



ARCHDIOCESE OF PALO – CATECHETICAL MINISTRY
Module 38 May 23, 2021 Pentecost Sunday
Theme: Receive the Holy Spirit



INTRODUCTION

Recall an experience when you are afraid of doing what you think is something good or right. What made you afraid? What did you do? What happened?

Today we will see what enable the disciples of Jesus to go out and do something for God.



OPENING PRAYER

The healing of your people
 Loving Creator, you have made us in your image and we ask you for healing of people sick with Covid 19 Fill our hearts with the fire of your love and our minds with doing what is right make us courageous to fight what is evil empower us to work for the coming of your Kingdom, and enrich us with your life-giving Spirit so that all Creation may feel your touch and be healed.
 Amen

Glory Be.



PHASE ONE
REMEMBER THE STORY OF JESUS

1. Proclamation of the Gospel Story John 20:19-23
Enthroned the Bible on a table with lighted candle)

A moment of prayerful silence

We will not be able to understand the Word of God unless God himself opens our hearts. Let us now welcome Jesus as he speaks to us through his Word

R. Alleluia, alleluia.
 Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.
 R. Alleluia, alleluia.



19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said

to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord
All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

2. Brief Guided silent Meditation / Personal Prayer

What part of the Gospel story today do you like most? Why do you like it?

1.3 Text in Context

Last week’s celebration of the Ascension gave us the picture of the Jesus’ leaving his disciples, with the promise of the Spirit to lead them.

1. What was the greeting of Jesus? (“Peace be with you.”)
2. The word “peace was mentioned 3 times. What do you think Jesus would like to tell his disciples?
3. What was the reaction of the disciples upon seeing Jesus alive? (The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.)
4. What do you think Jesus meant by this; As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”?
5. What does he breathe on them soon after he said this line (5.) (He breathes on the Holy Spirit)
6. What special work or mission did he ask the disciples to do? (“Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”)

PHASE II REFLECT the Story
of the Church
(Teachings of the Church)



Today, we celebrate Pentecost Sunday, 50 days after Easter Sunday. We have two stories that tell about the disciples receiving the Holy Spirit.

In Gospel according to John, Jesus immediately gave the apostles the Holy Spirit as he appeared to them through locked doors on the evening of his resurrection. Jesus knew how fearful his disciples were of the Jewish leaders, while grieving over his death. But they were surprised, to see Jesus alive and talking to them, telling them
Receive the Holy Spirit (John 20:22)

These words seem to be a preparation for the disciples for coming of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. The disciples needed space and time to get healed of the trauma of the passion and death of Jesus. Their thought of Jesus' becoming their earthly king remained. The Lord must have lovingly and patiently prepared them for the time he would no longer physically be with them on the earth. He promised to send the Holy Spirit to guide and remain with them.

The Apostles did not preach until the coming down of the Spirit to them.

The room where the disciples locked themselves up symbolizes the small room in our heart that is full of fears. What are those fears that make myself away from God and others?

At Baptism we receive the Holy Spirit. How aware am I of the Holy Spirit's presence in my life? Are there marvelous things that I have experienced with the Holy Spirit?

Ten days after the Ascension of Jesus, when the disciples were gathered, a strong wind blew through Jerusalem and tongues of fire came down and rested upon each of them and all were filled with the Holy Spirit. (Please refer to Acts 2:1-11)

On Pentecost, through the Holy Spirit coming from the Risen Lord, the disciples realized that they had to go out of the locked and bolted doors of the upper room where they "quarantined" themselves out of fear.

The age of the Church began. On Pentecost the Holy Spirit transformed the fearful apostles into courageous witnesses to Christ. In a very short time, thousand had themselves baptized: it was the birthday of the Church. The miracles of the languages on Pentecost shows that the church is there for all peoples from the very beginning; she is universal and missionary. (YOUCAT 118). She speaks to people of all nations. The Holy spirit gives life to the Church that enable her to stand firm for more than 2,000 years.

Through the action of the Holy Spirit, the followers of Christ, beginning from the apostles, help build new a world where people will experience forgiveness, reconciliation and peace.

If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.

Sad to say that in our world today, hatred and violence continue to happen. Many innocent people suffer because of conflict between and among nations. If only all have known the love and mercy of God, there would be peace and forgiveness among us. Our family and communities are a part of this world. How do I make the presence of the Holy Spirit alive where I am now?

PHASE THREE RESPOND – with/ in my personal faith /community faith story

When we do the sign of the cross we pray: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is a divine person equal to the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit is a person whom we can be in relation. The Spirit loves us just as he loves Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit is truly a person who freely knows and loves as God.

How do I grow in my friendship with the Holy Spirit? The love of Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit makes us united in the Holy Trinity. How do we show the love the Holy Trinity in our family and community?



CLOSING PRAYER

(Members may share in praying the following)

Holy Spirit of grace, enlighten my mind and heart. Fill my speech with expressions of peace and understanding

Holy Spirit of fire, enflame me with the passion for Good News
Let my voice ring with the hope and promise of Christ

Holy Spirit of love, immerse me in compassion and kindness

May my words bring comfort to those in need of consolation and assurance.

Glory Be

BACKGROUND FOR THE CATECHISTS

CCC 683

"No one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit. God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!'" This knowledge of faith is possible only in the Holy Spirit: to be in touch with Christ, we must first have been touched by the Holy Spirit. He comes to meet us and kindles faith in us. By virtue of our Baptism, the first sacrament of the faith, the Holy Spirit in the Church communicates to us, intimately and personally, the life that originates in the Father and is offered to us in the Son

CCC 729

Only when the hour has arrived for his glorification does Jesus promise the coming of the Holy Spirit, since his Death and Resurrection will fulfill the promise made to the fathers. The Spirit of truth, the other Paraclete, will be given by the Father in answer to Jesus' prayer; he will be sent by the Father in Jesus' name; and Jesus will send him from the Father's side, since he comes from the Father. The Holy Spirit will come and we shall know him; he will be with us for ever; he will remain with us. The Spirit will teach us everything, remind us of all that Christ said to us and bear witness to him. The Holy Spirit will lead us into all truth and will glorify Christ. He will prove the world wrong about sin, righteousness, and judgment.

