

# **CELEBRATING PENTECOST**

## **The BIRTHDAY of the CHURCH**



**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.**

**- 1 Corinthians 12: 12-13**



**We pause and remember  
that we are always and everywhere  
in the holy presence of our God.**

**May the love of God our Father,  
the grace and peace of Jesus the Christ,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with us now and forever!**



The Spirit of God rests upon me.

The Spirit of God consecrates me.

The Spirit of God bids me go forth to proclaim His peace, His joy.

The Spirit of God sends me forth called to witness the kingdom of Christ  
among all the nations.

Called to proclaim the Good News of Christ to the poor.

Called to console hearts overcome with great sorrow.

Called to comfort the poor who mourn and who weep.

Called to announce the grace of salvation to men and women.

Called to reveal His glory among all the people.

My spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

- Lucien Deiss, World Library Publications

### **Reading: Romans 8: 22-27**

We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now;  
and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit,  
we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our  
bodies.

For in hope we were saved. Now hope that sees for itself is not hope.

For who hopes for what one sees?

But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait with endurance.

In the same way, the Spirit too comes to the aid of our weakness;

for we do not know how to pray as we ought,

but the Spirit itself intercedes with inexpressible groanings.

And the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of the Spirit,  
because it intercedes for the holy ones according to God's will.

The Word of the Lord!

### **Reading: Acts 2: 2-11**

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 own 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." They were all astounded and bewildered, and said to one another, "What does this mean?"

The Word of the Lord!

## **Reflection of De La Salle**

The Acts of the Apostles reminds us of the grace given to the Apostles by the Holy Spirit. The amazing thing up to then was that these men were so earthy minded that they could not grasp the truths that Jesus had taught them. They were at once so enlightened that they could explain clearly and With all imaginable accuracy what they had been told. As a result those present were completely surprised and filled with amazement and in a short time they converted a great number of them because as Saint Peter said, "the Spirit of God had been poured out upon them."

You do a work that requires you to touch hearts but you cannot do this except by the Spirit of God. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you the same grace that He gave the apostles and after filling yourself with the Holy Spirit to make yourself holy, may you work to bring salvation to others.

## **Spirit of the Living God Fall afresh on Me**

Spirit of the living God,  
Fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God,  
Fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mould me,  
fill me, use me,

Spirit of the living God,  
Fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God,  
Move among us all.

Make us one in heart and mind,  
Make us one in love.

Humble, caring, selfless, sharing,  
Spirit of the living God,  
Fill our lives with love.



## **Prayers of Intercession**

**Leader:** As we celebrate the feast of the birthday of the Church when You, O God, sent Your Spirit upon the apostles;

**All:** Send forth Your Holy Spirit on our world today and renew it and may the Church be renewed and always true to the teachings of Jesus.

**Leader:** O God, by the light of Your Spirit, enlighten the world and dispel the darkness of our times.

**All:** Turn hatred into love, sorrow into joy and war into the peace we so desire.

**Leader:** Lord, You promised to send the Spirit of truth to bear witness to Yourself.

**All:** Send us Your Spirit to make us Your faithful witnesses.

**Leader:** Lord, You desire the unity of all Christians through the one baptism in the Spirit.

**All:** Make all who believe one in heart and mind and may we work for justice and peace in our world.

**Leader:** Through the Spirit You make all things new.

**All:** Be with Your Church.

Heal the sick, comfort the distressed and give salvation to all.



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.

**Sign of Peace:**

## **Litany of the Holy Spirit**

**God, the Holy Spirit, come and be with us.**

**Promise of the Father, come and be with us.**

**Author of all good, come and be with us.**

**Spiritual unction, come and be with us.**

**Spirit of truth and of power, come and be with us.**

**Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, come and be with us.**

**Spirit of counsel and of fortitude, come and be with us.**

**Spirit of knowledge and of piety, come and be with us.**

**Spirit of grace and of prayer, come and be with us.**

**Spirit of charity, peace and joy, come and be with us.**

**Spirit of patience and goodness, come and be with us.**

**Spirit of kindness, mildness and fidelity, come and be with us.**

**Spirit of modesty, come and be with us.**

**Holy Spirit, the comforter, come and be with us.**

**Holy Spirit, the sanctifier, come and be with us.**

**Holy Spirit, You Who inspired the holy men and women of God,  
come and be with us.**

**Holy Spirit Who came to us in Baptism and Confirmation,  
come and be with us.**

**Holy Spirit, by Whom we are born again, come and be with us.**

**Holy Spirit, You Who fill the whole world, come and be with us.**

**That You, O Spirit of God, would fill our hearts with Your love,  
we beg You, hear us.**

**That You, O Spirit of God, would impart to us Your heavenly graces,  
we beg You, hear us.**

**That You, O Spirit of God, would enlighten us with Your holy inspirations,  
we beg You, hear us.**

**Create in us a clean heart, O God,  
And renew a holy and right spirit within us.**

**Let us pray.**

**Grant, O merciful Father, that Your divine Spirit may enlighten, inflame and cleanse our hearts: that Your Spirit may penetrate us with Its heavenly grace and love, and make us grow closer to You by taking on the mind and heart of Jesus our Brother and Lord, Amen.**

## **Benediction**

Let us pray for God's blessing:

May the Spirit of the Lord be upon us. **Amen.**

May the Spirit of the Lord anoint us to bring glad tidings to those around us. **Amen.**

May the Lord send us to bind up the brokenhearted,  
give comfort to the sick and to our families and friends,  
and joy to those who are depressed. **Amen.**

And may the Spirit of God fill our hearts with peace and joy  
as we await the coming of the Lord. **Amen.**

Let us go in the peace and love of the Lord Jesus  
knowing that the Spirit of God is alive in us.

## **There's A Spirit in the Air**

There's a Spirit in the air, Alleluia!  
Telling Christians ev'rywhere, Alleluia!  
Praise the love that Christ revealed, Alleluia!  
Living, working, in our world, Alleluia!

Lose your shyness, find your tongue, Alleluia!  
Tell the world what God has done, Alleluia!  
God in Christ has come to stay, Alleluia!  
We can see His power today, Alleluia!

Still His Spirit leads the fight, Alleluia!  
Seeing wrong and setting right, Alleluia!  
God in Christ has come to stay, Alleluia!  
We can see His power today, Alleluia!



Saint John Baptist de La Salle  
and all you holy Brothers who have gone before us,  
help us to be aware of the Holy Spirit constantly working in our lives.

Live Jesus in our hearts. Forever!

## ***Ephesians 4***

***I urge you to live in a manner  
worthy of the call you have received,  
with all humility and gentleness, with patience,  
bearing with one another through love,  
striving to preserve the unity  
of the spirit through the bond of peace:  
one body and one Spirit,  
as you were also called  
to the one hope of your call;  
one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;  
one God and Father of all,  
Who is over all and  
through all and  
in all.***