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Mission: Live Catholic teachings,

Participate in Sacramental and Liturgical Celebrations, Serve our Community

ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

2020 State Rte 146 E, Vienna, IL – 62995

Parish Council Chair: Steve Pobst

Trustees: Matthew Slife, Jared Bergmann

Sundays – 8:00 am, 10:00 am

Weekdays – Tue 11 am, Wed

6:30 pm & Friday, 12 pm

The Coming of the Spirit In the Gospel Reading, Jesus foretells that he will send the Holy Spirit on his disciples. And this Sunday we celebrate that coming of the Spirit at Pentecost. But Genesis tells us that the Spirit was in the world from the beginning of creation. The Spirit moved upon the face of the waters when God first made heaven and earth. From that beginning all throughout the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit is present in the world. For example, the Spirit of God came upon Balaam ([Num. 24:2](#)), Joshua ([Num. 27:18](#)), Gideon ([Judges 6:34](#)), Jephthah ([Judges 11:29](#)), Samson ([Judges 13:25](#)), Saul ([1 Sam. 11:6](#)), David ([1 Sam. 16:13](#)), and others as well.

So why in the [Gospel](#) Reading does Christ say that he will send the Spirit? How does he send the Spirit if the Spirit was already in the world in Old Testament times?

The first thing to notice is that, in the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit is mentioned as coming only on a few particular people, often just people marked out for some particular purposes by God. But after Christ sends the Spirit at Pentecost, the Spirit comes on every single Christian. As the Second Reading explains, every person who says (and believes) that Jesus is Lord has the Holy Spirit dwelling in him.

Furthermore, after Pentecost, the Spirit that comes is the Spirit of the resurrected Christ, as well as the Spirit of the Father. And so when, after Pentecost, Christ's followers are filled with the Spirit, they are unified with Christ, because his Spirit is within them.

At Pentecost, then, the Spirit comes on all those who believe in Christ; and it comes on them forever, for their whole lives, provided only that they remain in Christ. Those who have the Holy Spirit dwelling within them are made into the body of Christ, because the Spirit of the resurrected Christ is in them.

So that is why the Spirit comes at Pentecost, to inaugurate the new age which God promised long ago. Through his prophet Joel ([Jl 2:28](#)), God promised that in the messianic age God would pour out his Spirit on all his people; and then God himself would be the hope and the strength of his people ([Jl 3:16](#)).

We are included in that promise too. By God's spirit that dwells in us, we are made one with our risen Lord; and his peace remains with us because he himself is with us and within us always, as he promised.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 22 #21 Pentecost Sunday – 23 May 2021

Schedule of Masses

| | | | |
|------------|----------|----|----------------------|
| Sun May 23 | 8:00 am | SP | For the Parishioners |
| | 10:00 am | SP | Kenneth Speletich |
| Tue May 25 | 11:00 am | SP | General Intention |
| Wed May 26 | 5:30 pm | SP | General Intention |
| Fri May 28 | 12:00 pm | SP | General Intention |
| Sun May 30 | 8:00 am | SP | For the Parishioners |
| | 10:00 am | SP | Gilbert Palmer |

Birthdays

May 25 Cameron Hustedde
May 26 Jenny Bergmann
May 27 Mike Ross

| Liturgical Ministry Schedule – | <u>Lector</u> | <u>Greeter</u> | <u>Servers</u> | <u>Ushers</u> |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| May 30, 8 am | M Treat | L Miller | C Levesque | J Bergmann |
| 10 am | S Pobst | X Gruszczyk | M Palmer | J Slife |

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING May 16, 2021

Envelope \$ 1255.00 (23), Loose 31.00, Catholic Communication Campaign 205.00, Funeral Stipend 100.00, Bld & Maint 100.00

Total \$ 1686.00

Note: No offering basket is passed around at masses due to the Covid-19 restrictions. Instead a canister marked 'Envelopes' is on the gifts table for the collection or envelopes may be delivered through the mail. Thank you to all who have faithfully continued your envelope contributions.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sun May 23 Pentecost Sunday

Seminarian Education Collection

Sunday Mass at SP.....8:00 am

Sunday Mass at SP.....10:00 am

(Recorded Mass available on facebook, St Paul Youtube channel)

Tue May 25 Shawnee DOC service.....9:00 am

Weekday Mass.....11:00 am

Cleaning of hall kitchen by Ladies.....1:00 pm

Info for June calendar due

Wed May 26 Weekday Mass.....6:30 pm

Thr May 27 Shawnee DOC service.....9:00 am

Fri May 28 Weekday Mass.....12:00 pm

Sun May 30 The Most Holy Trinity

Sunday Mass at SP.....8:00 am

Sunday Mass at SP.....10:00 am



SEMINARIAN EDUCATION COLLECTION This weekend our parish will participate in the Seminarian Education Collection. Our diocese is currently blessed with **six seminarians** and we are asking for your help in meeting the needs of their formation. The cost for tuition, books, room and board and other expenses is **\$46,700 per year for each seminarian**. Please join these young men on their journey to the priesthood. Your contribution to the Seminarian Education Collection is truly an investment in our faith and the life of the Church here in southern Illinois. Thank you for your prayerful consideration

KITCHEN CLEANING project will be undertaken by parish ladies this Tuesday, 1 pm in the parish center. All are welcome.

SAVE THE DATE June 6, 2021 we will celebrate Father Tom's Jubilee celebration of his 50th anniversary as an ordained priest, and his retirement. The Mass will be celebrated outside (weather permitting) and followed by a luncheon reception. Every parish member/family is invited. If you need a ride contact Frank Dueker at 618 559 1405. Set up volunteers needed for June 5, 10 am. Consider signing up on bulletin board list.

PARISH OUTTING Parishioners are invited to take part in Miner baseball game in June. Please check bulletin board in church and indicate which dates you are available. Date (June 11 or June 25) with most choices will be date of event. Tickets will be \$5.

KING'S HOUSE RETREAT will be offered to ladies of parish on September 24-26th. Anyone interested or with questions are asked to contact Vickie Anderson 579-3748 asap.

INTO MY VINEYARD The Belleville Diocese will be offering a six session course in Parish Administration and Management on Saturdays in fall and spring of upcoming year. Its purpose will be to prepare more people in parishes to learn to manage temporalities. Applications will be available by mid-May, but deadline is July. If you are interested or have questions, contact Fr Tom.

OLD CHURCH PEWS Anyone interested in church pews, contact Fr Tom.

VOCATION CORNER Pentecost!! What a celebration! The Lord sends us the Holy Spirit to guide us on our way after redeeming us from our sins. The Apostles were imbued with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in many tongues so everyone understood as in contrast to the story of the Tower of Babel. May we be blessed with the right words as we talk with our youth about the possibility of choosing a religious vocation – priest, sister or a brother. May we also be filled with the Spirit to live out our own vocation in the best way possible.

I HEARD GOD LAUGH REFLECTION #9 - One of the most important messages that Jesus gave his disciples during the world-changing forty days between the resurrection and ascension was "Peace be with you", a phrase recorded in the gospels of Luke and John. While this greeting was, of course, intended to put the disciples at ease in the presence of a man who had recently been brutally executed, it also reflects the importance of peace in the spiritual life. The fourth step in the "Prayer Process" in Matthew Kelly's I Heard God Laugh is "peace". In the Church, peace is sacramentally linked to Reconciliation, which (as the name implies) reconciles the sinner with God after the breach caused by sin. Sin leads to internal discord, the opposite of peace. In this step, then, we develop the habit of asking for forgiveness, a laudable practice even outside of sacramental Reconciliation. In fact, the habit of asking for forgiveness prepares us more fully to accept the grace found in sacramental Reconciliation.

Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-11. Psalm 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34. 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13. John 20:19-23

The Scriptures for this Solemnity of Pentecost highlight the role of the Holy Spirit in the Christian community. The movement of the Spirit in people results in gifts and talents. This movement does not reach its end in individuals. Rather, it is supposed to have a ripple effect so that our unique abilities promote the common good. Clearly, the Spirit forms community.

Pentecost signals the start of the universal mission of the Church. It is a mission that overcomes human obstacles and has the Spirit as its driving force. The disciples received the Spirit and began speaking to different audiences in their own tongues. From these many different peoples and populations a Christian community was emerging.

Paul's Corinth was a community whose chief characteristic was division. The community believed in rugged individualism. Personal talents were flaunted rather than shared. In the face of this diversity of gifts, works, and ministries, Paul stressed unity. Paul argued that the gifts were all expressions of the same Spirit and given for the common good.

In John's Gospel, the gift of the Spirit is anticipated when Jesus addresses the disciples with "peace." Jesus then proceeds to breathe upon them, suggesting a new creation (see Genesis 2:7). The reception of the Spirit empowers the disciples to forgive or retain sins. Sin, for John, is basically the refusal to believe in Jesus. Hence, the Spirit-filled disciples will challenge people to decide for or against Jesus.

When we raise the issue of gifts and talents, we tend to limit them to professional people in show business, sports, music, and so forth. Our perspective should be broader. Patience, understanding, and consolation are all gifts we possess. Wherever one uses such gifts for the community, the Spirit is obviously present.

-- John Craghan, Th.D., S.S.L.

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Pentecost Sunday – 23 May 2021

Acts 2:1-11. Psalm 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34. 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13. John 20:19-23

Two Acclamations. Because locked doors cannot keep him away, Jesus comes. He gives his standard Easter greeting: Peace be with you. Then he says: Go, I send you. To us, too, this very day. We cannot stay behind in locked rooms.

- ◆ What am I being sent to do?
- ◆ To whom am I being sent?
- ◆ What peace of Christ will I express in what I say and do?

The Most Holy Trinity– 30 May 2021

Deuteronomy 4:32-34,39-40; Psalm 33; Romans 8:14-17; Matthew 28:16-20