



# COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

LITURGY BYTES *by Michele Hall*



Next weekend the Church celebrates the great feast of Pentecost, which along with Christmas and Easter are some of the great feasts of Christianity. Pentecost commemorates not only the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and Mary, but also the fruits and effects of that special event. The coming of the Spirit gave much grace and faith to the Church and all its children.

Jesus told his disciples that He had to leave them because the Paraclete needed to come to them, and He had to go to send the Spirit to them. As we know, He kept His promise and sent the Paraclete. As Easter is the feast of the resurrection, Pentecost is the feast of the visible mission of the Holy Spirit to the Church and to all of us. The life of Christ, which received at Baptism, is made perfect by the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Pentecost is the complement and completion of Easter. Pentecost is sometimes called the "birthday of the Church" when its leaders saw things in a new and different light. The Spirit of love and truth dwells in the Church and leads her each day. Pentecost is a day of thanksgiving for the foundation of the Church and for the coming of the Holy Spirit and, henceforth, the Sacrament of Confirmation which we will celebrate with our young people on Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, and with adults on the weekend.

On the weekend of June 7 and 8, wear something red to Mass as we celebrate this feast and place ourselves in the hands of the Holy Spirit! With the Church, on this day, we pray:

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love.  
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.  
Amen*

***Have a spirit-filled, prayerful and blessed week ahead!***