir. 44:1, 9-13/Mk. 11:11-26  
Saturday: Sir. 51:12cd-20/Mk. 11:27-33  
Sunday: Ex. 34:4b-6, 8-9/2Cor. 13:11-13/Jn. 3:16-18

#### CONGRATULATIONS

*To the students who were Confirmed on Wednesday evening.*

#### CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous support of the Catholic Relief Services Collection and for revealing Christ's love to those who are poor and marginalized around the world. If you missed the collection, please drop the envelope in the collection in the weeks to come.

*"Lord, help me to face each situation with a joyful, cheerful heart."*

**WORSHIP**

Monday, May 29  
 8:00 am + In Remembrance of those who have died  
 in service to our country  
 Tuesday, May 30  
 8:00 am + Mike & Vicki Graczyk (Jeanne Miller)  
 Wednesday, May 31  
 8:00 am + NO MASS  
 Thursday, June 1  
 8:00 am + Tom Osiecki (Josie Osiecki)  
 Friday, June 2  
 8:00 am + Charles Metzler (Judy Metzler)  
 Saturday, June 3  
 4:30 pm + Dr. J. P. Hobson, Jr. and  
 Donna Eddinger Hobson (Thomas Hobson)  
 Sunday, June 4  
 8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE MISSION  
 Jeanne Mercier (Frank & Mary Consiglio)  
 9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA  
 Living & Deceased Parishioners

**PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR**

Tuesday, May 30  
 After Mass - St. Anthony Novena  
 Saturday, June 3  
 3:30 - 4:15 pm - Confession  
 Sunday, June 4  
 AT ST. BERNADETTE MISSION  
 Before Mass - Confession  
 AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA  
 After Mass - Confession  
 After Mass - Faith Formation Social  
 Monday, June 5  
 5:00 pm - Doors open for BINGO

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Like the disciples in today's gospel, there are times we shut the doors of our hearts to people or events. It's how we create emotional distance. Permanent distancing is lethal and prevents the PEACE Jesus offers you today.

**ST. BERNADETTE MISSION  
 STEWARDSHIP**

Offertory	\$872.00
Ascension	58.00
Catholic Relief Services	115.00
Candles	19.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,064.00</b>

PATRONAL FEAST

This year, on Tuesday, June 13 we invite all parishioners to gather at 5:30 pm at St. Anthony of Padua Church for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Evening Prayer, and Benediction followed by a tureen dinner in the Parish Center. This is to celebrate the memorial of our patron, St. Anthony of Padua. More details will follow.

BACCALAUREATE

There will be a Baccalaureate service for graduating seniors on Sunday, June 4th at 7:00 pm at the First Baptist Church. Please check for more information on the bulletin board at the entrances to church.

SOLEMNITY OF THE  
 MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST  
 (Corpus Christi)

On Sunday, June 11, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, all clergy, religious and lay faithful are invited to participate in one of the regional Eucharistic Processions as part of the Eucharistic Revival which began a year ago.  
 Epiphany of the Lord, Meadville, will have Procession time at 2:30 pm with procession to St. Brigid and back, Benediction to conclude. The exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is following the 11:30 am Mass.

FAITH FORMATION SOCIAL

Faith Formation will be hosting a coffee and donut social to honor those students who have reached a Sacrament milestone. Please join us after the 9:30 Sunday mass on June 4th to meet and greet our special young people.  
 All are invited to share in fellowship and celebration.

**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA  
 STEWARDSHIP**

Offertory	\$601.00
Maintenance	313.00
CSA	651.00
Catholic Relief Services	169.00
Reimbursement	90.00
Donation	50.00
Candles	43.00
Ascension	123.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,040.00</b>
Catholic Services Appeal	
Pledged: \$29,682.33	Paid: \$20,135.33

**CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA**

**CHURCH NO.:**

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

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