

Sacred Heart Parish
Bulletin

Mass: 9:30 am – Sunday
Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei
(902) 535-2053

May 19, 2024

Pentecost Sunday

After Jesus had ascended to heaven from Mt. Olivet, the apostles and disciples returned to the Holy City. They remained together in the Upper Room or Cenacle, the place where Jesus had appeared to them and which may well be called the first Christian church. About a hundred and twenty persons were assembled there. They chose Matthias as an apostle in place of the unhappy Judas; they prayed and waited for the Paraclete.

Ten days had passed, it was Sunday, the seventh Sunday after the resurrection. At about nine o'clock in the morning, as they were together praying fervently, the Holy Spirit descended upon them. Note how all the great theophanies in Christ's life occurred during the course of prayer. After His baptism, for instance, when Jesus was praying the heavens opened and the Holy Spirit descended in the form of a dove; likewise, it was during prayer at night that the transfiguration took place on Tabor. Surely too it was while Mary was praying that Gabriel delivered his message, and the Holy Spirit overshadowed her. Pentecost followed precedent. The small community of Christians had prepared themselves through prayer for the coming of the Paraclete. The same is true at Mass today, every day; through prayer we ready our souls for the advent of the Spirit.

The descent upon the apostles was internal and invisible in nature although accompanied by certain visible phenomena. There came a mighty roar, like the onrush of a violent wind. It came suddenly, from heaven; but unlike storms that strike a structure from without, this one penetrated and filled the room where the disciples were gathered. Therefore it was not a natural wind, it was a miracle peculiar to the occasion. A second visible sign consisted in tongues of fire that descended upon each one present. These fiery tongues gave visible evidence that the Holy Spirit had descended upon them.

Today at Mass, particularly at holy Communion, the power of the Holy Spirit will come down upon us; fiery tongues will not be seen, but invisible tongues of fire will not be absent. There was still another external manifestation of the Holy Spirit; the apostles and disciples were enabled to speak various languages.
After the roar of the wind many of Jerusalem's pilgrims hurried to the Cenacle. Pentecost was one of the three festivals which obliged all Jews to be present in Jerusalem. Jews from distant lands, and Jewish converts from paganism too, attended these feasts. As a result, a colorful crowd speaking a variety of languages surrounded the house. Now the apostles, who so shortly before had hid in fear behind locked doors, came forth and courageously walked among the multitude speaking to each in his native tongue. It was indeed amazing! Galileans, and multilingual?

But the malicious too were present; they had the answer. Nothing marvelous at all! Those Galileans were simply drunk, and their drunken babble sounded like a foreign language! Peter showed no hesitation in answering the charge. None of their number, he said, were intoxicated; it was but nine o'clock in the morning, and at that hour men usually are sober. What the multitude saw was, in fact, the fulfillment of Joel's prophecy: In those days (of the Messiah), God will pour forth His Spirit upon men and they will prophesy. . . . Then the apostle pointed his words more directly against the accusers: they had killed Jesus, had nailed Him to the Cross; but God had awakened Him and after His departure to heaven, He sent the Holy Spirit.

The pilgrims who had heard Peter give this first pentecostal sermon "were pierced to the heart and said: Brethren, what shall we do? But Peter said to them: Repent and be baptized; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Three thousand responded.
One final question: why the miracle of tongues? In answer, recall the story regarding the tower of Babel. Puffed up by pride, men attempted to build a tower that would touch the heavens. To punish their sin, God confused their speech. Sin causes confusion and division. Now Christ came to gather all men into His Church and thereby to unite them to Himself. This should result in creating but one family of nations again. To this blessed state the miracle of tongues points.

Yes, even we as individuals have a gift of tongues which all men can understand. It is the gift of love infused into us by the Holy Spirit. Love unites, love is a common language, by means of love we can speak to all nations.

—Excerpted from *The Church's Year of Grace*, Pius Parsch

Collection

May 12, 2024

Envelopes	$185.00
Loose	$60.00
	$245.00

Notices:

1: Thank You: A great big thank you to Scott Sampson and Dura Deck for our new ramp, it looks awesome. All materials and labour were donated. So, if you see Scott or April around thank them.

2: Johnstown Landing Outdoor Farmer's Market: We are pleased to announce the third season of the Johnstown Landing Outdoor Farmer's Market. This year the Market will operate 10:30 am to 1 pm every **SUNDAY** from June 30 to September 8. Interested vendors should contact johnstownlanding@gmail.com or Rita Campbell 902-631-0209. **Note:** vendors do not need to commit to attending every week. Johnstown Landing is located across from the Johnstown Parish Hall.

2: Richmond County Mens Choir will be joining us for Mass on May 19th, at 9:30.

3: End of Life Expo: The Hospice Palliative Care Society of Cape Breton County is hosting their first End of Life Info Expo on Saturday, May 25th from 11 a.m. to 4 pm on the lower level of the Sydney River United Protestant Church. There will be more than 20 exhibitors providing information and links to community resources for individuals and families coping with illness and end-of-life challenges. Five information sessions will also be held throughout the day sharing advice on issues like advanced care planning, palliative care 101, anticipatory grief and bereavement support, MAiD and legal and financial concerns.
Admission is free. All are welcome.

4: Birders Beware! Your Bras d'Or Lake Biospheere Region is providing a special Bras d'Or Watch birding activity on Saturday June 1st starting at 6am. Our local expert, Billy Digout, will be conducting a guided walk, starting at his property in French Cove which will last around an hour, depending on what we see. This is a good time of year and day to see mating pairs. We will walk about 1/2 km along the highway and head into the woods. There is no need for boots but bring your binoculars.
Location: 8059 West Bay Hgy in French Cove (park in Billy's driveway).
Date & Time: June 1st @ 6am to 7am or so.

5: COMFORT TEA … Come For Tea: We all experience many types of losses throughout our lives. To promote awareness of the impact of grief, you are invited to join us for a beverage and sweets. You may bring a friend, photo, memento, memory, or experience to share or just be with others who understand.
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm on Wednesday, May 22nd, 2024 at the Louisdale Lions Hall, 3128 Whiteside Road, Louisdale, N.S. Sponsored by the Strait Richmond Palliative Care Society celebrating our 30th anniversary.
All are welcome.

6: Sydney Tuesday, May 21, 2024 1:30 -3:30 pm
An invitation to join with other women to share TEA and TALK at Holy Redeemer Convent 24 Neville St. Whitney Pier, just behind the Pier Post Office. This invitation is open to women of all ages.This is an attempt to provide an opportunity for women to join with others to simply share a cup of tea and to experience the joy of being together. For further information phone 902 270 4840 or 902 539 6331.

7: Tentative List of events taking place at the Johnstown Parish Hall

Sunday July 7 - Strawberry Festival - 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Sunday July 7 - Guadalupe Mass - 2:00 pm
Sunday August 11 - Cemetery Mass - 9:30 am
Sunday August 11 - Pancake Breakfast - 10:15 am
Friday August 23 - Milling Frolic 7:00 pm - 12:00 am