We Respond

VIGIL MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or a hymn) The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit of God dwelling within us, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 103)

RESPONSE: Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

Or

Alleluia!

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (or a hymn) On the last day of the festival, Jesus stood and cried out: If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink, alleluia.

VIGIL READINGS Genesis 11:1-9; Romans 8:22-27; John 7:37-39

MASS DURING THE DAY

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or a hymn) The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia. **Or**

The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit of God dwelling within us, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 103)

RESPONSE: Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

Or

Alleluia!

SEQUENCE

Holy Spirit, Lord of light, From the clear celestial height Thy pure beaming radiance give.

Come, thou Father of the poor, Come with treasures which endure; Come, thou light of all that live!

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Thou, of all consolers best, Thou, the soul's delightful guest, Dost refreshing peace bestow;

Thou in toil art comfort sweet; Pleasant coolness in the heat; Solace in the midst of woe.

Light immortal, light divine, Visit thou these hearts of thine, And our inmost being fill:

If thou take thy grace away, Nothing pure in man will stay; All his good is turned to ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew; On our dryness pour thy 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.

Thou, on us who evermore Thee confess and thee adore, With thy sevenfold gifts descend:

Give us comfort when we die; Give us life with thee on high; Give us joys that never end.

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (or a hymn) They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

TODAYS READINGS Acts 2:1-11; Romans 8:8-17; John 14:15-16, 23-26

NEXT WEEK (Trinity Sunday, Year C): Proverbs 8:22-31; Psalm 8; Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15

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The Holy Spirit is in all of us

El Greco, Pentecost, 1596-1599, The Prado, Madrid

Fifty days after Easter we celebrate the events of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples who were gathered together. They were alone, waiting and wondering. Jesus had ascended into heaven. Now, at Pentecost, there was the coming of the Advocate, the Paraclete, as promised by Jesus at the Last Supper before his death.

The Feast of Pentecost brings the liturgical season of Easter to a close. With the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples, the plan of salvation is brought to its conclusion.

On this day the Church came into being and, gifted with and inspired by the Holy Spirit, it now began its mission to proclaim "the marvels of God" (Acts 2:11) to the whole world.

The Book of Acts speaks in dramatic terms of the actual event of the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples. There was a mighty wind and tongues of fire and, much to everyone's astonishment, suddenly the disciples "were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech" (Acts 2:4).

St Paul, in his Letter to the Romans, then reminds us that, as followers of Christ, the Holy Spirit has made a home and dwells in each of us. St Paul describes how this indwelling radically transforms our very identity. It means that we are not just followers of Christ but beloved children of God and, as children, we are heirs! We are heirs with Christ, sharing the blessings of his resurrection. 8 June 2025 Pentecost Year C

St Paul urges us to live by the Spirit, for "everyone who is moved by the Spirit is a son of God" (Rom 8:14). It is the Spirit in us who teaches us to pray, "Abba! Father!"

Today's readings culminate with a text from John's Gospel reminding us of the role of the Holy Spirit in our personal daily lives and in the life of the Church. The Holy Spirit is an advocate who will guide us and remind us of all that Jesus taught. Jesus promises that "the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you" (Jn: 14:26).

But John's Gospel tells us something even more profound when Jesus promises that "if anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him" (Jn 14:23).

This is grace: it is God, the Trinity of three divine persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, making their home in us, abiding in us, and, little by little, transforming us and conforming us ever more closely into God's image. Little by little we more clearly see the world and everything in it as God sees it. And the fruit of this grace in our lives is good works ... works for the coming of the Kingdom, works of compassion, hospitality and love.

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