

Pentecost SUNDAY

THERE APPEARED TO THEM TONGUES AS OF FIRE,
WHICH PARTED AND CAME TO REST ON EACH ONE OF THEM.
AND THEY WERE ALL FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Acts 2:3-4



May 31
2020

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ST. ANASTASIA CATHOLIC CHURCH
7390 WEST MANCHESTER AVE. LOS ANGELES, CA 90045
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◆ PLEASE CONTINUE SEARCHING FOR NEW AND ENCOURAGING STORIES SHARED THROUGH VERY RELIABLE WEBSITES AS: ANGELUS, ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES, ETC. THEIR ARTICLES ARE FULL OF VERACITY AND HOPE!



Pentecost Sunday - See the Holy Spirit



In the readings on Pentecost Sunday, the Spirit is described as a driving wind and tongues of fire. Knowing that the Holy Spirit is a Person of the Trinity, we seem to be able to picture the Spirit only in terms of what the Spirit does. In our second reading, Paul tries to explain just that. Though the English translation sounds vague, let's jump in.

First, Paul says that we cannot know Jesus as Lord without the Spirit. The Spirit is the way Jesus is present today, so anyone who truly believes in Jesus is guided by the Spirit. The Spirit never contradicts Jesus, so anyone claiming to have new knowledge that is opposed to what Jesus taught is not using the Spirit. So, for example, if someone starts a cult that teaches that we no longer need to love our enemies, we know that the Spirit is not in them.

Second, Paul acknowledges that the Spirit works in many ways. As examples, he mentions there are many different gifts and services in the church. He emphasizes that all these differences come from one and the same God. Even today we see this happening; people serve the Church in different ways and with different abilities. People even have different ways of looking at things. Some have more patience than others, some are better listeners, and some are great organizers. The point is that all these differences come from the same source, God.

When we think of the strength of the Church, we usually think of its unity, i.e., one baptism, one faith, one Lord. But we also draw strength from the diversity of gifts and services that people offer to God. No one person can do all it takes to bring the world to Christ. Even Jesus shared his work of spreading the gospel with his disciples. If sin brought a multitude of problems to the world, then the Spirit brings a multitude of gifts to help us through these problems. As Paul says, this diversity of gifts is all part of one Body of Christ. So look at the gifts of those around you, and you may be able to see the Holy Spirit more clearly.

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SUNDAY, MAY 31st, 2020 SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST SUNDAY

VIRTUAL MASS SCHEDULE: DAILY MASS: 9 AM
(FRIDAY MASS, MUSIC, AND LITURGY GEARED TOWARD CHILDREN)

SUNDAY MASS: 10 AM

ST. ANASTASIA WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE

EVEN THOUGH MASSES TO THE PUBLIC HAVE BEEN CANCELLED, MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING SAID BY OUR PRIESTS **LORD HEAR OUR PRAYERS** ~ For those who are **ill, and those in need of our prayers...** The names that have been in the bulletin are now placed on the Chapel Altar, and prayed for each day during Mass. New requests are also added to it. (this is ONLY a temporary change).

SUNDAY, MAY 31st

JOE SISON ★
JOELYN CLIFTON GUERRA ★✠
PAT HENDON ✠
ST. ANASTASIA PARISHIONERS ◆

MONDAY, JUNE 1st

BLANCA BALLESTEROS ◆

TUESDAY, June 2nd

ANNIE & ELIZABETH JIBILIAN ◆◆

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3rd

CHRIS WYATT ✠

THURSDAY, JUNE 4th

STEPHEN COLES ★
BRYAN N. RODRIGUEZ ★

FRIDAY, JUNE 5th

ELOISA MAURI ★✠ FRED BALSZ ★

SATURDAY, JUNE 6th

MARION MAUCH ★
ELEANOR ONGCAPIN ✠

Birthday ★ Support ◆ Anniversary ♥ Memorial ✠

A Unique Way of Celebrating Pentecost



“This Sunday, as we celebrate ‘the birth of the Church,’ Pentecost, lets celebrate the mission Jesus left us, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to let every person know God’s love.”

As a practical way to show our brothers and sisters the love of Jesus, and to especially help those most affected by this crisis, St. Anastasia is conducting a Food Drive Collection in our parking lot, this Saturday, and Sunday. **The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed**, so those driving through, may adore Our Lord.

A Food Drive Collection (**please ONLY can food/non-perishable**) will take place this Saturday and Sunday, May 30/31 at 2 PM - 4 PM. We ask that you enter on Parkhill and follow the simple *Prayer Stations* in the parking lot that will lead you to the food drop-off (school entrance) and then continue the drive to the Diamond Courtyard to view the Blessed Sacrament. **This collection will benefit our parishioners in need and also St. Margaret’s Center.** Thank you to all those willing to participate. May God bless you, and your loved ones abundantly. (Excerpts taken from the *Archbishop Gomez* “Letter for Pentecost” dated 5/23/2020)

Faith for Kids

“In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world.”
- John 16:33

It can seem like the world is full of hatred. We see examples of it on the news and sometimes even in our own neighborhoods and school playgrounds. Jesus told His disciples there would be troubles in the world. But He also told them—and us—to take courage because we have something more powerful than anything else: **God’s love. God’s love heals and restores. God’s love forgives.** It gives us strength and hope, no matter what we might face.

Jesus, help me always remember the power of your love.



The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit



The Gift of Wisdom is our ability to value spiritual things over worldly ones. It enables us to desire the things of God and correctly order the things in our life. This gift helps us view the world through God’s perspective and the light of our faith. It instills a desire to contemplate the things of God.



The Gift of Understanding helps us grasp the truths of the faith more easily and profoundly. Our human intellect cannot grasp all of God’s mysteries, but through the gift of understanding we can be lead to truth, even when we do not fully comprehend. This gift strengthens our insight through prayer, scripture, and the sacraments.



The Gift of Right Judgment/Counsel acknowledges the difference between right and wrong and bestows proper judgment. A person with right judgment avoids sin and leads a life for Christ. Counsel inspires us to speak up and encourage others to do the correct thing. It bestows upon us prudence, allowing us to act promptly and rightly in the face of difficult situations.



The Gift of Courage/Fortitude sustains our decision to follow the will of God in any situation. It allows us to stand up and defend our faith, even when threatened by bodily injury or death. This gift allows us to be steadfast in our decisions to do well and to endure evil even when we do not want to.



The Gift of Knowledge is awareness of God’s plan. It is not simply an accumulation of facts, but rather an understanding of God’s purpose and how we ought to respond. Knowledge helps bring to light the temptations that we face, and to discern whether to give in or live a life worthy of God’s approval.



The Gift of Piety or reverence is our obedience to God and our willingness to serve him. It is not just obedience through a sense of duty or obligation, but rather obedience out of love and devotion. It facilitates a deeper respect and honor for God and His Church.



The Gift of Wonder and Awe/Fear of the Lord makes us aware of the glory and majesty of God. This gift is also synonymous with the “Fear of the Lord”, in which we dread sin and fear offending God. We fear displeasing God and losing our connection with him because of our love for Him. Wonder and awe increases our desire to draw closer to God and depart from sin.

***This Sunday, May 31st, 2020
Solemnity of Pentecost Sunday***



***We encourage all to read and reflect on the
Biblical passages that will be proclaimed at
Masses next week!***

First Reading — Jesus tells the disciples that they will be witnesses to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:1-11).

Psalms — God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord (Psalm 47).

Second Reading — May the Father of glory give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation (Ephesians 1:17-23).

Gospel — Jesus instructs the Eleven to baptize and teach people of all nations (Matthew 28:16-20).

First Reading — The LORD, merciful and gracious, rich in kindness and faithfulness (Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9).

Psalms — Glory and praise for ever! (Daniel 3).

Second Reading — Brothers and sisters, rejoice. Live with one another in peace, and the God of peace will be with you (2 Corinthians 13:11-13).

Gospel — God did not send the Son to condemn the world, but to give it abundant life (John 3:16-18).



Saint Anastasia was born in 281 A.D. and became a perfect symbol of peace, humanity, and solidarity. Her Feast Day is December 25th. She is a symbol of dialogue and collaboration. In her spirit, and in the spirit of love, we welcome all to the Catholic Community of St. Anastasia Catholic Church.

Mary, May and the Rosary!

THE FEAST OF THE VISITATION



Today is May 31st, The Feast of the Visitation. It dates back to Medieval origins. This feast was kept by the Franciscan Order before 1263. Previously, it was celebrated on July 2, but changed in 1969 so that it falls between the Annunciation of the Lord and the birth of St. John the Baptist, to conform with the Gospel writings. Upon hearing from the Angel Gabriel that her cousin, Elizabeth, was in her sixth month of pregnancy and elderly - Luke describes Mary, as "rushing to see Elizabeth." "IN THOSE DAYS' Mary arose and went in haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah." - Luke 1:39

As Mary entered her cousin's house, hearing the sound of her greeting to Elizabeth, "the babe leapt in her womb". Luke 1:41 Elizabeth knew from John's "leap of joy that Mary was carrying Our Lord." It's at this point, that John the Baptist became aware of his Divine Savior and he was freed from Original sin. And Elizabeth responds with the "Hail Mary" full of grace, the Lord is with thee, blessed are you among women and blessed is the Fruit of thy womb Jesus.....". This is sometimes referred to as the earliest Church's devotion to Mary. But Elizabeth, first praises God and then praises Mary for trusting in God's words. This indeed, reminds us of the reality and sanctity of human life in the womb. St. Elizabeth is the Patron of expectant mothers.

In return, Mary sings the Magnificat, "My soul doth magnify the Lord". A very sacred prayer from the lips of Our Lady, referring all her greatness back to God. The Magnificat is sung each day at evening prayer, known as vespers, in many religious Orders.

Today, many expectant mothers would refrain from "hurrying over the hills", risking danger to their unborn child, to perform an act of kindness, but Mary would not forget that Elizabeth needed her and she rushed to see her. "THOSE DAYS" in which she rose on that IMPULSE were the days in which Christ was being formed in her womb. The IMPULSE was His impulse. Sometimes this is how God speaks to us.

THE MAGNIFICAT - "My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoice in God my Savior. Because he that is mighty, hath done great things to me, and Holy is His name." - Luke 1:46

As we end the month of May, celebrating Our Lady, may we all remember to seek ways in which we can imitate the characteristics and virtues of Our Blessed Mother.

Her Feast Day reminds us to be charitable to our neighbors. Try to assist some mother, (expectant or not) or visit the sick or elderly, or prepare a meal for someone. With the Coronavirus, of course, a phone call or running errands may be more appropriate. **And don't forget, PRAY, that's the safest of them all.** Maybe, today, the Magnificat or Rosary would be a nice way to commemorate the feast of the Visitation.

MARIAN PRAYER - "Mother Mary, there is a deep desire in all of us to help others in need. Teach me to reach beyond what I am capable of, past what is expected."

Continue praying The Rosary; a POWERFUL prayer!
"The Family That Prays Together Stays Together." - Fr. Patrick Peyton



Did You Know? Teach children how to explain inappropriate behavior

Statistics show that children may tell their story of abuse to adults as many as nine times before someone recognizes what is being disclosed and takes action. An important part of empowering children to protect themselves from abuse is giving them the right language to explain inappropriate or uncomfortable behaviors they may encounter. A child who can describe what happened to make him feel violated or uneasy can much more easily communicate with trusted adults to stop a predator, or end a potentially dangerous situation. For more information, please visit: <http://uscbb.org/issues-and-action/child-and-youth-protection/child-abuse-prevention/childrens-safe-environment-training-messages.cfm>.



PARENTS, CHILDREN AND THE FACTS OF LIFE

The right and duty to educate children belongs in the first place to those who gave them life, their parents. Indeed, the education of the young is so intimately bound up with parenthood that the Catholic Church has always regarded it as pertaining to the primary end of matrimony. Parents may--and usually do--depute to professional teachers the task of instructing their boys and girls in the various branches of natural knowledge that make up the curriculum of schools and colleges. Catholic parents may delegate even a portion of the spiritual training of their children to the teachers in the parochial schools. But parents may not entirely consign to others the task of providing for the moral and religious formation of their sons and daughters. Almighty God, who has conferred on a married couple the privilege of bringing children into the world, has commanded that they actively and earnestly help those children to know, love and serve Him in this life, so that they will be happy with Him forever in the life beyond the grave. One of the most important phases in this parental duty of promoting the spiritual welfare of the young is sex education. Unfortunately, to many parents this means nothing more than the imparting of biological facts concerning the process of procreation and the measures to be taken in order to avoid disease. To Catholics, sex education means much more than this. It signifies, primarily, the training of boys and girls to be pure and innocent, and eventually to enter marriage with a noble and holy purpose, if God calls them to that state of life. (You could read the entire article on this link:

Taken from - <https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/library/parents-children-and-the-facts-of-life-10469> - by HENRY V. SATTLER, C.S.S.R., Ph.D. Assistant Director, Family Life Bureau National Catholic Welfare Conference



MINISTRY EQUIPS US TO DEEPEN OUR LOVE FOR GOD AND SHARE OUR FAITH...



What's going on in the Parish Office and with our Priests, during COVID-19?

Here are some interesting stories from our Priests and Staff. Enjoy them.

Fr. Tom – Hi Everyone! I miss you! I miss your PRESENCE! I hope that you are keeping well. After 10 years of retirement, I know well what it means to Stay Home! My routine is pretty much the same, doctors, pharmacy, and grocery shopping. I'm still able to cook, do washing, tidy the house up before my cleaning lady comes every two weeks. My neighbor has a beautiful black lab whose name is Henry. When they come to visit a couple of times a week, Henry runs to my back door and barks. I say, "Is that you Henry?" I open the door and immediately Henry runs into the kitchen for a treat. Then his owner and I have a drink. If my life is relatively simple, I can't imagine what yours must be like. You with families, children, jobs, and so many more responsibilities thrust upon you. It takes a great deal of strength I am sure. I miss Tuesday morning Mass and being the crossing guard for the children going to school. I miss Sunday morning Mass at St. A's and St. Mark's. I'm sure the children miss the lollipops, as I do to give them! In the days ahead, I hope to see your Presence! Beyond that, I'm looking forward to the day we can see smiles on one another's faces.....without masks! Let's pray each day for a strengthened faith in God and each other. May God's blessing be on you and your family until we meet and see one another again! ~ Fr. Tom
P.S. Last week, I went to the Emergency because my heart was racing and I had shortness of breath. After tests, they sent me home. I now take 18 pills in the morning and 2 at night. Please pray they don't put a restriction on water! Also, a swelling of my legs. My neighbor said that pretty soon, my hair will be in a ponytail!

Fr. Innocent – My Thoughts On COVID-19. *When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command the locust to devour the land, or command pestilence among my people, if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land" (2 Chr. 7: 13-14).* The above Hebrew Scriptural passage was what came to my mind as soon as COVID-19 Struck. Whether we like it or not, God is not unaware of this "killer-enemy" and "third world war" called COVID-19. He probably allowed it to rock the world and is the only person who has the power to stop it, at his own time. This pandemic has turned the world with unbearable confusion, a prototype of the one experienced by the builders of the Tower of Babel. There is psychological and emotional trauma, a lot deaths, infections, crumble of economy, closure of many businesses, loss of jobs, slashing of salaries/stipends, restriction of movements, social distancing, closure of other public places, and above all lockdown of places of worship. We miss the parishioners, the school children and their parents. I cannot go to school, a five minutes drive from here. Celebrating Mass all by myself, most of the time, has not been very nice and ideal. All the same, as the Archbishop of LA, Most Rev. José Gomez says, the church buildings are closed but our parishes are open. Like other parishes, there are Masses on the St. Anastasia Facebook and Website. Feel free to participate. The Parish Office is also open. We love you all and pray for you. We appreciate our parishioners who have been viewing these Masses, and many have called in to ask how we are faring, and also made their contributions/donations. God bless you and your families for all of your concerns and support to the Parish. As I appreciate your adjustments and good work, in spite of these challenging times, we need to understand that this is the best time to do what God demands of us for our land to be healed. Humble Repentance, Reconciliation, Charity to the poor and the most vulnerable and less privileged, and Prayers are of paramount importance. All of us need to [in humility], beg God for forgiveness. He is so merciful, that no sin is beyond his pardon. As we seek Divine forgiveness, we will be ready to forgive others who offended us (Matt. 6: 12), reconcile all hates and conflicts. I think these will go a long way to boost communication. Effective communication through phone calls and e-mails will bring encouragement to those who are depressed because of various ugly situations they are facing, especially those who have lost their loved and/or and their jobs. Charity forgives a multitude of sins (1 Pet. 4:8). Charity to the poor who are not able to repay us is very essential at this time. We may wish to begin with our immediate environment, those living around us, then, reach out to people in the margins as Pope Francis recommends. Our Archbishop has requested a food-drive in all parishes, to be held on Pentecost Sunday. This is beautiful! St. John Chrysostom says, if we refuse to give to the poor we are stealing from them. In spite of our sins, we are not completely evil and damned that there is nothing good in us. God still loves us. **We always ought to pray and never lose heart" (Lk. 18: 1).** We need to intensify our prayers at this time. The prayer composed for the end of COVID-19 is available everywhere. The way out is to use the remaining spiritual power in us to reactivate, and revive any part of us that is weak and displeases God. This is not a time of completion, but a time of cooperation and sharing what we have with one another, for when a candle fires light to another candle, it loses nothing. May God hear from heaven, our humble pleas, receive and bless our offerings, forgive our sins, through care for the poor, bless all of us and our families, heal our land and the entire world of this COVID 19 and enmesh us in his grace. I love you all! May the Spirit of the Lord visit you and your families anew. Happy Pentecost! Shalom! ~ Fr. Innocent Nzewuji

**STAY WELL, HAPPY, HEALTHY, AND SAFE!
STAY HOME! GOD'S BLESSINGS TO ALL!!!**



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SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

RCIA-Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults and SRE (Sunday School)
Jonette Mauch: 310.670.2243
jmauch@st-anastasia.org
Confirmation:
Michael Gasparro: 310.670.2243
confirmationsainta@gmail.com
Infant Baptism:
Fred & Esmeralda: 310.679.9119
fbalsz@st-anastasia.org

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Sacrament for the Sick is celebrated upon request of the family. Call the Parish Office 310-670-2243.

BAPTISM: Parents and Godparents are required to participate in preparation program. Call the Parish Office 310-670-2243.

MARRIAGE: Engaged couples must contact the Office no later than 6 months before their proposed wedding date. Call the Parish Office 310-670-2243.

R.C.I.A.: (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) - *Becoming Catholics* - Call the Parish Office 310-670-2243.

FUNERALS: Call the Parish Office: 310-670-2243.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

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To the Home Bound.....670-2243
Ministry of the Word
Carl Pentis.....649-4238
Antoinette Luxford.....338-1140
Ministry of Music
Chris Roque.....670-2243
croque@st-anastasia.org
Ministry of Hospitality (Ushers)
Evelio Leon 895-8898
Courtyard Hospitality
Sr. Teresita..... 216-2001
Altar Care
Rose De Leonardis 645-7175
Altar Server Committee:
Herb Masi641-2819
Maura Reznik.....645-6845
Steve Sichi.....670-8897

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Fr. Innocent Nzewuji
Pastor Emeritus:
Rev. Thomas F. King
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Jonette Mauch
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Michael Gasparro
School Principal:
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School Office Assistant:
Linda Schmidt
School Bookkeeper:
Pauline Diaz
Campus Safety:
Ken Lance
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Erik Melchor
Consultative School Board:
Todd Dombrowski
PTO-Parent Teacher Organization:
Jessica Wagner & Beth O'Rourke,
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ADESTE (After School Program)
Ofelia Jimenez



PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

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Pastor Pastoral Council
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Site Committee
Stefan Politz 337-9534
Men's Club
Chris Turkmany 200-8021
Knights of Columbus.....821-2324
Arts and Education
Andy Kozlowski 670-3152

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PARISH LIFE MINISTRIES

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Lori Mountain.....502-9105
Rosary Ministry
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