

PENTECOST SUNDAY (A)

NEW LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

May 27/28, 2023

In the Old Testament, only those who were chosen by God to lead the people in various capacities were filled with the Spirit of God. Examples were Moses and the seventy elders (Nm.11:24-25), Saul and David (1Sam.10:1-8;16:12-13), Zachariah and Elizabeth (Lk.1:41&67); John the Baptist, Mary, and Jesus Himself. But the prophet Joel prophesied that a time would come when even slaves and servants would be filled with the Holy Spirit and that was what happened on Pentecost day. The descent of the Holy Spirit replaced the Jewish feast of Weeks, also known as Pentecost.

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The Spirit descended on them as tongues of fire signifying that they were purified and given the power of utterance. On that day, the unity of humanity which was lost at the time of the building of the Tower of Babel was restored. That was why those who were present from different areas could hear the apostles speak in each other's language.

The Spirit filled the disciples with wisdom and knowledge, and they could remember and understand all that Jesus taught them. They also understood well the Scriptures proclaimed by Moses and the other prophets of old. The disciples were no longer afraid of the Jewish leaders, and they proclaimed the message of Christ with courage and boldness.

Their love for one another increased and from that time on they began to share things in common. They received different gifts to offer different services and works to build the community of believers. "To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good". They became selfless and kind. Like their Master, Jesus, they did not fight back but forgave whoever maltreated them. Their lives spoke more about Christ and the hope of salvation. They had a new opinion and perception about the world and

what it offers. They realized that what the world offers mostly leads to damnation and not salvation.

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What kind of gift have I received to help build this community I am a member of? Do I even know that I have a special spiritual gift from the Lord? Once I have been baptized and confirmed as a Christian, I have one or more gifts of the Holy Spirit. This is because the Holy Spirit is a gift from God and He comes upon us with His gifts. The apostles were given the power to forgive sin, heal and work other miracles, what can I do to help the other Christian?

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PENTECOST SUNDAY (A)

NEW LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

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PENTECOST SUNDAY (A)

NEW LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

May 27/28, 2023

In the Old Testament, only those who were chosen by God to lead the people in various capacities were filled with the Spirit of God. Examples were Moses and the seventy elders (Nm.11:24-25), Saul and David (1Sam.10:1-8;16:12-13), Zachariah and Elizabeth (Lk.1:41&67); John the Baptist, Mary, and Jesus Himself. But the prophet Joel prophesied that a time would come when even slaves and servants would be filled with the Holy Spirit and that was what happened on Pentecost day. The descent of the Holy Spirit replaced the Jewish feast of Weeks, also known as Pentecost.

Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit upon His disciples to be their Helper, Advocate and Teacher. Today, we celebrate the fulfilment of the promise of Christ made to them. This day is also the birthday of the Church and the renewal of the lives of the disciples of Jesus. On Pentecost day, the lives of the disciples were transformed, and they became totally different people.

The Spirit descended on them as tongues of fire signifying that they were purified and given the power of utterance. On that day, the unity of humanity which was lost at the time of the building of the Tower of Babel was restored. That was why those who were present from different areas could hear the apostles speak in each other's language.

The Spirit filled the disciples with wisdom and knowledge, and they could remember and understand all that Jesus taught them. They also understood well the Scriptures proclaimed by Moses and the other prophets of old. The disciples were no longer afraid of the Jewish leaders, and they proclaimed the message of Christ with courage and boldness.

Their love for one another increased and from that time on they began to share things in common. They received different gifts to offer different services and works to build the community of believers. "To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good". They became selfless and kind. Like their Master, Jesus, they did not fight back but forgave whoever maltreated them. Their lives spoke more about Christ and the hope of salvation. They had a new opinion and perception about the world and

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