

## PENTECOST SUNDAY

*While Peter was still speaking these things, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the word*

### Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, May 18, 5:00 p.m. Mass - For world peace, the poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's

Sunday, May 19, 9:30 a.m. Mass - For world peace, the poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's

Prayers and Blessings for the 40<sup>th</sup>, Birthday of Casian Ncho by Edith, Alexis and Astral

11:00 a.m. - For world peace, the poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's

Monday, May 20, No Mass – The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mary of the Church

Tuesday, May 21, No Mass

Wednesday, May 22, 8:30 a.m. Mass

Thursday, May 23, 8:30 a.m. Mass

Friday, May 24, 8:30 a.m. Mass

Saturday, May 25, 5:00 p. m. Mass - For world peace, the poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's

Sunday, May 26, Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

9:30 a.m. Mass - For world peace, the poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's

11:00 a.m. Mass – For world peace, the poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's

1:30 p.m., Nigerian Community Mass

**PENTECOST SUNDAY REFLECTION:** This gospel reading for the Solemnity of Pentecost has already been read, in a more extended form, on the Second Sunday of Easter. It was read then to include Jesus' encounter with Thomas 'eight days later'. On the feast of Pentecost we have the opportunity to focus on the earlier verses, in which Jesus brings the gift of peace and the gift of the Holy Spirit. The account of the day of Pentecost is found in our first reading, from the second chapter of the Acts of the Apostles. Fifty days after the resurrection there was a spectacular manifestation of the power of the Spirit. Jews and proselytes, gathered from the nations for the Jewish feast of Pentecost, witness the power of the Spirit and hear the preaching of the apostles each in his own tongue. This event launches the mission to the whole world. Our gospel teaches that the Holy Spirit was also given by the risen Christ before the events of Pentecost. This is a quieter and more intimate demonstration of the power of the Spirit. It is related to the preaching of forgiveness and the possibility of new life for those who ask for it. The disciples are empowered to bring the forgiveness of Christ, but it is possible for people to reject this forgiveness. This seems to be the sense of the final verse, that some have their sins retained. >This is the final day of the Easter period. The Lord who died on the cross has shown himself in his risen body. He has taken our humanity into the presence of the Father. He is no longer visibly present, but his Spirit is with us to remind us of Jesus and to lead us into all truth. That Spirit, as St Paul writes to the Corinthians, bestows gifts in abundance for the benefit of the whole Church. Do we allow the Holy Spirit to transform our life? Do we seek the peace and forgiveness offered to us through prayer and the sacraments? Pray for the whole church, that Christians everywhere will be enlivened by the Holy Spirit. Pray that the Easter gifts of Christ will always be with us.

**Collection – May 11 and 12, 2024:** Envelopes: \$685.00, Loose: \$486.95; St. Vincent de Paul: \$143.60; Vigil Lights: \$61.50; Grand Total: \$1,637.05. THANK YOU for your generosity and support.

**QUO VADIS?** Where are you going? Is the Lord calling you to serve him as a priest? Join other men discerning the priesthood for monthly formation, fellowship, and Eucharistic Adoration. The next session will be held on May 23, 2024, 7:00 p.m. at the new Café des Tours, located in the basement of Notre Dame Cathedral in Ottawa. To join the Quo Vadis email list or for more information, contact Fr. Connor O'Hara, the Vocations Director for the diocese, at [vocations@ottawacornwall.ca](mailto:vocations@ottawacornwall.ca)

**MAY, MONTH OF MARY:** The month of May is dedicated to the devotion of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Heavenly Mother and Patroness. The second Vatican Council says of her: "In an utterly singular way she cooperated by her obedience, faith, and hope and burning charity in the Saviour's work of restoring supernatural life to souls. For this reason she is a Mother to us in the order of grace..." Let us not forget the role that Mary played in the history of salvation. As we celebrate the month of May as the Marian Month, we will have a special prayer said at all the Sunday Masses throughout the month. Please make an effort to pray the Rosary or say a prayer to Mary with your families. You are also most welcome to join the recitation of the Rosary on Sundays at 8:40 a.m. before our 9:30 a.m. Mass. Holy Mother of God: pray for us.

**St Peter's Parish Diaper Drive:** A big thank you to all parishioners for your amazing response to our diaper drive. We collected 19 boxes of diapers, 4 packs wipes and \$175. Assistance will be provided to families in need within our parish and the neighbouring community. Diapers will be given out the last weekend of each month after all masses. Please visit our table in the gym. For urgent need, please call the parish office. Diaper donations are always welcome and can be placed by the grocery cart. May we continue to answer God's call to service through the poor, let us shine His light on all those around us.

**150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO STE-ANNE-DE-BEAUPRÉ AND OUR LADY OF THE CAPE** Pilgrimage to Ste. Anne de Beaupré and Our Lady of the Cape from the Dioceses of Ottawa-Cornwall, Pembroke, Mont-Laurier/St-Jérôme, Kingston and Gatineau on August 10-11. The weekend celebrants are Archbishops Marcel Damphousse, Terrence Prendergast, Guy Desrochers, and Bishops Yvan Mathieu, Raymond Poisson, and Pierre Goudreault. This may be the last annual pilgrimage. For registration contact [mike.budge@bell](mailto:mike.budge@bell).

**DID YOU KNOW?- Pentecost, or the Festival of Weeks, was originally a Jewish Festival, falling fifty days after Passover. The first fruits of the grain harvest were offered to the Lord, as commanded in Deut 16.10. The giving of the Law to Moses was also celebrated. It was at this great Jewish festival, when many people were gathered in Jerusalem, that the Holy Spirit descended on the apostles, Mary, and other disciples of Jesus. Throughout the Middle Ages, and beyond, in both Catholic and Protestant countries, Pentecost and the week following it were Holy days and holidays. Pentecost has always been considered a very Holy day, one when the Holy Spirit was especially near. It has long been a favourite moment for Baptisms and the English name for this feast, WhitSunday, refers to the white robes of the newly baptized. The Middle Ages had a strange and delightful way of celebrating the religious meaning of Pentecost. In the ceiling of the church there would be a large opening called "the Holy Ghost Hole". On Pentecost, to the sound of trumpets or some other windy noise, down through the opening would be lowered a great disk, often painted blue with golden rays, and with a white dove, the symbol of the Holy Spirit, painted on it. In some places, live doves or pigeons would be released, in others roses dropped. A few churches tried dropping burning straw, but unlike the flames described in Acts, this fire did not hover over the faithful and fell on them; the practise was discontinued. Throughout much of Europe, Pentecost is a traditional time of communal feasting and family picnicking. It has been curiously neglected in this country. How wonderful it would be to remedy that!**

**PENTECOST SUNDAY:** The Season of Easter concludes with today's celebration, the Feast of Pentecost. On Pentecost we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem; this event marks the beginning of the Church. The story of Pentecost is found in the Acts of the Apostles, today's first reading. The account in today's Gospel, John 20:19-23, also recounts how Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Yet the event in John's Gospel takes place on Easter Sunday. There is no need to try to reconcile these two accounts. It is enough that we know that after his death, Jesus fulfilled his promise to send to his disciples a helper, an advocate, who would enable them to be his witnesses throughout the world.