

**Welcome to Holy Mass at Holy Cross Church
SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST**

**Sunday, May 23, 2010
11:00 a.m.
Father Marian Pociecha, Visiting Clergy**

**Holy Cross Church
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Intention: +Anna Shelly
and
for all those in need of healing in our parish community

The Liturgy of the Word

Reading I

Acts 2: 1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different languages.

When the day of Pentecost came it found the brethren gathered in one place. Suddenly from up in the sky there came a noise like a strong, driving wind which was heard all through the house where they were seated. Tongues as of fire appeared which parted and came to rest on each of them. All were filled with the Holy Spirit. They began to express themselves in foreign tongues and make bold proclamation as the Spirit prompted them.

Staying in Jerusalem at the time were devout Jews of every nation under heaven. These heard the sound, and assembled in a large crowd. They were much confused because each one heard these men speaking his own language. The whole occurrence astonished them. They asked in utter amazement, "Are not all of these men who are speaking Galileans? How is it that each of us hears them in his native tongue? We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites. We live in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the regions of Libya around Cyrene. There are even visitors from Rome – all Jews, or those who have come over to Judaism; Cretans and Arabs too. Yet each of us hears them speaking in his own tongue about the marvels God has accomplished."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 104: 24, 29-30, 31, 34

R: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth!

Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, you are great indeed! How manifold are your works, O Lord! The earth is full of your creatures.

R: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth!

If you take away their breath, they perish and return to the dust. When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.

R: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth!

May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord be glad in his works! Pleasing to him be my theme; I will be glad in the Lord.

R: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth!

Reading II

I Corinthians 12: 3-7, 12-13

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

In one Spirit we were all baptized, making one body.

No one can say: "Jesus is Lord," except in the Holy Spirit.

There are different gifts but the same Spirit; there are different ministries but the same Lord; there are different works but the same God who accomplishes all of them in every one. To each person the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

The body is one and has many members, but all the members, many though they are, are one body; and so it is with Christ. It was in one Spirit that all of us, whether Jew or Greek, slave or free, were baptized into one body. All of us have been given to drink of the one Spirit.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Gospel

John 20: 19-23

A conclusion of the holy gospel according to John

As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.

On the evening of that first day of the week, even though the disciples had locked the doors of the place where they were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood before them. *"Peace be with you,"* he said. When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. At the sight of the Lord the disciples rejoiced. *"Peace be with you,"* he said again. *"As the Father has sent me, so I send you."*

Then he breathed on them and said: *"Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive men's sins, they are forgiven them; if you hold them bound, they are held bound."*

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Thoughts from the Pulpit

The Power of the Spirit of God

Before the Holy Spirit came, the apostles were virtually in hiding in the upper room. But after the coming of the Holy Spirit they were changed people. They left their hiding place, and set out courageously to preach the Gospel.

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem, but ... to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

The Holy Spirit empowered the apostles. It was the power of God. It was the power of the presence and action of God that rested on the apostles and gave them the momentum, the enthusiasm, the courage, the love, the passion to fulfill the task Christ had given them. With that power the apostles and first Christians have rocked the world.

The power of the presence and action of God that changed the apostles is available to the people of today as well. The power of the Holy Spirit is available, freely, to all who wants to receive it. The Holy Spirit energizes and strengthens and purifies the hearts of those who want and ask God for this very much available Gift.

Blessed are those who pray for the Holy Spirit, for they will receive it and will be empowered to fulfill the task of Christian life as witnesses of the presence and action of God in today's world! Whenever we pray, whenever we do noble everyday things in God's name, working hard, facing difficulties, resisting evil, keeping God's

5:00 pm Holy Mass

Sunday, June 13 Welcome to Summer Picnic

12:30 – 4:00 pm

Sunday, June 20 Father's Day Breakfast following Holy Mass