



PENTECOST ~ BIRTH OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

On this day more than 2,000 years ago, devout Jews from every nation were in Jerusalem for the Jewish feast of Pentecost, which was celebrated at that time as a harvest feast as well as a commemoration of Moses' having received the Jewish law on Mount Sinai.



The apostles had gathered with Mary to pray. It had been a week since they watched Jesus ascend into the clouds to Heaven. What happened next may have taken them by surprised but it shouldn't have. Jesus

had told them at the last supper that an advocate would be sent by God.

Jesus said, "the Holy Spirit, that the Father will send in my name—he will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you. So, Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. Not as the world gives, do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid." – John 14:26-27

The Holy Spirit came down on Pentecost like a dove where they were and with a driving wind "tongues as of fire" (Acts 2:3) descended on them. Once timid disciples were now enthusiastic apostles able to speak Christ's word.

More amazing, the men began speaking languages they previously didn't know. It was at this moment of profound astonishment, when they completely understood the Passion of our Lord, and that it took the death of Christ and the

resurrection in order for all people who believe to join Him in Heaven.

The apostles went out immediately evangelizing. About 3000 people were baptized that day after hearing St. Peter's passionate message calling for repentance and conversion (Acts 2:14-41).

GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

St. Paul reminds us that the gifts of the Holy Spirit dwell in each of us.

He explains how the sharing of the various spiritual gifts of the Holy Spirit enriches the Church.

Paul lists the fruits of the Spirit in his Letter to the Galatians 5:22-25: "What the Spirit brings is ... love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

"Since the Spirit is our life, let us be directed by the Spirit"

So, let us all listen to St. Paul and recognize these gifts, using each one for the benefit of others, our world, and the Church.

HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER:

Oh, Holy Spirit, by Your power, Christ was raised from the dead to save us all. By Your grace, miracles are performed in Jesus' name. By Your love, we are protected from evil. And so, we ask with humility and a beggar's heart for Your gift of Joy within us. All of the Saints are marked with an uncompromisable Joy in times of trial, difficulty and pain. Give us, Oh Holy Spirit, the Joy that surpasses all understanding that we may live as a witness to Your love and fidelity! Holy Spirit we ask for the grace of (mention your intention here). Amen.

To pray a novena to the Holy Spirit go to: WWW.PRAYMORENOVENAS.COM/NOVENA-TO-THE-HOLY-SPIRIT.



DEACON SZABO TO BE ORDAINED TO PRIESTHOOD

By Colleen Rowan, *The Catholic Spirit*

Deacon Phillip Szabo is ready to serve the people of God as a priest. This will be the promise he makes when he is ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Mark E. Brennan at 11 a.m. May 29 at St. James the Greater Parish in Charles Town.

The event will be livestreamed for those who cannot attend at: www.dwc.org and will also be shared on our Facebook page at: WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/DIOCESEOFWHEELINGCHARLESTON.

Joining Deacon Szabo's family and friends at the church where he was ordained a deacon last May will be the priests, religious, and faithful of the diocese.

continue page two...

“As my ordination date approaches, I am filled both with peace and with what can best be described as holy fear. I am at peace because I know that I have discovered God’s will for my life,” Deacon Szabo said. “God has certainly made it abundantly clear that he wants me to be ordained as a priest.”

During the last six years of formation, he said he gained a much greater respect for the priesthood, especially becoming more aware of the sacrifice the vocation demands.

“A priest has the singular honor to serve in the Person of Christ as he celebrates the sacraments,” Deacon Szabo said, “and so he, above all, must conform his life to that of our Lord Jesus.”

Deacon Szabo realizes that this is no small task and knows that it will require great sacrifice on his part.

“This is why I say that my feeling of peace is accompanied by a holy fear,” he said. “I know that I am not worthy nor capable of fulfilling the Sacred Office of the Priesthood on my own, and this fact humbles me.”

He will be vested with the stole and chasuble by Father Giles LeVasseur and Father Timothy Grassi, two priests who have had a great impact on his life. Father LeVasseur has been a spiritual mentor to him since he was in college. “Without him, I would never have had the tools or encouragement that I needed to pursue my vocation to the priesthood,” Deacon Szabo said. “He helped me recognize God’s call in the very beginning and protected me from many of the pitfalls that can deter a man from entering seminary.”

Deacon Szabo met Father Grassi when he was a seminarian. As Father Grassi is very active in promoting vocations, Deacon Szabo would see him at Quo Vadis Camp and on some of the discernment retreats.

“His example and words of wisdom have also been a very important part of my journey towards the priesthood,” Deacon Szabo said. “After spending a summer with him in Thomas and Parsons, he too became an important spiritual mentor for me.”

Although many other priests have played important roles in his discernment and formation, Deacon Szabo said Father LeVasseur and Father Grassi “have had the most profound effect of all in my life, and I am most grateful for it!”

Deacon Szabo is the son of Joseph Szabo and Theresa Michael, and hails from Augusta in the Eastern Panhandle’s Hampshire County. His home parish is Our Lady of Grace in Romney. He attended St. Mary Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md. He is also a registered nurse and attended Fairmont State University.

“I have known Deacon Szabo since before he was a seminarian and am so excited for him to enter into the august order of the sacred priesthood!” said Father Brian Crenwelge, vocations director for the diocese. “I know that Phillip will give his complete self to his people, which is what the priesthood is all about. I look forward to spending many years together with him as brother priests! I pray that as each day passes in Phillip’s life, he may become more conformed to Christ the Priest and His Eucharistic Sacrifice.”

MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH ~ LEAD US TO HEAVEN

Monday after Pentecost is the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church. Pope Francis instituted this feast in 2018 acknowledging, “This celebration will help us to remember that growth in the Christian life must be anchored to the Mystery of the Cross, to the oblation of Christ in the Eucharistic Banquet, and to the Mother of the Redeemer, the Virgin who makes her offering to God.”



Communion is a beautiful illustration of Mary’s role as Mother of the Church and our Blessed Mother. The artist shows Mary at the foot of a ladder helping boys and girls climb closer to heaven, where they will be welcomed by the Holy Trinity – God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We don’t worship Mary as some non-Catholics believe, we honor her and her role as the Mother of God. We pray for her

intercession through the Hail Mary, the rosary, novenas, and litanies among others. The Church considers her the greatest teacher, and perfect example of true and loving discipleship. As she offered Jesus and the disciples her prayers and motherly love, she offers us the same through her intercessions.

Just as the apostles chose to gather and pray with her on Pentecost, the day the Holy Spirit descended upon them, let us pray with her, asking her to intercede for us in our times of need.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.

In one of the old Baltimore Catechism books for First Holy

POPE FRANCIS FORMALIZES LAY MINISTRIES

Pope Francis has made two announcements in the last few months that on the surface may seem ordinary, but Daniel Maul, director of the office of evangelization and catechesis for the diocese, explains they are significantly extraordinary.

Maul is excited about Pope Francis's most recent Apostolic Letter from May 10th in which the Holy Father acknowledges, "in our time, when there are so few clerics to preach the Gospel to such great numbers and to exercise the pastoral ministry, the position of catechists is of great importance." (*Ad gentes*, 17) for "the development of the Christian community."

Earlier this year Pope Francis also highlighted the role of lector and acolyte to be open to women. This changes Canon Law to officially allow what is already in practice in our diocese – lay women proclaiming the Word of God during the liturgy as lectors and serving as altar servers and Eucharistic ministers. However, this proper mandate is historical for the



Church, because such authorization was not instituted by all bishops throughout the world.

Maul called the announcements from the Holy See particularly significant because the Pope is recognizing and lifting up lay people as official ministers in the Church.

"Lay people will not only do catechetical ministry;

they will be catechetical ministers," he said. "For so long, lay people have seen themselves as simply 'helping out' the Church at the behest of their pastors. But now, they should see themselves as ministerial partners with the clergy, in the evangelizing ministry of catechesis. Their calling and vocation as lay catechists are now going to be acknowledged, respected, and promoted by the Church."

For more than 2,000 years, the lay catechist is called to be "a great witness, teacher, and companion to all for Jesus Christ and the Church through prayer, concentrated study and participation in Church life," Maul said.

"Truly, the Pope is further officially recognizing, in particular, the great work of lay women in the Church, which includes our religious sisters, because, without doubt, women do the vast majority of the evangelizing and catechizing work of the Church," he said. "And it is singularly important for lay women who have not taken religious vows, because for most of them this will be the first time their ministry will be made official publicly, through the Rites of the Church."



A bit of background from a Vatican News editorial by Andrea Tonielli published on May 11:

Pope Francis' decision to institute the lay ministry of catechist, which follows his decision to open the ministries of acolyte and lector to women (announced January 11 by Vatican News) is in line with the path intuited by Pope Pius: Especially in our time, the task of bearing witness to the faith and passing it along to new generations is a task for "fathers and mothers of families."

In 1944, in the midst of the Second World War, Pius XII published the encyclical *Mystici Corporis Christi*, dedicated to the Church. In one passage, after recalling that the Fathers of the Church, he acknowledges that the laity, whether or single or married, "Indeed, let this be clearly understood, especially in our days, fathers and mothers of families, those who are godparents through Baptism, and in particular those members of the laity who collaborate with the ecclesiastical hierarchy in spreading the Kingdom of the Divine Redeemer occupy an honorable, if often a lowly, place in the Christian community, and even they under the impulse of God and with His help, can reach the heights of supreme holiness, which, Jesus Christ has promised, will never be wanting to the Church."

Throughout the centuries, and even today in various countries, in the absence of priests, the faith has been kept alive thanks to fathers and mothers, and to catechists who have spent and even sacrificed their lives in order to do so.

Today, however, the involvement, recognition and full appreciation of the laity is an urgent requirement and often a necessity in secularized societies.

Tonielli noted the Church clarifies and emphasizes this by no means is not to fill the place of clerics, "but rather, of the full and acknowledged activity, involvement, and co-responsibility of the laity: their presence is genuinely necessary in order for the Church to be both 'in communion' and 'missionary.'"



PROGRESS THROUGH THE PANDEMIC: THE FECAT FAMILY'S STORY

By Jade Jeffers, CCWVa WV Birth to Three RAU-1 Parent Partner
Catholic Charities West Virginia's Birth to Three RAU-1 program works with families and specialists to decide which supports and services are needed for children ages birth to three who have a delay in their development or may be at risk for a delay.

Throughout the coronavirus pandemic, we have continued providing services to families.

Elise Fecat shares her family's experience:

"We had just completed our annual review of what felt like a whirlwind of a year and I felt great about our future. My little boy had just received his brand new hearing aids and a Speech Language Pathologist and Hearing Specialist had been added to our team. At 18 months old, he had started walking independently and things seemed to be progressing quickly with physical and developmental therapies. Then the pandemic hit and I was panicked. My team, as usual, stepped up and we got through it.

My son was born with a severe foot deformity and we joined the Birth to Three program when he was seven months old. In that first year, the team was with us as we overcame one hurdle after another – casting, braces, a hearing impaired diagnosis, a fight for hearing aids, and the list goes on. With each bump in the road, they were my support system. There were days when all I could see were delays and struggles, and they would come swooping in with positivity and reassurances. When I had self-doubt, they propped me up and reminded me of all that Jake and our family had already overcome. They pointed out not only his strengths, but our family's strengths as well.

I remember talking to my husband as more and more restrictions were put in place last spring about how all of it was going to affect our boy. I was so worried about losing services because we had come so far, and the thought of regression hung in my mind like an ominous rain cloud. For a while, the team continued in home visits and I really thought that we were going to get through the shutdown without any interruptions, but inevitably, home visits were stopped. When virtual visits were first introduced, all I could

think was how on Earth are we going to do virtual therapy? I wasn't trained in anything and I also had kids ages 2 and 3 ½ years old. How was I going to find time to be solely focused on a computer screen for an hour, and how was I going to make Jake focus too?

With a lot of grace on both ends, the team and I quickly hit our stride. We found ways to make it work for our family – for example, we would adjust times, sometimes meeting twice a week for a half hour instead of once a week for an hour. The team was so patient as Jake darted in and out of the screen and I peppered them with what felt like a thousand questions. At each visit, they would have new ideas to engage Jake and keep him focused. Sometimes those ideas worked, and sometimes not so much. They talked me through different techniques to help Jake and assigned "homework." I was diligent with everything that they were telling me, and the line between mom and therapist became blurred for those few months, but it felt so worth it! I had already developed a great relationship with our team and over those months, a new level had been reached. I was gaining confidence as our weekly chats confirmed that my fear of regression would not come true.

While I can't say that I loved virtual therapy, it did have its benefits. My worry for Jake's future after Birth to Three has ebbed a little, thanks to the crash course lessons in therapy that I received. I am thankful for the inventiveness of my therapists and the quick action of the Birth to Three program as they adjusted. By the time we were allowed to resume in home visits again, the entire team was impressed with Jake's progress, and that made my momma heart soar. What could have been a detrimental setback for my son ended up being a great hands-on experience for me!"

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia, visit www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org.

The Mission of Catholic Charities West Virginia: Guided by God's love, Catholic Charities collaborates with community partners, parishes and families to provide caring and compassionate services to people in need and work toward lasting and meaningful change.



Jake Fecat and his family received virtual therapy services during the coronavirus pandemic from the Catholic Charities West Virginia WV Birth to Three RAU-1 program.

PENTECOST SUNDAY ~ MASS DURING THE DAY

First Reading ACTS 2:1-11

When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then 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 and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem. At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd, but they were confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language. They were astounded, and in amazement they asked, "Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans? Then how does each of us hear them in his native language? We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites, inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene, as well as travelers from Rome, both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs, yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God."

Responsorial PSALMS 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34

R. (cf. 30) **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.**

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.**

If you take away their breath, they perish and return to their 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.**

Second Reading 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 (or Gal 5:16-25)

Brothers and sisters: No one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.

As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.

Sequence - Veni, Sancte Spiritus

Come, Holy Spirit, come! And from your celestial home Shed a ray of light divine! Come, Father of the poor! Come, source of all our store! Come, within our bosoms shine. You, of comforters the best; You, the soul's most welcome guest; Sweet refreshment here below; In our labor, rest most sweet; Grateful coolness in the heat; Solace in the midst of woe. O most blessed Light divine, Shine within these hearts of yours, And our inmost being fill! Where you are not, we have naught, Nothing good in deed or thought, Nothing free from taint of ill. Heal our wounds, our strength renew; On our dryness pour your dew; Wash the stains of guilt away: Bend the stubborn heart and will; Melt the frozen, warm the chill; Guide the steps that go astray. On the faithful, who adore And confess you, evermore In your sevenfold gift descend; Give them virtue's sure reward; Give them your salvation, Lord; Give them joys that never end. Amen. Alleluia.

Alleluia

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel JOHN 20:19-23 (or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15)

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For all Christians, that renewed in the Holy Spirit we may always seek unity as one body in Christ, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That the peace the Holy Spirit brings may pervade the entire world so that nations never again settle their differences by taking up arms against each other and that local authorities are able to maintain peace without resorting to violence, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all who have lost hope—the single parent working two jobs and raising her children, the homeless person living on the streets, the prisoner serving a life sentence, the patient living with a chronic illness—that they may be comforted through the work of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That we may recognize the gifts of the Holy Spirit in ourselves and each other and that we may encourage and use those gifts to extend peace, mercy, and love to those most in need, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer

LET US GO *Rejoicing* TO THE HOUSE OF THE LORD.

PSALM 122



UPDATED GUIDELINES RELEASED

Bishop Mark E. Brennan released updated guidelines for our churches and facilities.

- New Norms for Reopening Parish Facilities for Meetings and Gatherings
- Updated Liturgical Guidelines
- Music Protocols for Liturgical Celebrations

These are available online at www.dwc.org.

Liturgy of the Hours

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

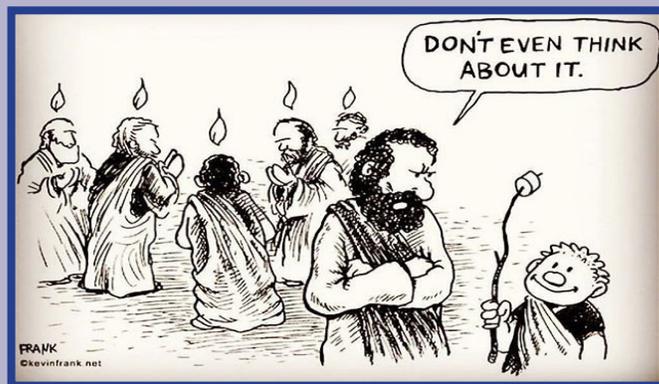
Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

Scan the QR code or visit the link below to view a PDF version of the Liturgy of the Hours.

EBREVIARY.COM [LITURGY OF THE HOURS](#)



A LITTLE CATHOLIC HUMOR



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MASS ONLINE

Saturday 6pm Masses will continue to be livestreamed from the Cathedral of St. Joseph, and will be available on our website each Sunday at DWC.ORG.

Below are four options for enriching your spirit through daily Mass online.

- EWTN airs daily Mass from Our Lady of Angels Chapel, in Irondale, Alabama, at 8am, noon, and 7pm: [HTTPS://WWW.EWTN.COM/TV/WATCH-LIVE](https://www.ewtn.com/tv/watch-live)
- St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York has daily Mass live streamed at 7am: [HTTPS://SAINTPATRICKSCATHEDRAL.ORG/LIVE](https://saintpatrickscathedral.org/live)
- Catholic TV also streams its daily Mass: [HTTP://CATHOLICTV.ORG/MASSES/CATHOLICTV-MASS](http://catholicTV.org/masses/catholicTV-mass)
- Daily Mass Online at Notre Dame' Basilica of the Sacred Heart is live at 11:30 am Monday-Friday: [HTTPS://CAMPUSMINISTRY.ND.EDU/MASS-WORSHIP/BASILICA-OF-THE-SACRED-HEART/WATCH-MASS/SPECIAL-MASSSES/](https://campusministry.nd.edu/mass-worship/basilica-of-the-sacred-heart/watch-mass/special-masses/)