

The Season of Easter concludes with today's celebration, the Feast of Pentecost. On Pentecost we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem; this event marks the beginning of the Church. The story of Pentecost is found in the Acts of the Apostles, today's first reading. The account in today's Gospel, John 20:19-23, also recounts how Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Yet the event in John's Gospel takes place on Easter Sunday. There is no need to try to reconcile these two accounts. It is enough that we know that after his death, Jesus fulfilled his promise to send to his disciples a helper, an advocate, who would enable them to be his witnesses throughout the world.



We already heard today's Gospel proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Easter this year (Lectionary Cycle A). That Gospel passage, however, also included the description of Jesus' appearance to Thomas. In that context, we were led reflect on belief and unbelief.

In the context of the Feast of Pentecost, John 20:19-23 reminds us about the integral connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." He breathes the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and sends them to continue his work of reconciliation through the forgiveness of sins. Jesus' act of breathing the Holy Spirit mirrors God's act of breathing life into Adam at the time of Creation. In fact, both the Greek and Hebrew words for "spirit" can also be translated as "breath."

This Gospel reminds us that the Church is called to be a reconciling presence in the world. The reconciling presence of Christ is celebrated in the Church's sacramental life. In the Sacrament of Baptism, we are cleansed of sin and become a new creation in Christ. In the Sacrament of Penance, the Church celebrates the mercy of God through the forgiving of sins. This reconciling presence is also to be a way of life for Christians. In situations of conflict, we are to be agents of peace and harmony among people.

Notre Dame Parish

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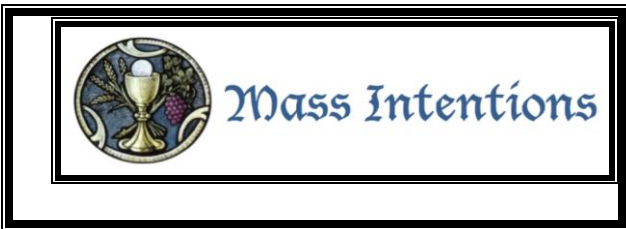
PENTECOST SUNDAY

Pentecost "Birthday of the Church"



Please continue to pray for our confirmation candidates who will be confirmed on Saturday, June 13 @ 7:30pm mass.





Tuesday May 26 – Sunday, May 31

Tuesday	NO MASS <i>Daryl Becotte +</i>
Wednesday	NO MASS <i>Francis Escarez</i>
Thursday	NO MASS <i>Denise L'Heureux</i>
Friday	NO MASS <i>Francine Justado</i>
Saturday	7:30pm Mass <i>Brett Michaluk + Neil Brennan +</i>
Sunday	10:00am Mass <i>For all Notre Dame Parishioners</i>



Please pray for all the sick and suffering especially:
Fran Papp, Cheryl Shuman, Carol Dufour, Clarrisa Aragon,

Kevin Moeller, Mark Stanistreet, Renard Salamanca, Bunny Figura, Rowell Manalang, Judi Hammond, Irene Franke, Keri Patterson, Pauline Gerwien

Contact the parish office if you would like to add your name or the name of your loved one to the list. Make sure that you have the person's permission to put their name on the Parish Sick List



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World Day of Prayer for the Church in China - May 24

Pope Francis has called on all Catholics to pray for the Church in China on May 24. The day is known as the World Day of Prayer for China, and is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Help of Christians, who is venerated at the Shrine of Sheshan in Shanghai.

Hunger has no schedule or day off. Please remember our less fortunate brothers and sisters with donations for the Food Banks.



please note

MAY 26, 27, 28, 29 – NO MASS – Church Ceiling is being painted

SWAN LAKE CAMPGROUND - open to parishioners and school staff to use. If you wish to use the campground, please contact the office to complete a Use of Premise Agreement and Waiver Form.



In lieu of the regular monthly CWL meeting in June, we invite all ladies to join us for lunch on Tuesday, June 2 at noon at the new Sam's Kitchen (11400 – 8th Street)

Please call Yvonne at 250-784-5333 before Sunday, May 31 to let us know if you are coming.

MAKE ME HOLY
*Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.
Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy.
Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love what is holy.
Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy.
Guard me then, O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy.*



St. Augustine

MAY IS THE MONTH OF MARY

PRAY THE ROSARY DAILY FOR WORLD PEACE AND CONVERSION OF SINNERS



Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.

Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen



Thank you for your generous Donations to Notre Dame Parish.

IMPROVE YOUR MEMORY

Always remember to forget the troubles that passed away, but never forget to remember the blessings that come each day.