



St. Regina's Church Staff

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Remember In Prayer

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Pentecost Sunday

May 31, 2020

There appeared to them tongues as of fire,
which parted and came to rest on each one of
them.— Acts 2:3

THE RICHNESS OF THE SPIRIT

Students, and most adults recalling their school days, are familiar with the phrase “compare and contrast” that shows up from time to time on tests. Today we hear two different accounts of the giving of the Holy Spirit to the church. Let’s contrast, then compare. Luke’s account from Acts is filled with arresting details: the mighty wind from heaven, the tongues of flame, the miracle of different languages. John’s account seems timid: fearful disciples, the wounded Christ, the expelling of breath from his risen body, not from the sky. Our literal, modern minds wonder which way it happened; our noisy culture probably makes us prefer the former. But if we compare the two, we find that the dazzling richness of the Spirit fills both accounts, for it is the very breath of the risen Christ, ascended to the sky in Luke, that appears to his disciples in John and sends his followers forth to carry on his mission of forgiving sin and proclaiming the mighty acts of God.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Before there was water, there was fire. Once in a while, a volcano hints at the sizzling magma upon which the whole human enterprise floats. Over eons, the surface cooled off a bit, and rain sizzled down for thousands of centuries, filling the oceans and sculpting the earth. We Christians can catch God’s glory in a shimmering pool of water, but we can also capture God’s burning desire to fan the tiny flames of our baptismal candles into something that will make a difference.

In Sicily to this day, there is a custom of scattering rose petals down from the ceiling of church on the heads of the faithful, an effective reminder of the “tongues of flame” descending on the apostles, and a sign that the Holy Spirit still is poured out on the baptized. It is not merely a quaint custom, but a fairly potent sign of what baptism does. An interesting sidebar: if you have traced the Epiphany blessing on your doorway in chalk, Pentecost is the day to erase it. From now on, no need to rely on the “wise men”—you are alive in the Spirit!

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Filled with the Holy Spirit, the apostles begin to speak in tongues (Acts 2:1-11).

Psalm — Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth (Psalm 104).

Second Reading — In one Spirit we are baptized into one body and given to drink of one Spirit
(1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13).

Gospel — Jesus Christ appears to the disciples and sends them on their mission with the power to forgive or retain sins through the Holy Spirit (John 20:19-23).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

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Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14;
Ps 87:1-3, 5-7; Jn 19:25-34

Tuesday: 2 Pt 3:12-15a, 17-18; Ps 90:2-4, 10, 14,
16; Mk 12:13-17

Wednesday: 2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12; Ps 123:1b-2;
Mk 12:18-27

Thursday: 2 Tm 2:8-15; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14;
Mk 12:28-34

Friday: 2 Tm 3:10-17; Ps 119:157, 160, 161, 165,
166, 168; 1-6; Mk 12:35-37

Saturday: 2 Tm 4:1-8; Ps 71:8-9, 14-15ab, 16-17,
22;
Mk 12:38-44

Sunday: Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9; Dn 3:52-55;
2 Cor 13:11-13; Jn 3:16-18



SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Pentecost Sunday

Monday: The Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother of the Church;
Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

Tuesday: Ss. Marcellinus and Peter

Wednesday: St. Charles Lwanga and
Companions

Friday: St. Boniface; First Friday

Saturday: St. Norbert; First Saturday

PENTECOST

Unless the eye catch fire,
God will not be seen.

Unless the ear catch fire,
God will not be heard.

Unless the tongue catch fire,
God will not be named.

Unless the heart catch fire,
God will not be loved.

Unless the mind catch fire,
God will not be known.

June 7th

Lector Jeff

Offertory 5/24/2020
BUDGET \$1351.00
ACTUAL \$507.00

B&M

\$40.00