

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH

235 North Front St. New Bedford, Ma. 02746



Pentecost Sunday

May 31, 2020

Brothers, Sisters, and Friends of O.L.P.H.,

WELCOME BACK! After a shutdown of ten long weeks, we are happily about to resume celebrating public Masses in church. At O.L.P.H., as in every Catholic church, some things will be a little different from what we have been accustomed.

The Ten Commandments have a list of “DOs and DON’Ts,” all for our good; similarly, our Diocesan policies, proceeding from the guidelines given by the Commonwealth, are for our good, *i.e.*, for our health and safety.

Here is a summary:

--Bishop da Cunha has dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass until further notice. Those who are vulnerable, at-risk, or otherwise feel it is not safe enough for them to venture to church are advised to remain at home and watch Mass on T.V. or via the Internet. Those who are feeling sick or have any symptoms of illness MUST remain at home.

--Before leaving home, please wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (pray two Hail Marys slowly and out loud). Hand sanitizer will be available

--social distancing: One of the first things you will notice upon entering our church is orange tape that will help us maintain “safe” distancing. Common sense, of course, tells us that family members *of the same household* are not expected to maintain the six-foot separation.

--The holy water fonts will be dry for now.

--Face masks must be worn at all times-- from the time you leave your vehicle until you return to your vehicle. “No mask, no Mass.”

--Weekly bulletins will be on-line only; no printed bulletins, no missalettes/hymnals, no congregational singing (ouch!).

--one-way traffic: As we enter and as we exit church, while maintaining social distancing, it is important that we follow ONE WAY the large arrows in the aisles: toward the altar via the center aisle; away from the altar via the side aisles. (We are already observing aisle arrows in the supermarkets.)

--offertory and special collections: Baskets will be set on tables at the entrances for the offertory collections. Collections will not be taken up during Mass; the baskets will be brought to the sacristy after Mass.

--The Sign of Peace is discontinued until further notice.

--At Communion time, those occupying the pews closest to the altar will come forward first (right side, left side), followed by those next closest, and so forth—using the orange stripes on the floor to determine spacing between yourself and the person ahead of you. Return to your pew by the side aisle.

--After the final blessing, all will leave by way of the side aisles only—one row at a time, beginning at the rear of the church. Maintaining six-foot social distancing and proceeding directly to your vehicle, there is to be no lingering for friendly conversation.

May our time at Mass be safe and enjoyable

MASSES FOR THE WEEK of May 30-June 7

Sat., May 30—Vigil of Pentecost

4:00 PM +George Renaud
Req. Ann Bodzioch Robinson

Sun., May 31—Pentecost Sunday

10:00 AM OLPH Parishioners

Mon., June 1—BVM, Mother of the Church

7:30 AM +Thomas & +Rita Schemm
Req. George Schemm

Tues., June 2—Sts. Marcellinus & Peter

7:30 AM +Sophie & +Paul Paterek

Wed., June 3—St. Charles Lwanga

7:30 AM ++Obenauf Family

Thurs., June 4—Weekday

7:30 AM Special Intention
Req. Walter Walko

Fri., June 5—St. Boniface

7:30 AM +Barbara Towers

Sat., June 6—St. Norbert

7:30 AM +Walter & +Helen Palys
Req. Family

Sat., June 6—Holy Trinity

4:00 PM +Gloria Irzyk
Req. Ann Bodzioch Robinson

Sun., June 7—Holy Trinity

10:00 AM +Lydia Maher
Req. Nicole Michalski & Family

THE 2020 CATHOLIC APPEAL begins this Monday, June 1st. *“See All the People”* runs until July 31st. Your support of the Appeal assists people in all phases of life and enables many ministries in the Diocese to meet the real needs of countless individuals and families.

see all the



79th Annual Catholic Appeal
DIOCESE OF FALL RIVER

Your gift can make a difference in someone's life. Thank you in advance, and God bless you, for all that you can do to help.

THE FACE SUMMER “UN-GALA” to support our Diocesan Catholic Schools Scholarship Fund will be virtual this year because of the circumstances presented by COVID-19. As so much uncertainty surrounds us at this time, our students and families need the faith and the community-building offered by our Catholic schools now more than ever.

Please consider becoming a sponsor of the Foundation to Advance Catholic Education. Please go to www.FACEsumnergala.org For more information, kindly contact Jane Robin at jrobin@catholicfoundationsema.org or by phone, 508-380-7521.

Reading 1

ACTS 2:1-11

When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled,
they were all in one place together.
And suddenly there came from the sky
a noise like a strong driving wind,
and it filled the entire house in which they were.
Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire,
which parted and came to rest on each one of them.
And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and began to speak in different tongues,
as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation
under heaven staying in Jerusalem.

At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd,
but they were confused
because each one heard them speaking in his own language.
They were astounded, and in amazement they asked,
“Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans?
Then how does each of us hear them in his native language?
We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites,
inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia,
Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia,
Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene,
as well as travelers from Rome,
both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs,
yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues
of the mighty acts of God.”

Responsorial Psalm

PS 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34

R. (cf. 30) **Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**
or:

R. **Alleluia.**

Bless the LORD, O my soul!
O LORD, my God, you are great indeed!
How manifold are your works, O Lord!
the earth is full of your creatures;

R. **Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**
or:

R. **Alleluia.**

May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
may the LORD be glad in his works!
Pleasing to him be my theme;
I will be glad in the LORD.

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

If you take away their breath, they perish
and return to their dust.

When you send forth your spirit, they are created,
and you renew the face of the earth.

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

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

Reading 2

1 COR 12:3B-7, 12-13

Brothers and sisters:

No one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit;
there are different forms of service but the same Lord;
there are different workings but the same God
who produces all of them in everyone.
To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit
is given for some benefit.

As a body is one though it has many parts,
and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body,
so also Christ.

For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body,
whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons,
and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.

Alleluia

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

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

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

JN 20:19-23

Gospel

On the evening of that first day of the week,
when the doors were locked, where the disciples were,
for fear of the Jews,

Jesus came and stood in their midst
and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.
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.”

And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them,
“Receive the Holy Spirit.

Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them,
and whose sins you retain are retained.”

A MINI-HOMILY FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY

It was not a surprise. The Hebrew Scriptures, the Old Testament, referred to it often. Here are just a few references. In the very first book, Genesis, we read that the Spirit of God hovered over the waters. Then we read that it was the breath of God that gave life to Adam.

It was the One who spoke through the prophets. It was the One of whom Jeremiah spoke: *“His word is in my heart like a fire”* (20.9). The prophet Micah said, *“I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the Lord”* (3.8). It was—and is—the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity, the Holy Spirit.

Before He ascended into heaven, Jesus promised His disciples an Advocate who would deepen their understanding of Him and empower them to bring His Gospel to others.

So, they gathered in that Upper Room, the same room where they had celebrated the Last Supper, and they prayed—and they waited. Then, on Pentecost Sunday they received the Holy Spirit, the signs of the Spirit’s presence as He descended upon each of them being the strong wind in the closed room and the tongues of fire over each of them. On that occasion, they became the Church.

We use the term “Church” in several ways, referring, for example, to Catholicism, to our particular Parish, or to the actual building where we gather to pray. But the deepest meaning of Church is: *the People of God*

formed by the Holy Spirit into the Body of Christ. Church is who we are!

Each of us and all of us are the Church. And how privileged we are to be able to bring who we are to the world—to proclaim with our lives Jesus, His Gospel, and the eternal life He won for us!

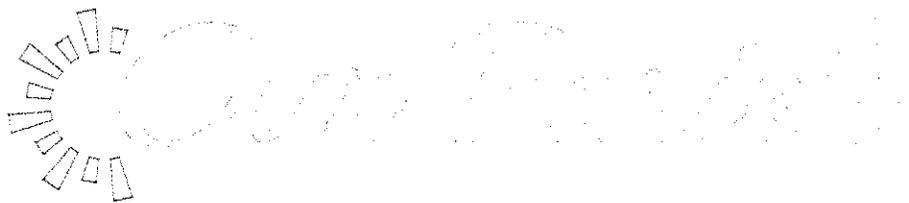
Guided by the Holy Spirit, we nourish our union with Jesus through a spiritual life that incorporates daily prayer, Sunday Mass, Holy Scripture, and the Sacraments.

So we pray; we live moral lives; we recognize the presence of Jesus in those who are hurting; and we joyfully proclaim with our lives, *“Come and join us in the Body of Christ. Come, and be Church.”*

This is the message of Pentecost!



**All of them were
filled with
the Holy Spirit!
Acts 2.4**



May 31, 2020

Pentecost (A)

Acts 2:1–11

1 Cor 12:3b–7, 12–13

Jn 20:19–23

Look What Blew into Town

Did it really happen the way the story is told? Who would not give anything to have been there? But maybe we *have* been there. Maybe we have met people who were so open to the mysterious power of the Spirit of God that they were able to accomplish things they never thought they could. Maybe at times even we, too, have been so moved by that mysterious Spirit. Is it possible that we are mistaken about what is truly mysterious or Spirit-driven? Is it possible that we fail to see the mystery of God in everyday life?

This is not to say that nothing extraordinary happened on that Pentecost day. It certainly did! People who kept a low profile out of fear of facing the same deadly fate as their leader seemed to rush out onto the street and proclaim that leader's mighty acts. What has happened to them? How is such a reversal of behavior to be described? It happens that when something wondrous occurs we often use exaggerated images and superlative language in an attempt to capture the astounding character of the event. To embellish language does not mean that the event was not amazing. It means that it was so amazing that we are at a loss to describe or explain it. We are, after all, talking about the dynamic Spirit of God that can completely change people. This is the same Spirit we received at baptism. Are we open to have it change us?

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

in Reflection

- ✪ Pray that you might be open to the Spirit working in the world through you.
- ✪ What mighty works has God worked in you?

Dear Padre,

I look forward to every Pentecost Sunday, when I am renewed in God's spirit. Recently I read an article that said the Holy Spirit is a she. Is the Holy Spirit female?

The third person of the Trinity is the Holy Spirit. The word *spirit* is a translation of the Hebrew word *ruah*, which can mean "breath," "air," or "wind." This is the wind that God first sent to create the world, it is the breath that God breathed into Adam and Eve, and it is the tongues of fire that the apostles experienced on the first Pentecost.

In Hebrew, the word used for the Holy Spirit is feminine. In Greek, the word used is neuter, and in Latin, the word used is masculine. Not surprisingly, this caused a few problems for the early Church, which included many Hebrew, Greek, and Latin speakers. In areas where Hebrew or another Semitic language, such as Syriac, was spoken, the Holy Spirit was thought of as feminine, and so images of the Holy Spirit as mother were common. These various images of the Holy Spirit were openly expressed until about the fourth century, when Latin took over as the dominant language in the West.

We believe that in the life of the Trinity, God the Creator begets the Son. The expression of the love between God and the Son is the Holy Spirit. Perhaps we shouldn't think of the Holy Spirit as being either gender. Saint John describes the Holy Spirit as being God's love (see 1 John 4:7-13).

On this Pentecost and always, I wish you God's Spirit of love.

—Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

As he did on Pentecost, the Lord wants to work one of the greatest miracles we can experience; he wants to turn your hands, my hands, our hands, into signs of reconciliation, of communion, of creation. He wants your hands to continue building the world of today. And he wants to build that world with you.

—PRAYER VIGIL WITH YOUNG PEOPLE, JULY 30, 2016

Calendar

Monday

JUNE 1

*Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother of the Church*

Gn 3:9-15, 20 or

Acts 1:12-14

Jn 19:25-34

Tuesday

JUNE 2

Weekday

2 Pt 3:12-15a, 17-18

Mk 12:13-17

Wednesday

JUNE 3

*St. Charles Lwanga
and Companions,
Martyrs*

2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12

Mk 12:18-27

Thursday

JUNE 4

Weekday

2 Tm 2:8-15

Mk 12:28-34

Friday

JUNE 5

*St. Boniface,
Bishop and Martyr*

2 Tm 3:10-17

Mk 12:35-37

Saturday

JUNE 6

Weekday

2 Tm 4:1-8

Mk 12:38-44

Sunday

JUNE 7

Most Holy Trinity

Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9

2 Cor 13:11-13

Jn 3:16-18