

Prayer at Home
Pentecost Sunday
May 31, 2020

Notes/Instructions

- This may be prayed alone or as a family depending on how many people are in your home.
- You may gather at your kitchen table or at a prayer space in your home.
- Individuals may take turns proclaiming the readings.
- If you have a candle, family Bible, crucifix, etc., you may place them in the middle of your table/prayer space.
- If you have never led prayer before, do not worry. God always appreciates our efforts.
- You may remain seated for the entire prayer, but if you have children it may be helpful to stand for the Gather, Gospel Reading, and Sending Forth. If you are able, you may wish to kneel to pray the Spiritual Communion together.

MAKE TODAY SPECIAL!

Pentecost is the birthday of the Church, so it is an opportunity to celebrate a bit differently. Here are some ideas for how to put a bit more joy into your day:

- The color for today is **RED** (the color of the Holy Spirit). Wear red, use a red table cloth, and decorate with that color however you can.
- Since today is the Church's birthday, you might serve a birthday cake or put candles in cupcakes. You could even sing "Happy Birthday" to the Church!
- Today we hear about how the Holy Spirit came in the form of flames above the disciples' heads. Gather all the candles you can find in your house for your altar and light them before today's service.

Gather

Prayer Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
Almighty ever-living God,
who willed the Paschal Mystery to be encompassed
as a sign in fifty days,
grant that from out of the scattered nations
the confusion of many tongues
may be gathered by heavenly grace
into one great confession of your name.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Listen

First Reading: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.
(*descent of the Holy Spirit*)

(Acts of the Apostles 2: 1-11)

When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled,
they were all in one place together.
And suddenly there came from the sky
a noise like a strong driving wind,
and it filled the entire house in which they were.
Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire,
which parted and came to rest on each one of them.
And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and began to speak in different tongues,
as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem.
At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd,
but they were confused
because each one heard them speaking in his own language.
They were astounded, and in amazement they asked,
“Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans?
Then how does each of us hear them in his native language?
We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites,
inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia,
Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia,
Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene,
as well as travelers from Rome,
both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs,
yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues
of the mighty acts of God.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

(Psalm 104: 1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34)

Our response is: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Bless the LORD, O my soul!
O LORD, my God, you are great indeed!
How manifold are your works, O Lord!
the earth is full of your creatures;

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

May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
may the LORD be glad in his works!
Pleasing to him be my theme;
I will be glad in the LORD.

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

If you take away their breath, they perish
and return to their dust.
When you send forth your spirit, they are created,
and you renew the face of the earth.

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

Second Reading: A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.
(1 Corinthians 12: 3b-7, 12-13)
(many gifts, one Spirit, and the analogy of the body)

Brothers and sisters:
No one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit;
there are different forms of service but the same Lord;
there are different workings but the same God
who produces all of them in everyone.
To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit
is given for some benefit.

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.
For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body,
whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons,
and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Alleluia, alleluia.

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Video of the Gospel for Children: <https://youtu.be/OMQKy1Mx49M>

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.
(*appearance to the disciples*)

(John 20: 19-23)

On the evening of that first day of the week,
when the doors were locked, where the disciples were,
for fear of the Jews,
Jesus came and stood in their midst
and said to them, "Peace be with you."
When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.
The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.
Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you.
As the Father has sent me, so I send you."
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."
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Respond

Key Passage: Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."
(John 20: 21-22)

Reflection Questions

Adult: What important work does Jesus ask of you at this time in your life?

Child: How would Jesus want you to treat your friends and family this week?

Prayer Leader: Uniting our prayers as one we pray together the words Jesus gave us:
Our Father . . .

Spiritual Communion

(*Pray this prayer together*)

Prayer Leader: Let us pray.

All: My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there

and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.

Sending Forth

Prayer Leader: May God, the Father of lights,
who was pleased to enlighten the disciples' minds
by the outpouring of the Spirit, the Paraclete,
grant us gladness by his blessing
and make us always abound with the gifts of the same Spirit.

Amen.

May the wondrous flame that appeared above the disciples,
powerfully cleanse our hearts from every evil
and pervade them with its purifying light.

Amen.

And may God, who has been pleased to unite many tongues
in the profession of one faith,
give us perseverance in that same faith
and, by believing, may we journey from hope to clear vision.

Amen.

Prayer Leader: And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit come down on us and remain on us forever. **Amen.**