

# St. Nicholas News

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Feast of Pentecost 05 June 2022

## FEAST OF PENTECOST

### Penitential Rite

As we begin our celebration, rejoicing in the love of Father, Son and Spirit, let us remember God's creative love.

By your Spirit you grant us compassion Lord have mercy

Through your Spirit you create the Body of Christ. Christ have mercy

In your Spirit you free our imagination. Lord have mercy

May our great and gracious Lord, who has sent us his Spirit, forgive us our sin and bring us to life everlasting. Amen

### Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you. So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live. Everyone moved by the Spirit is a son of God. The spirit you received is not the spirit of slaves bringing fear into your lives again; it is the spirit of sons, and it makes us cry out, 'Abba, Father!' The Spirit himself and our spirit bear united witness that we are children of God. And if we are children we are heirs as well: heirs of God and coheirs with Christ, sharing his sufferings so as to share his glory.

### Romans 8:8-17

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you. So then, my brothers and sisters, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live. Everyone moved by the Spirit is a son and daughter of God. The spirit you received is not the spirit of slaves bringing fear into your lives again; it is the spirit of sons and daughters, and it makes us cry out, 'Abba, Father!' The Spirit himself and our spirit bear united witness that we are children of God. And if we are children we are heirs as well: heirs of God and coheirs with Christ, sharing his sufferings so as to share his glory.

Alleluia, Alleluia Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your

faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love  
Alleluia

### John 14:15-16, 23-26

Jesus said to his disciples 'If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own: it is the word of the one who sent me. 'I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.'

### Prayer of the Faithful

God our Father and Mother, you gave us your Son Jesus, through the Loving Power of the Holy Spirit. May we be one, as you are, with your Son and the Holy Spirit. Lord hear us

For our parish, that God's Spirit will guide and inspire each of us to contribute according to our gifts. Lord hear us.

We pray for a new spirit of adventure in the leadership of the Irish Church; one that is creative, imaginative and inclusive, one that looks for opportunity rather than languishes in crisis. Lord hear us.

For those suffering because of violence: that we may find ways to care for the earth and all its peoples with justice and love. Lord hear us.

For all who have died, especially those who have died needlessly through violence and war. Help us Lord to be a comfort and support to their families and friends. Lord hear us.

For all who need our prayer and support, we pray in silence.....Lord hear us

### Reflection

In The Spirit of God is a transforming Spirit. Disturbing us from what is familiar and comfortable; enticing us beyond the borders of sameness and the dreariness of mindless repetition. The first disciples were shaken by his very presence and then armed with new weapons more powerful than any that had ever been seen before: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Humility, Self-control. These were truly weapons of mass destruction; destroying our selfishness, our hardness of heart, our desire for power, our impatience with the weak and the poor, our inability to appreciate creation. The Spirit burns up everything that dehumanises people, everything that disfigures the beauty of the soul, everything that treats creation with disregard. And when the flames have died down there is the gentle whisper of a creative breeze; breathing into us the joy of a new and profoundly wonderful vision of ourselves and our world. This is the vision not of the dream- world, but of the real world, as our Creative and Loving God always intended it to be. And finally.....there is the realization that the God who makes everything possible, lives not in some distant land, but within my own heart.