

Pentecost Sunday

OUR GOD IS a God of contradiction. In fact, it is in these contradictions that we learn peace, a fruit of the Spirit.

In today's readings we hear two accounts of the Holy Spirit that are radically opposed. In Acts, the Spirit comes to the Apostles like a mighty wind and a shower of flame. It is unexpected and frightening. It is incomprehensible to bystanders.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus comes to the disciples and breathes the Spirit onto them in person. Jesus is flesh and blood, and familiar to them. He wishes them peace.

These two narratives illustrate the Holy Spirit as being at once frightening and comforting, mysterious and familiar,

transcendent and immanent. This is just as it should be, because the Spirit of peace is all of these things despite apparent contradiction.

Peace, a grace given and a virtue pursued, flows from knowing the spirit of God, God the creator of all. He is maker of fire, of venomous spiders, and of all clawed and toothed beasts inasmuch as he is the creator of the sun and the moon and the laughter of children.

To be at peace is to rest in this, which we cannot understand and which might even frighten us. It is to trust in the Lord who is mighty and mysterious, but who is good.

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Roman Missal p. 430; Sunday Lectionary p. 340

Entrance Antiphon (*Wisdom 1.7*)

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia.

or

(Romans 5.5; cf. 8.11)

The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit of God dwelling within us, alleluia.

Introductory Rites (p. 5)

Collect

O God, who by the mystery of today's great feast sanctify your whole Church in every people and nation, pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit across the face of the earth and, with the divine grace that was at work when the Gospel was first proclaimed, fill now once more the hearts of believers. 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.**

First Reading (*Acts 2.1-11*)

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was

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bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in their own language. Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and converts, Cretans and Arabs — in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 104) —————

Lord, send forth your Spir - it, _____
and re - new the face of the earth.

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

or Alleluia!

Bless the Lord, O · **my** soul.

O Lord my God, you are very · **great**.

O Lord, how manifold · **are** your works!

The earth is full of · **your** creatures. *R.*

When you take away · **their** breath,
 they die and return to their · **dust**.
 When you send forth your spirit, they · **are** cre-ated;
 and you renew the face of · **the** earth. R.

May the glory of the Lord endure · **for**-ever;
 may the Lord rejoice in his · **works**.
 May my meditation be · **pleasing** to him,
 for I rejoice in · **the** Lord. R.

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Second Reading (1 Corinthians 12.3b-7, 12-13) —————

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

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence



1. Ho - ly Spir - it, Lord di - vine,
2. Come, O Fa - ther of the poor,



Come from heights of heav'n and shine,
Come, whose trea - sured gifts en - sure,



Come with bless - ed ra - diance bright.
Come, our heart's un - fail - ing light.

3. Of consolers, wisest, best,
And our soul's most welcome guest,
Sweet refreshment, sweet repose.
4. In our labour, rest most sweet,
Pleasant coolness in the heat,
Consolation in our woes.
5. Light most blessed, shine with grace
In our heart's most secret place,
Fill your faithful through and through.
6. Left without your presence here,
Life itself would disappear,
Nothing thrives apart from you!
7. Cleanse our soiled hearts of sin,
Arid souls refresh within,
Wounded lives to health restore.

8. On the faithful who are true
and profess their faith in you,
In your sev'nfold gift descend!
9. Bend the stubborn heart and will,
Melt the frozen, warm the chill,
Guide the wayward home once more!
10. Give us virtue's sure reward,
Give us your salvation, Lord,
Give us joys that never end!

Text: *Veni Sancte Spiritus*; tr. E. Caswell; adapt. © Peter J. Scagnelli.

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Gospel Acclamation

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

Gospel (John 20.19-23)

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

It was evening on the day Jesus rose from the dead, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then 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."

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When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Profession of Faith (p. 9)

Prayer of the Faithful

The following intentions are suggestions only. There are more suggestions at www.livingwithchrist.ca

R. Send forth your Spirit, O Lord.

For the Church, carrying on the ministry of Jesus by mediating the mercy and compassion of God, we pray to the Lord: R.

For people throughout the world, longing for God’s peace and justice, we pray to the Lord: R.

For those among us who are sick, hungry, unemployed or suffering in any way, we pray to the Lord: R.

For the outpouring of God’s Spirit on our parish community as we love and serve God and each other, we pray to the Lord: R.

Preparation of the Gifts (p. 11)

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant, we pray, O Lord, that, as promised by your Son, the Holy Spirit may reveal to us more abundantly the hidden mystery of this sacrifice and graciously lead us into all truth. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Preface (*Pentecost, p. 14*)**Communion Antiphon** (*Acts 2.4, 11*)

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

O God, who bestow heavenly gifts upon your Church, safeguard, we pray, the grace you have given, that the gift of the Holy Spirit poured out upon her may retain all its force and that this spiritual food may gain her abundance of eternal redemption. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Solemn Blessing — The Holy Spirit (*Optional*)

Bow down for the blessing.

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

May the wondrous flame that appeared above the disciples powerfully cleanse your 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 you perseverance in that same faith and, by believing, may you journey from hope to clear vision. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

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Dismissal

1 Go forth, the Mass is ended, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Go in peace, alleluia, alleluia!



Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! —

R. Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!