



**1st Reading: Acts 2:1-11**

**Responsorial Psalm: 104: 1, 24, 29-30,31,34**

**2nd Reading: 1 Cor 12: 3b-7, 12-13**

**Gospel: Jn 20:19-23**

May 23, 2021



## PENTECOST Sunday

"When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together." (Acts 2:1). As we know, the disciples were Jews, as was Jesus. The Passover Meal, celebrated before the arrest of Jesus was part of the Jewish calendar, commemorating the Exodus from Egypt. Fast forward 50 days after the Resurrection, the disciples gathered to commemorate another Jewish event - the Shavuot, also called Pentecost or 'Feast of Weeks,' In Jewish custom, Pentecost was a one-day festival concluding the seven weeks following Passover (Tobit 2:1). It was a day of remembrance of the covenant between God and the Israelites as Moses was given the Ten Commandment. For the apostles,, this particular Pentecost, weeks after the death of Jesus, was also shadowed with fear and uncertainty.

But it was on this day of Pentecost, that the Advocate came to the disciples pouring upon them " the Spirit of truth" providing them with the gifts of wisdom, fortitude, understanding, counsel, knowledge, piety and awe to go forth and fulfill their commission to spread the Good News of Jesus.

In our Christian Tradition, Pentecost commemorates the New Covenant fulfilling the Old Covenant . St. Augustine points out this connection. Just as there were "50 days" from the Passover in Egypt until the Ten commandments are "written by the finger of God" (Exodus 20:1; 31:18), so now the Spirit comes at Pentecost to write a new law on our hearts (De Spir. litt. 16.28).

In the Jewish world, the place where God dwelt among his people was in sanctuary or the holy of holies in the Temple. The Temple was God's home. Earlier in John's Gospel Jesus says, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up" (John 2:19). Jesus now equates the Temple and God's home to his own body. God desires to make his dwelling place in our hearts. Through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, we have communion with Christ's own body. St Paul tells us that each one of us is now the Temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19).

Our Easter season draws to an end, but with that marked end in the liturgical calendar, we as disciples are reminded that we to, by our baptism, are commissioned to go forth to share the Good News of Jesus, strengthened with the gifts of the Holy Spirit..

With the Advocate always with us, "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life!"

## Family Faith in the Home

Gather as a family this week to celebrate Pentecost. Explain that with the coming of the Holy Spirit, we celebrate the birthday of Jesus' Church. Prepare and decorate a cake. Have each family member come forward to light a candle on the cake and respond: "As the Father sent me, so I send you." How will you share the PEACE of Jesus this week with family and friends?

## Links for More Ideas, Activities & Resources FYI

[Catholicculture.com](http://Catholicculture.com) Pentecost Sunday (Adult Faith Builder)

[BustedHalo.com](http://BustedHalo.com) Pentecost in 2 Minutes (Teens Faith Builder)

[Catholicnewsagency.com](http://Catholicnewsagency.com) Pope Francis on Pentecost (Adult Faith Builder)

[Youtube.com](http://Youtube.com) Pentecost for Kids (Children Faith Builder)

[Catholicicing.com](http://Catholicicing.com) Pentecost activities, crafts, food and teaching (Children Faith Builder)

## The ABCs for Fostering Vocations

**Q** Quiz your children and discuss with them stories of *call* in Scripture. (e.g. Mary's response to God in Luke 1:26-39)



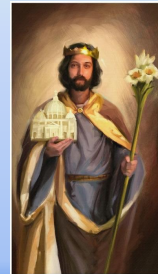
YouTube:  
[Pentecost Sunday Year B](#)

## Where in the world...

**FLY** around the diocese to find the Traveling Icon and learn more about our diocese!

## A GOOGLE EARTH ACTIVITY

May 22 - May 29.



[KeepingtheFeast.wordpress.com](http://KeepingtheFeast.wordpress.com)  
Red Velvet Cupcakes for a Sweet Pentecost



[Catholicinspired.com](http://Catholicinspired.com)  
Pentecost Pinless Pinwheel Symbol of the Holy Spirit

## PRAYER OF THE WEEK Come Holy Spirit



<http://bit.ly/holuspiritprayer>

