



PENTECOST SUNDAY YEAR A
SUNDAY 31 MAY 2020
LITURGY OF THE WORD
(SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS IN ANTICIPATION OF
THE EUCHARIST)

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

SIGN OF THE CROSS

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

GREETING

Leader: Blessed be Jesus Christ
who has redeemed us
and raised us to new life.

All: **Blessed be God forever.**

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

(in these or similar words):

Leader: Friends in Christ,
as Fr **Geoff & Fr Kevin**
is unable to be with us today,
we cannot celebrate the Eucharist.
We gather as God's people
to be nourished by the Word of God
and to share holy communion.
United with the whole Church,
we celebrate the joy of Easter
and keep this day of the Lord holy.

OPENING RITE

LITANY OF PRAISE

Leader: Before listening to the Word of God
let us praise the Lord Jesus Christ
who has raised us to new life.

A brief period of silence follows.

Leader: Lord Jesus, your Spirit sanctifies the whole church in every culture and race:
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Lord Jesus, your Spirit strengthens every disciple to announce your gospel to the ends
of the earth: Christ have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Lord Jesus, your Spirit unites all the baptised in mutual service of the poor and
neglected: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

As per the Roman Missal Collect. No adaptations have been made.

Leader: 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, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Leader: May the Word of God always be heard in this place
as it unfolds the mystery of Christ before us.

All are seated.

FIRST READING

Acts 2:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.

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.'

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 103:1. 24. 29-31. 34. R. v.30

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

1. 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.)**
2. 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.)**
3. 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 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.

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.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All: 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

Reader: A reading from the holy Gospel according to **John**

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jn 20:19-23

As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.

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.'

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

REFLECTION ON THE WORD

All are seated. A short period of reflection may be observed.

What was different about Jesus breathing the Spirit on the disciples and the Pentecost experience?

What was significant about the disciples being heard to speak in many different languages?

Why might Pentecost sometimes be regarded as the birth of the Church?

Have you ever had an experience of being aware of the Spirit's presence/action?
Where in your life could you use the guidance and strength of the Spirit?

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Leader: In union with the whole Church
let us profess our faith.

**All: 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,
At the words that follow, up to and including and became man, all bow.
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.**

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Leader: Sisters and brothers, with the Holy Spirit as our gift, let us bring our prayers before God.

Reader: That the Holy Church all over the world will be united as one in the spirit of peace.

(pause) In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That leaders of nations will experience the Spirit of truth and fight for justice for all people.

(pause) In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who do not know God will come to know Christ through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

(pause) In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That through the forgiveness of sins, our parish community will renew the earth and reach out to all in need.

(pause) In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the sick will be comforted through the Spirit of healing, especially N.

(pause) In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That through the Holy Spirit, those who have died will be sent to the Lord Most High, especially N.

(pause) In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: God our Father, we are made one in the Holy Spirit. Hear our prayers and by the fire that is kindled in our hearts, help us to live as Christians united in holiness, forgiveness and love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF PRAISE

GLORIA

Leader: With peoples everywhere,
let us glorify our God *(in joyful song)*.

All: **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.**

SIGN OF PEACE

Leader: Let us seal our prayer
 with a gesture of unity and reconciliation
 and offer each other a sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: At the Saviour's command
 and formed by divine teaching,
 we dare to say:

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,**

as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

BLESSING

All stand.

Leader: Let us pray for God's blessing.

A brief pause follows.

Leader: Through the resurrection of his Son
God has redeemed us and made us his children.

May the Lord bless us with joy ✠
and fill us with fruits of the Spirit.

All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Let us go in peace, glorifying the Lord by our life. Alleluia.

All: Thanks be to God.

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