

Pentecost Sunday



News You Can Use...from Fr. Steve

A prayer for the Gifts of the Holy Spirit

O Lord Jesus Christ, Who, before ascending into heaven, promised to send the Holy Spirit to finish Your work in the souls of Your Apostles and Disciples, deign to grant the same Holy Spirit to me, that He may perfect in my soul the work of Your grace and Your love.

Grant me the **Spirit of Wisdom** that I may despise the perishable things of this world and aspire only after the things that are eternal,

the **Spirit of Understanding** to enlighten my mind with the light of Thy divine truth,

the **Spirit of Counsel** that I may ever choose the surest way of pleasing God and gaining Heaven,

the **Spirit of Fortitude** that I may bear my cross with Thee, and that I may overcome with courage all the obstacles that oppose my salvation,

the **Spirit of Knowledge** that I may know God and know myself and grow perfect in the science of the Saints,

the **Spirit of Piety** that I may find the service of God sweet and amiable,

the **Spirit of Fear** that I may be filled with a loving reverence towards God, and may dread in any way to displease Him. Mark me, dear Lord, with the sign of Your true disciples and animate me in all things with Your Spirit.



The Twelve Fruits of the Holy Spirit

Charity - Joy - Peace - Patience - Kindness – Goodness - Generosity - Gentleness - Faithfulness - Modesty - Self-control – Chastity

The Holy Spirit sent by the Father and the Risen Christ gave the Apostles the gifts of grace through which they would undertake the evangelical mission of the Church. On the day of Pentecost, the Apostles were given the miraculous "gift of tongues" so that everyone from every country understood the inspired message of salvation as if they were hearing it in their own languages. Thousands were converted by the preaching of Peter and the other Apostles. The Solemnity of Pentecost ends the Easter season. After Pentecost, the Easter candle is transferred to the baptistery area, to be lighted for a baptism or a funeral.

Lord, send out Your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

This Week at St. AJ

Saturday, May 22

9:00AM Mass *Holy Souls in Purgatory*
NO 4:00PM Confessions for Summer – By Request or Appointment
NO 5:30PM Vigil Mass for Summer – Resumes Saturday, Sept. 4

Pentecost Sunday, May 23

10:00AM Mass *Paul Watson*
Catholic Forum Today in Parish Hall – After 10:00 AM Mass
11:30AM Mass *Special Intention for Safe Traveling*
5:00PM Mass *In Thanksgiving from the Sarry Family*
NO 10:00PM Mass for Summer – Resumes Sunday, September 5

Monday, May 24

NO 7:30 AM Mass for Summer – Resumes Tuesday, September 7

Wednesday, May 26

12:05PM Mass *Rosamma Joseph*
12:30PM to 2:00PM Church is open today. Please ring Rectory bell.

Thursday, May 27

12:05PM Mass *Paddy O'Donnell*

Friday, May 28

7:00PM Wedding Rehearsal – Brian Brazinski/Amanda Graham SJM

Saturday, May 29

9:00AM Mass *Holy Souls in Purgatory*
11:00AM Baptism *George Leopold Nicotera SJM*
2:30PM Wedding *Brian Brazinski / Amanda Graham SJM*



Reminder: Summer Schedule Changes

The Summer Mass schedule changes are in effect **May 22-23:**
5:30 PM Saturday Vigil Mass - discontinued for Summer
10 PM Sunday Mass - discontinued for Summer
Saturday Confessions at 4:00 pm - discontinued for Summer. Confessions - available by request or appointment.
7:30 AM Weekday Mass (Monday – Thursday) will be discontinued for the Summer beginning Monday, June 1.

The “Tower of Blogel”

One of the dramatic manifestations of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost was the speaking and hearing in tongues. When the Apostles - newly empowered by the Holy Spirit - spoke, all heard in their own language, an extraordinary event of unity and community. It was also an experience of profound humility, to be open to hear a higher truth than your own. This event is the reversal of the Tower of Babel experience in Genesis 11 where human arrogance and pride destroyed the will and the ability to hear or understand one another, climaxing in the destruction of human community.

It seems to me that what we witness at Pentecost is not only “tongues” but “ears.” The “gift of tongues” is in our spiritual vocabulary but the “gift of ears” is not, and perhaps it should be. If you do not want to listen and hear anything beyond your own superficial understanding, then no amount of instruction will penetrate your self-imposed deafness.

I am fascinated by the inclination of so many people today to disseminate their words, thoughts and ideas by blogging, twittering or tweeting, my-spacing, instant messaging, and texting – everyone believing that there is this huge audience desperately waiting to hear what they have to say or reveal about themselves.

I have this image in my mind of everyone on the planet busily blogging away, expecting that others are listening. Unfortunately, no one is listening because they too are blogging about themselves and have no time or interest in anyone else’s blog. So we have come full circle, creating once again a “Tower of Blogel” where no one is hearing or understanding another because we are consumed with our own need and compulsion to be heard and understood.