

The coming of the Holy Spirit is a gift of God for all peoples: the sign of his presence is in the reconciliation, justice and peace we create among people. The feast today is both a gift and a call: a call to be the ones who make the Holy Spirit present among God's people everywhere.



We can all probably remember our confirmation day. What we did that day; visits to relatives, a special treat, maybe being asked a question by the bishop. We were told that we were given the gifts of the Spirit. God's spirit would always be with us in life to help us be good Christians.

As baptism was a promise from God to be with us as an infant and always, confirmation was the same promise as we enter our teenage years.

The gospel today is about one big gift of the Spirit - forgiveness. No matter what my past, I am forgiven. We all have a past. There is no sinner who cannot be a saint, no saint that is not a sinner. All of us have regrets – what we have done, people we may have hurt especially family. God casts sin to the end of the ocean when we are sorry and do our best.

Then there are the signs of God's spirit – peace, joy, self-control, forgiveness, gifts we would all love to enjoy. So the Christian life is very attractive.

The spirit today is the Spirit of God's love – Son for Father, Father for Son. And we are invited into it.

Jesus's love is for the whole person, and that includes everyone. Often we think he likes only bits of me. He looks at me whole and entire in love. Maybe this love can help me forgive myself for all I feel guilty and ashamed of.

Forgive us Lord, as you have forgiven us.

Donal Neary SJ, Editor Sacred Heart Messenger

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey

The Holy Spirit is Jesus new way of being close to us in friendship. Jesus Spirit blesses all the world every second, and especially through love in the hearts of people. The variety of life is the touch of the Spirit, the wonders of the world is blessed with light, and all kinds of growth, fruits of the earth, new inventions that science finds. The Spirit of Love in our hearts helps us to care, to make friends, to make a better world.

All bow for following three lines:
and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life, who proceeds from the
Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic
and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of
the dead and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

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.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.
When we eat this Bread and drink this
Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**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.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
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.
Go in peace, alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia.

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

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

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
You bring pardon and peace to the sinner: Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
You bring light to those in darkness: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
May almighty God

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

OPENING PRAYER

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.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 2: 1 - 11
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.
Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven,

and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome - Jews and proselytes alike - Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps. 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34
**R. Send forth your Spirit, O Lord,
and renew the face of the earth. or Alleluia.**

- Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches. **(R)**
- You take back your, spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit,
they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. **(R)**
- May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord. **(R)**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 12:3-7,12-13

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.
There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE

Holy Spirit, Lord of light,
From the clear celestial height
Thy pure beaming radiance give.
Come, thou Father of the poor,
Come with treasures which endure;
Come, thou light of all that live!

Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow;
Thou in toil art comfort sweet;
Pleasant coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.

Light immortal, light divine,
Visit thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill:

If thou take thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay;
All his good is turned to ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour thy dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away:

Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.

Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and thee adore,
With thy sevenfold gifts descend:

Give us comfort when we die;
Give us life with thee on high:
Give us joys that never end.

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.**

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'
After saying this he breathed on them and said:
'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven:
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

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

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

