

Dear Padre,

Why is there now a Mass honoring Mary after Pentecost?

The eleven apostles and some women, including Mary the Mother of Jesus, were praying in the upper room when they were filled with the Holy Spirit, which descended upon them as a strong wind and as tongues of fire (see Acts 1:13–14; 2:1–13). This is the final time Mary’s name appears in the New Testament. In Luke’s Acts of the Apostles, the same Holy Spirit that overshadowed Mary at the annunciation in Luke 1:38 now comes upon her during Pentecost. “Just as the Incarnation of the Spirit had formed the physical body of Christ in her virginal womb, now in the upper room the same Spirit comes down to give life to the Mystical Body” (St. John Paul II, general audience, May 28, 1997).

Thus, the Virgin Mary, full of grace and filled with the Holy Spirit, is both the Mother of Christ and Mother of the Church. “Mary is the mother of the members of Christ, because with charity she cooperated in the rebirth of the faithful into the Church,” wrote St. Augustine (354–430).

In 1975, *The Roman Missal* included a votive Mass honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary under her ancient title, Mother of the Church. However, in 2018, Pope Francis elevated this votive Mass to an annual obligatory memorial in the General Roman Calendar, observed on the Monday following Pentecost (also called Whit Monday).

Mary is a model for the gifts of the Holy Spirit, exemplifying “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control” (Galatians 5:22–23).

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



PENTECOST BY NAVARRO PEREZ DOLZ (1990). RENATA SEDMAKOVA / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

The Holy Spirit...reminds us that first of all we are God's beloved children; all equal, in this respect, and all different. The Spirit comes to us, in our differences and difficulties, to tell us that we have one Lord—Jesus—and one Father, and that for this reason we are brothers and sisters!

PENTECOST HOMILY, MAY 31, 2020



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Calendar

Monday
MAY 24

*Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother of the Church*

Gn 3:9–15, 20
or Acts 1:12–14
Jn 19:25–34

Tuesday
MAY 25

Weekday
Sir 35:1–12
Mk 10:28–31

Wednesday
MAY 26

St. Philip Neri, Priest
Sir 36:1, 4–5a, 10–17
Mk 10:32–45

Thursday
MAY 27

Weekday
Sir 42:15–25
Mk 10:46–52

Friday
MAY 28

Weekday
Sir 44:1, 9–13
Mk 11:11–26

Saturday
MAY 29

Weekday
Sir 51:12cd–20
Mk 11:27–33

Sunday
MAY 30

The Most Holy Trinity
Dt 4:32–34, 39–40
Rom 8:14–17
Mt 28:16–20

Helping Catholics apply gospel messages today!

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Our Parish COMMUNITY

May 23, 2021

Pentecost Sunday (B)

Acts 2:1–11

1 Cor 12:3b–7, 12–13 or Gal 5:16–25

Jn 20:19–23 or Jn 15:26–27; 16:12–15

Tongues of Fire

When I was a child, I thought the flames I saw atop the heads of the apostles in the pictures depicting Pentecost turned them into living candles. That certainly is what the pictures suggested. Only many years later did I come to realize that was exactly what had happened: the Spirit of God set them on fire.

In both the Old and New Testaments, the phrase “Spirit of God” refers to the dynamic power of God at work in the world. To be filled with the Spirit is to operate with this dynamic power. Today’s first reading tells us that those in the house “filled with the holy Spirit” began fearlessly to tell of “the mighty acts of God” (Acts 2:4, 11). They were indeed set on fire.

This Spirit might be dynamic, even forceful, but it is not violent or destructive. The sequence for the feast lists some of the ways we experience the Spirit of God: the Spirit enlightens and comforts us; it refreshes us and lets us rest; it heals our wounds and washes away our guilt; it softens hearts that are stubborn and melts hearts that are cold; it grants us gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. This is a Spirit of gentle and loving power. It is a Spirit that transforms us so that we, in turn, might transform our world. In other words, it sets us on fire so that we too might fearlessly tell of “the mighty acts of God.”

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA



HOLY FIRE CHICAGO / CNS PHOTO. KAREN CALLAWAY / CHICAGO CATHOLIC

FOR *Reflection*

- ✦ Spend some time reflecting on the characteristics of the Spirit. How have you experienced this Spirit in your life?
- ✦ How might the Spirit be working through you in the lives of others?



St. Mary's Church
Dalton, NE 69131



All Souls' Church
Bridgeport, NE 69336



Sacred Heart Church
Bayard, NE 69334

Pastor: Rev. Dr. C.P. Varghese
Address: 701 P Street, Bridgeport, NE 69336

Parish Office & Fax: (308)262-0709. Rectory: (308)262-1332 Email: allsoulsbridgeport@gmail.com Website: www.smassh Catholics.org

Dear Sisters, Brothers and Children in Jesus Christ,

Pentecost literally means 50th. It is a feast celebrated on the 50th day after the Passover feast by the Jews and a feast celebrated on the 50th day after the feast of the Resurrection of Jesus by Christians. The Jewish Pentecost was originally a post-harvest thanksgiving feast. Later, the Jews included in it the remembrance of God's Covenants with Noah after the Deluge and with Moses at Mt. Sinai

On the day of Pentecost: 1) The Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles and the Blessed Virgin Mary as fiery tongues. 2) The frightened apostles were transformed into fiery preachers and evangelizers and were given the gift of tongues by a special anointing of the Holy Spirit. 3) The listeners experienced a fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit through the apostles' gift of tongues: they heard Peter speaking in their native languages. 4) The early Christians became powerful witnesses and brave martyrs for their Faith in Jesus.

The role of the Holy Spirit in Christian life: 1) As an indwelling God, the Holy Spirit makes us His Living Temples (1 Cor 3:16). 2) As a strengthening God, He strengthens us in our fight against temptations and in our mission of bearing witness to Christ by our transparent Christian lives. 3) As a sanctifying God, He makes us holy through the Sacraments: a) Through Baptism He makes us children of God and heirs of Heaven. b) Through Confirmation, He makes us temples of God, warriors, and defenders of the Faith. c) Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, He enables us to be reconciled with God by pardoning our sins. d) Through the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, He gives us spiritual nourishment by converting bread and wine into Jesus' Body, Blood Soul, and Divinity, through Epiclesis. e) Through the Sacraments of the priesthood (Ordination) and matrimony (Marriage), He makes the Church community holy.

As announced already, Fr. Rayappa (Roy) Pasala will be your new pastor from July 1st, 2021. I will be moving to Sidney NE to be the pastor at St. Patrick's Sidney NE, and St. Joseph's Kimball NE. Kindly pray that this transition may be a smooth one for all of us.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Fr. C. P. Varghese
Pastor

SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

Date	Day	Time	Place	Intention
05/24	Monday	No Mass Today		
05/25	Tuesday	No Mass Today		
05/26	Wednesday	No Mass Today		
05/27	Thursday	No Mass Today		
05/28	Friday	No Mass Today		
05/29	Saturday	5.30 PM	Dalton	Chris Alhm
05/30	Sunday	8.00 AM	Bayard	People of God
05/30	Sunday	10.30 AM	Bridgeport	Mary Lou Weitzel

ALL SOULS
617 P STREET
BRIDGEPORT NE 69336

SUNDAY MASS
OBLIGATION
returned to
Grand Island Diocese,
On May 22/23, 2021

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	\$449.00
CHILDREN	
PLATE	\$29.00
SUBTOTAL	\$478.00
MASS STIPEND	
TOTAL	\$478.00
BUILDING FUND	
APPEAL GOAL	\$6,046.00
DONATIONS	\$3615.00
BALANCE	\$2,431.00

- Prayer line requests may be made to Carolyn-262-0453 or Teresa-262-0439.
- The rosary is prayed ½ hr before Mass, please come and pray.



SACRED HEART
1003 AVE B
BAYARD NE 69334

SUNDAY MASS
OBLIGATION
returned to
Grand Island Diocese,
On May 22/23, 2021

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	\$255.00
CHILDREN	
PLATE	\$20.00
SUBTOTAL	\$275.00
MASS STIPEND	
TOTAL	\$275.00
BUILDING FUND	
APPEAL GOAL	\$4,907.00
DONATIONS	\$2915.00
BALANCE	\$1,992.00

- Prayer line requests may be made to Paula-586-2992.
- The rosary is prayed ½ hr before Mass, please come and pray.



SAINT MARY'S
718 FRANCIS ST
DALTON NE 69131

SUNDAY MASS
OBLIGATION
returned to
Grand Island Diocese,
On May 22/23, 2021

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	\$1310.00
CHILDREN	
PLATE	\$38.00
SUBTOTAL	\$1348.00
MASS STIPEND	
ASCENSION	\$30.00
TOTAL	\$1378.00
BUILDING FUND	
APPEAL GOAL	\$6,136.00
DONATIONS	\$6439.00
BALANCE	(\$303.00)

- Prayer line requests may be made to DeAnn-249-1735.
- The rosary is prayed ½ hr before Mass, please come and pray.

