

**FOR THE WEEKEND OF JUNE 4-5, 2022**

Pentecost Sunday

**Gospel reading (Lectionary 62, 63)**

Jn 20:19-23

On the evening of that first day of the week,
when the doors were locked, where the disciples were,
for fear of the Jews,
Jesus came and stood in their midst
and said to them, “Peace be with you.”
When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.
The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.
Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you.
As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”
And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them,
“Receive the Holy Spirit.
Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them,
and whose sins you retain are retained.”

**OR:**

[Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/john/14?15)

Jesus said to his disciples:
“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.
And I will ask the Father,
and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always.

“Whoever loves me will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him.
Those who do not love me do not keep my words;
yet the word you hear is not mine
but that of the Father who sent me.

“I have told you this while I am with you.
The Advocate, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name,
will teach you everything
and remind you of all that I told you.”

**Intercession**

For our parish community as we support our Annual Diocesan Appeal, that the gift of the Holy Spirit might help us more fully participate in God’s work and in building up the Church.

**Copy for bulletin announcement**

Today, we celebrate the sending of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit’s presence is a reminder in our lives that Christ’s words are true: “As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” In other words, while we are sent on mission, we are not sent alone. Rather, we are sent in relationship with God. It’s His strength and that leads to any successes, and ultimately the mission of Christ is His work. Our role is simply to cooperate.

From this perspective, we can see that everything we have—our personality, our health, our intelligence, our resources—are all gifts from God. Gifts that He gives to us so that we can in turn use them to participate in His mission. To take part in his work.

This perspective can change the way we approach something like our diocese’s Annual Appeal, an important initiative to support out local Church. When we see that all is a gift from God, our questions shift from, “Do I feel like supporting His Church?” to “*How* can I support His Church? How is God calling me to take part in His work in this way?” Today, on Pentecost Sunday, ask the Holy Spirit for help in answering these questions, and then prayerfully consider your contribution.

**Copy for pulpit announcement**

God gives us the Holy Spirit so we can participate in His work, which we can do by contributing to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Ask for the Holy Spirit’s inspiration and contribute to the Appeal today.

**Social media post/content**

Photo: A dove.

Text: “Come Holy Spirit”

Copy: Happy Pentecost Sunday! How is God calling you to participate in His work? Ask for the Holy Spirit’s inspiration and contribute to the Annual Diocesan Appeal today!