



MAY 31, 2020

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE CHURCH!

It had been more than a week since the apostles watched Jesus ascend into the clouds to Heaven. On this particular day they were gathered together praying with Mary the Blessed Mother. What happened next may have taken them by surprise, but Jesus had told them an advocate would be sent by God.

At the last supper, Jesus said, “the Advocate, 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 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. It was this moment 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.

More amazing, the men began speaking languages they previously didn’t know. On that very day devout Jews from every nation were in Jerusalem for the Jewish feast of Pentecost, which for them 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 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). Remember it was St. Peter that two months earlier had denied Christ three times.



GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

In the second reading on Pentecost (1Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13), St. Paul says 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

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

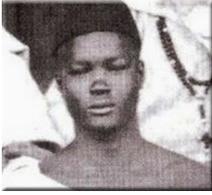
V. Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created.

R. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

ST. CHARLES LWANGA AND HIS COMPANIONS



On June 3rd the Church celebrates St. Charles Lwanga and his companions as martyrs.

“Like the Apostles and the Uganda martyrs before us, we have received the gift of the Holy Spirit to become missionary disciples called to go forth and bring the Gospel to all,” said Pope Francis during a 2015 visit to Uganda.

“If, like the martyrs, we daily fan into flame the gift of the Spirit who dwells in our hearts, then we will surely become the missionary disciples which Christ calls us to be.”

He said the people of Uganda are “a people of martyrs. Through your own veins runs the blood of martyrs, and that’s why you have such a strong faith and life that you enjoy now.”

He said that determination is what makes all good in the eyes of God.

“If I can transform the negative into

positive, I am triumphant in the Lord. But that can only be done with the grace of Jesus Christ.”

The story of St. Charles (Kaloli) Lwanga dates back to the late 1800s after the first Catholic missions began in Uganda and Central Africa. Under the rule of King Mtesa missionaries were welcomed and preached and many believed in Christianity. However, Mtesa’s successor, King Mwangi despised Christians in Uganda.

Charles Lwanga was a young man, in his late teens, who was a page in the court of King Mwangi. He encouraged others to be a Christian. This infuriated the king, so he summoned all the pages and separated the ones proclaiming to be Christian from the rest. He ordered his soldiers to march the young Christians, reportedly as young as 13, more than 30 miles to Namugono, an area of execution. The young men continued to praise Jesus Christ even

during their torture. Witnesses recorded Lwanga built his own funeral pyre of wood and was burned alive. During this horrific scene when they began burning his feet, Lwanga was quoted as saying, “It is as if you are pouring water on me. Please repent and become a Christian like me.” After that he stayed silent until just before he died, saying, “My God.”

While Mwangi and other pagan rulers wanted to end Christianity, their actions



procured the opposite. It was one of the earliest Christians in Africa, Tertullian (or in Latin - Quintus Septimius Florens Tertullianus) who said, “The blood of the Martyrs is the seed of Christians.” Tertullian lived in 155-240 AD.

To this day millions of people make the pilgrimage to Namugono to honor Lwanga and his companions. It is there where a shrine in the shape of a funeral pyre sits in victory.

ST. BONIFACE

Saint Boniface, baptized Winfrid (spelling is also Wynfrid or Winfrith), was born in England in the year 675. He was from an affluent family and studied at a Benedictine abbey, where he was described as a brilliant monk. He became head of a school, but felt a calling from God to be a missionary. So, he went to Frisia (Northern Netherlands and Germany) to begin his work. War forced him to return to England for a few years, but he did not give up. He journeyed to Rome to ask the pope to tell him where to serve. Pope Gregory II changed Winfrid’s name to



Boniface, which means “a man who does good deeds.” Then he sent Boniface to eastern Germany.

For nearly 35 years, Boniface traveled all over Germany, preaching, teaching, and building schools, monasteries, and convents. He went to Rome to report to the pope about his work. There, the pope ordained him bishop and told him to return to Germany to continue missionary work.

Boniface invited monks and sisters from England to come and help him. The monastery at Fulda is probably the most famous one started by Boniface.

As an old man, Boniface returned to Frisia to work among the pagans. One morning, while he was waiting to confirm a group of converts, a band of angry natives rushed into the church and murdered Boniface and about 50 converts.

Saint Boniface, known as the apostle of the Germans, taught those he was converting that following Christ was to follow the way of the cross.

As we celebrate him on June 5th, let us recall the words of this saint from long ago, which remain meaningful today as we work to stay centered in Christ, “The church is like a great ship being pounded by the waves of life’s different stresses. Our duty is not to abandon ship, but to keep her on course.”

From the Desk of Superintendent Mary Ann Deschaine, Ed.S.

Department of Catholic Schools • www.WVCatholicSchools.org

WORD OF GRACE FOR WV CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

When people venture into unknown territory they often do so with great anxiety and apprehension. They may innately respond pessimistically and be unenthused. However, when we proceed with confidence and have the mindset of adventure we succeed even if we may stumble.

God taught us in Psalm 119:105 that “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet.”

Our Catholic Schools of West Virginia are Christ-centered. Everything we do, choices we make, and plans we develop are prayerfully made with the best intentions for our students’ success. We are guided by our faith. In this bible verse we know that even when we head into territory that we are not familiar with, when we believe in God, we will always see our way.

As we end the school year, I have asked our principals to collect information from you all as a means to grade us. We have received so many emails, messages, and notes of gratitude, but we wanted to take it a step further. So, these anonymous surveys that were emailed to families will give us additional feedback on our remote learning.

We want our schools to evaluate your family’s experiences and feelings while your child was learning at home. Each school’s results will be used to help us prepare for our next school year and beyond.

From previous surveys we know the top priorities families are looking for in a school. We also know the assets they want and find in our PK-12 schools include:

- Encouraging individual and critical thinking
- Preparing students to be successful in high school and college
- Deepening faith and empathy
- Teaching strong communication and speaking skills
- Developing and nurture sound moral base
- Fostering community involvement
- Building self-esteem and confidence

We can clearly see these attributes go beyond a grade point average. These are amazing life skills we work on with all our students.

As we continue to re-evaluate how we performed, we continue to progress and look forward to opening our doors in August for the 2020-2021 school year. We are confident that no matter what we face in the future our schools are focused and ready to adapt, instruct, encourage, and challenge our students in the classroom or whenever necessary - remotely without hesitation at basically the flip of the switch. That adaptability and flexibility is a huge life lesson for our children, as we have all witnessed these last few months.

You and your children will remain in my prayers over the summer. God bless each of you always and in all ways.

Peace,

Mary Ann Deschaine, Ed.S.

Mary Ann Deschaine, Ed.S.

CONGRATULATIONS



CLASS OF 2020

THE DIOCESE OF
WHEELING-CHARLESTON
WOULD LIKE TO
CONGRATULATE
ALL THE
2020 GRADUATES!

MAY THE LORD BLESS
YOU AS YOU START A NEW
CHAPTER IN YOUR LIVES.

“FOR I KNOW THE PLANS

I HAVE FOR YOU,”

SAYS THE LORD.

“THEY ARE PLANS FOR

GOOD AND NOT FOR

DISASTER, TO GIVE YOU

a future and a hope.

JEREMIAH 29:11

MASS READINGS FOR PENTECOST

VIGIL MASS

First Reading: GN 11:1-9

The whole world spoke the same language, using the same words. While the people were migrating in the east, they came upon a valley in the land of Shinar and settled there. They said to one another, "Come, let us mold bricks and harden them with fire." They used bricks for stone, and bitumen for mortar. Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the sky, and so make a name for ourselves; otherwise we shall be scattered all over the earth."

The LORD came down to see the city and the tower that the people had built. Then the LORD said: "If now, while they are one people, all speaking the same language, they have started to do this, nothing will later stop them from doing whatever they presume to do. Let us then go down there and confuse their language, so that one will not understand what another says." Thus the LORD scattered them from there all over the earth, and they stopped building the city. That is why it was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the speech of all the world. It was from that place that he scattered them all over the earth.

Or any of the following may be substituted:

EX 19:3-8a, 16-20b • EZ 37:1-14 • JOEL 3:1-5

Responsorial PSALM 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-30

R. (cf. 30) **Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.** or **R. Alleluia.**

Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD, my God, you are great indeed! You are clothed with majesty and glory, robed in light as with a cloak.

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. or **R. Alleluia.**

How manifold are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you have wrought them all-- the earth is full of your creatures; bless the LORD, O my soul! Alleluia.

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. or **R. Alleluia.**

Creatures all look to you to give them food in due time. When you give it to them, they gather it; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. or **R. Alleluia.**

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. or **R. Alleluia.**

Second Reading ROMANS 8:22-27

Brothers and sisters:

We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that sees is not hope. For who hopes for what one sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait with endurance.

In the same way, the Spirit too comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes with inexpressible groanings. And the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of the Spirit, because he intercedes for the holy ones according to God's will.

Alleluia

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel JOHN 7:37-39

On the last and greatest day of the feast, Jesus stood up and exclaimed, "Let anyone who thirsts come to me and drink. As Scripture says: *Rivers of living water will flow from within him who believes in me.*"

He said this in reference to the Spirit that those who came to believe in him were to receive. There was, of course, no Spirit yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that all its members may be beacons of hope to a world full of uncertainty and despair, we pray . . .

For the upcoming elections, that the Spirit may guide hearts and minds to vote for candidates who always seeks to serve the common good of all, we pray . . .

For those serving our nation in the Armed Forces, especially those who are in harms way, that they may be protected and return safely to their loved ones, we pray . . .

For those affected by the Coronavirus, for scientists and health care officials working to find a vaccine, and for all those who find themselves struggling during this current health crisis, we pray . . .

Lord hear our prayer



MASS READINGS FOR 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 PSALM 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34

R. (cf. 30) **Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.** or **R. Alleluia.**

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. or **R. Alleluia.**

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. or **R. Alleluia.**

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. or **R. Alleluia.**

Second Reading COR 12:3b-7, 12-13

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

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.

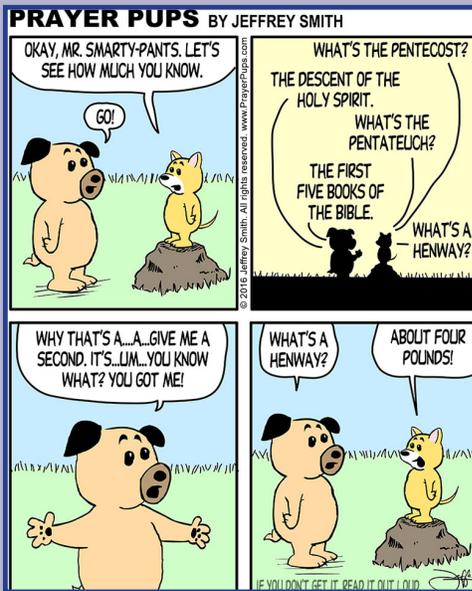
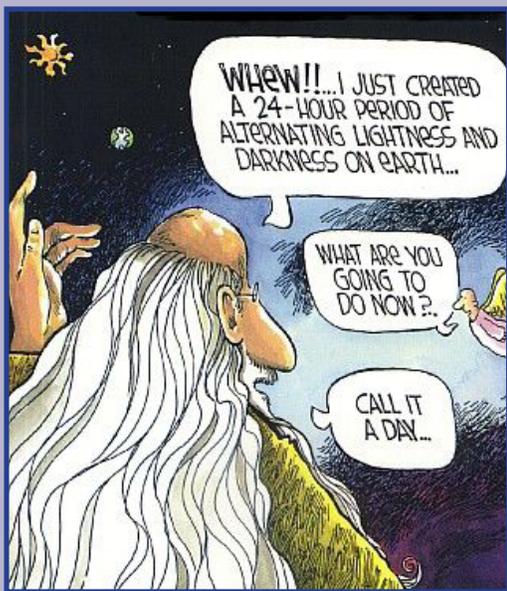
Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel JOHN 20:19-23

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."

A LITTLE CATHOLIC HUMOR



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



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YOUTH MINISTRY CONTINUES

YOUNG WV CATHOLICS invites teens to be part of

*project*YM
A WEEKLY LIVE YOUTH NIGHT
LIVE

Instead of feeling cooped up, encourage your teen to feel energized by participating in the PROJECT YM LIVE event and Young WV Catholics Zoom conversation. Office of Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministry Interim Director, Shawn Madden, invites you to find out more and sign up at:

www.youngwvcatholics.com/ymlive.html

Project YM, a national youth ministry organization, streamed its first hour-long live youth night last week. It was attended online by more than 9,000 households! The event at projectym.com/live had games, prizes, a solid message, and engaging prayer. Help middle and high school students you know by sharing this opportunity.

ONLINE RESOURCES TO CHECK OUT THIS WEEK:

In addition to our diocesan website, DWC.ORG, check out:

- The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' website, for resources presented in text, audio, and video formats. Daily Readings written: USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS Daily Readings audio: USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS-AUDIO.CFM Video Reflection USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/REFLECTIONS/INDEX.CFM
The usccb.org site will also give you tutorials on how to pray the Rosary, the Divine Chaplet, and other prayers and devotions.
- National Catholic Register for Catholic news, stories, blogs, etc. at NCREGISTER.COM
- The Catholic News Service for the latest headlines for Catholics WWW.CATHOLICNEWS.COM
- My Daily Living with Fr. John Chapin Engler at MYDAILYLIVING.COM
- Fr. James DeViese - Altar-ed State: WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/C/FRDEVIESE
- Music ministries on Facebook: *My Heart is Ready*, WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/WWW.DAVIDHAAS.US and *John Angotti Music Mission*, WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JOHNANGOTTIMUSICMISSION