

PENTECOST SUNDAY

MAY 31, 2020

There appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them.

— Acts 2:3



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THE RICHNESS OF THE SPIRIT

Students, and most adults recalling their school days, are familiar with the phrase “compare and contrast” that shows up from time to time on tests. Today we hear two different accounts of the giving of the Holy Spirit to the church. Let’s contrast, then compare. Luke’s account from Acts is filled with arresting details: the mighty wind from heaven, the tongues of flame, the miracle of different languages. John’s account seems timid: fearful disciples, the wounded Christ, the expelling of breath from his risen body, not from the sky. Our literal, modern minds wonder which way it happened; our noisy culture probably makes us prefer the former. But if we compare the two, we find that the dazzling richness of the Spirit fills both accounts, for it is the very breath of the risen Christ, ascended to the sky in Luke, that appears to his disciples in John and sends his followers forth to carry on his mission of forgiving sin and proclaiming the mighty acts of God.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Filled with the Holy Spirit, the apostles begin to speak in tongues (**Acts 2:1-11**).

Psalm — Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth (**Psalm 104**).

Second Reading — In one Spirit we are baptized into one body and given to drink of one Spirit (**1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13**).

SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

Edith Bolder	Holmesdale Care Center
Jeanette Hamilton Evans	Home
Eddie Jennings,	V.A. Rehab / Cameron
Intel Hunter	Home
Martha Melton	Addington House Ctr
Marcheita Bush	Home
Carlos Nix	Home
Lavel McCullough	Home
Rosa Birch	Home
Sandra Cloyd	Home
Kevin Brown	Home
Jackie Countee	Home
Sharon Shackelford-Allen	Home
Earnestine Nard	Home
Mable Parson	Home
Earl Greene	Home
Michael Mize	Home
Chaunceyetta Mize	Home
Margaret Jones	Home
Flora Waddell	Home
Delores Bazy	Home
Deacon Greene	Home
Vera Brown	Home
Ovell Thomas	Home
Joann James	Home

Please inform Father Leonard, when a loved-one has become homebound, or has been hospitalized. Call, 816-471-3696, or email: leombuthia@yahoo.com

MASS TIMES

**Must wear mask
at all times
– to attend.**

SUNDAY:

8:00 a.m. (Live)
10:00 a.m. (Live and On-line)

WEDNESDAY:

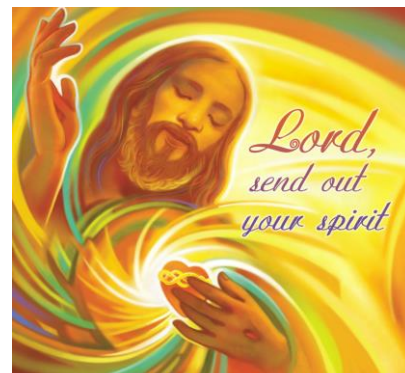
9:00 a.m. (Live and On-line)

PENTECOST

*Unless the eye catch fire,
God will not be seen.
Unless the ear catch fire,
God will not be heard.
Unless the tongue catch fire,
God will not be named.
Unless the heart catch fire,
God will not be loved.
Unless the mind catch fire,
God will not be known.*

William Blake

GOSPEL — Jesus Christ appears to the disciples and sends them on their mission with the power to forgive or retain sins through the Holy Spirit (**John 20:19-23**)



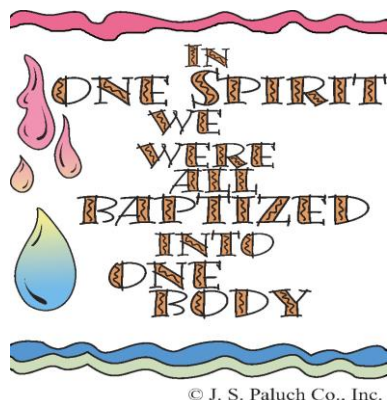
READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14; Ps 87:1-3, 5-7; Jn 19:25-34
Tuesday: 2 Pt 3:12-15a, 17-18; Ps 90:2-4, 10, 14, 16; Mk 12:13-17
Wednesday: 2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12; Ps 123:1b-2; Mk 12:18-27
Thursday: 2 Tm 2:8-15; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Mk 12:28-34
Friday: 2 Tm 3:10-17; Ps 119: 157, 160, 161, 165, 166, 168; 1-6; Mk 12:35-37
Saturday: 2 Tm 4:1-8; Ps 71:8-9, 14-15ab, 16-17, 22; Mk 12:38-44
Sunday: Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9; Dn 3:52-55; 2 Cor 13: ~11-13; Jn 3:16-18



SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: PENTECOST SUNDAY
Monday: The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church; 9th Week in Ordinary Time
Tuesday: Ss. Marcellinus and Peter
Wednesday: St. Charles Lwanga and Companions
Friday: St. Boniface; First Friday
Saturday: St. Norbert; First Saturday



SAINT CHARLES LWANGA AND HIS COMPANIONS

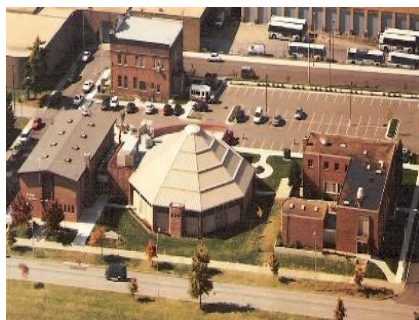
(martyred 1886-87)

June 3

"Master of Pages," reputedly the handsomest man in all Uganda, Charles Lwanga, lay catechist, courageously led about forty teenaged boys, Catholics and Anglicans, on a forty-mile forced march to martyrdom for their common Christian faith. Teaching each other the hymns of their different churches, they strengthened one another for the ordeal ahead. King Mwanga, himself barely twenty, had ordered them executed for being "those who pray." But these royal pages were the king's male harem, who, now Christians, refused what pious accounts demurely describe as his "unreasonable demands." Some were clubbed to death, most burned alive; the youngest, thirteen-year old Saint Kizito, whom Charles had often shielded from the King's lust; the most tragic, Saint Mbagha, whose father was his executioner! In 1964, Paul VI canonized the young Catholics and praised their Anglican companions, recalling the heroism of early Christianity's African martyrs, which we modern Christians of far less faith never expected to see repeated. Forty years after the pope's words, what does our faith cost us? Heroism aside, how generous is our response?

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

FORWARD IN FAITH



Thanks to everyone who is participating in our "Forward in Faith" Campaign. The campaign is to take care of our accumulated diocesan assessment arrears and build reserves for our parish. Thanks to many of you, who took time to fill in pledge cards. More pledge cards are available in the pews.

Please take time to fill one out and drop it in the collection basket. If you have any question, please don't hesitate to approach one of our Stewardship Committee members, for clarification.

Your **2020 Annual Tithing Envelopes** also include "Forward in Faith" **Envelopes. Please use the Forward in Faith envelopes toward the campaign.**

Our goal is, to raise **\$150,000** by October 2020. So far, we have received **22,802**, and **\$127,198**, still to go. The goal is huge, but God is faithful.

God bless you all,

Fr. Leonard



— Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew
the face of the earth
(Psalm 104).

THE SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST SUNDAY

(Lect. 63-Year A)

Comprehension of speech is pretty much dependent on two people: The speaker and the listener. ---- Even if the two speak a common language, the listener may have difficulty understanding if the speaker has a heavy accent. This dynamic comes into play in Luke's account of Pentecost.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, the disciples were able to speak in different tongues. This attracted people from over a dozen regions, each one able to hear them "Speaking in (their) own tongues of the mighty acts of God' 2:11). In order to comprehend what they were hearing, they must have overcome the difficulty of understanding someone speaking their own language with a foreign accent. After all, even with the disciples inside a house the crowd recognized their voices as Galilean, which we knew was a distinctive accent because it had given Peter away when he denied knowing Jesus. Yet they were still able to comprehend the meaning of their words.

Saint Paul's letter to the Corinthians lists some examples of the different gifts of the Holy Spirit brings, including both "varieties of tongues" and "interpretation of tongues" (1 Corinthians 12:10). Speaker and listener are each blessed by the Holy Spirit.

May the Holy Spirit bring us insight and comprehension as we listen to the word of God.

*How does the Holy Spirit help you to
hear, understand, and express
God's word?*