

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.

ACTS 2:3-4

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. Excerpts from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 2008, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, C.O.D. All rights reserved. Photo: josepizarro/Adobe Stock



PENTECOST SUNDAY

MAY 23, 2021

COME, HOLY SPIRIT, COME!

Come, Holy Spirit! Today we celebrate Pentecost, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the first disciples and on all who are baptized. We also commemorate the birth of the Church. Before Pentecost, the disciples remained hidden and uncertain; at Pentecost, those who were gathered were filled with the Spirit and proclaimed the wonders of the Good News of Christ to all. The Spirit guides us to the truth of Christ's love and mercy and strengthens us to live as disciples. Without the Holy Spirit, we would perish; with the Spirit, we have life to the full. Relying on the Spirit, we are given the grace to turn away from the many temptations that we face each day and prefer instead what is good and holy. Come, Holy Spirit, come!

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

As followers of Jesus, we are called to direct our minds and hearts to Christ's love, turning away from all that is not of God in order to be more Christ-like in our daily lives. The more we invite the Holy Spirit to draw us close to God's heart, the more readily we will avoid sin and choose life, faith, and love. In the letter to the Galatians, we hear a list of things that those who live in the Spirit are to avoid. Things like immorality, hatred, jealousy, and selfishness. At first glance, we might think to ourselves, "of course I want to avoid those things," and yet, if we are honest with ourselves, we likely recognize some of those patterns in our lives. Upon further reflection, however, we also see that these negative behaviors pose temporary pleasure while the fruits of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control—lead to a life of deep and lasting fulfillment.

NOTHING WILL STAND IN THE WAY

The Jewish people who had gathered in Jerusalem for the festival of Pentecost came from every corner of the world. They spoke many languages and yet were drawn to hear the message of Christ from the disciples who had just experienced the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. They were astonished by what they heard—not only the message, but the way in which it was conveyed, in their own language, and by the messengers, people whom they would have considered ordinary and unremarkable, rather than the acknowledged religious leaders of their time. We, too, are called to share the love and mercy of Christ through word and action, even when we feel small and insignificant. We need only to look at the witness and experience of those first disciples and all the saints who have preceded us to know that we are capable of much when we place our lives in God's hands. Nothing can stand in the way of the incredible love of God when we are filled with the power and presence of the Holy Spirit!

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Mon: The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church; 8th Week in Ordinary Time
Tues: St. Bede the Venerable; St. Gregory VII; St. Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi
Wed: St. Philip Neri
Thurs: St. Augustine of Canterbury
Sat: St. Paul VI; Blessed Virgin Mary



Immaculate Conception Parish

Immaculate Conception Church & St. Joseph Church

Pastor: Rev. James J. Ward • Deacon: Mr. Jack Mroz

Immaculate Conception Rectory: 570-325-2791 • iccjt@ptd.net • www.iccjimthorpe.org
 St. Joseph Rectory: 570-325-3731 • stjosjt@ptd.net • www.saintjosephchurch-jimthorpe.org
St. Joseph Church side entrance is open daily for private prayer

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Tues. & Thurs. after 8 a.m. Mass @ SJC; Wednesdays, 6:30pm @ ICC
 Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator: Wendy S. Krisak, MA, NCC, LPC Direct Phone: 800-791-9209; Diocesan Secretary for Youth Protection: Pamela J. Russo, MSW, MS Phone: 610-871-5200, Ext. 2204; If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800-276-1562.

Pentecost Sunday

Sat. May 22

4:30 pm (ICC) **James Ward** (Judy & Jerry Nederostek) / **Meg Dougherty** (Salli Schatz)

Sun. May 23

9:00 am (SJC) **Marjorie Haggerty** (Vince & Butch Yaich) / **Theresa Schlenner** (Kim, Jerry, & Ian Miller)

Mon. May 17

8:00 am (ICC) **Frank Testa** (Joan Krasowski) / **Helene & Larry Volpi** (Regina M. Klein)

Tues. May 18

8:00 am (SJC) **Alexander "Pepsi" Cinicola** (Rick & Mary Alice Kuhn) /
Marianne (McDonald) Frazier (Dan & Marcia Evans)

Wed. May 19

private

Emma Marzen (Dinh Nguyen & Family of CA) / **Mary "Sis" McElmoyle** (Ned)

Thurs. May 20

8:00 am (SJC) **In Honor of Joseph & Barbara Greco on their 50th Wedding Anniversary** /
Margaret Martino (John & Mary McGuire)

Fri. May 21

8:00 am (ICC) **All Mothers** / **Margaret Grohol** (Margo Snyder)



The Most Holy Trinity

Sat. May 22

9:00 am (SJC) *Rosary for Life*

4:30 pm (ICC) **Millie & Augie Gulla** (DePuy Family) / **Bruce E. Steigerwalt** (M/M Richard Kuhn)

Sun. May 23

9:00 am (SJC) **Thomas J. Bechtel** (sister, Kay) / **Kenneth Huber** (Patricia Huber)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM ~ LORD, SEND OUT YOUR SPIRIT, AND RENEW THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE burns in Loving Memory of *brother, Jim on his 67th Birthday* (Love & Missed by Brothers & Sisters)

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE burns in Honor of *Mom-Mary Alice Kuhn* (From, Family)

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

BLESSED MOTHER: *Special Intention*

BLESSED MOTHER: In Loving Memory of *Louise Thear, 4th anniv.* (From her loving children, grandchildren & Families)

PARISH STEWARDSHIP: 5/2/21: \$ 5,938.00
Thank you for your continued support & generosity.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Mr. & Mrs. Joseph & Barbara Greco** on their 50th Wedding Anniversary!!





OOPS!! OUR SINCERE APOLOGIES on the incorrect Candle devotion last week for Mary Alice Kuhn, which was in Honor of her Birthday. **Happy Belated Birthday Mary Alice!!**

THE RECTORY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED this Friday, May 28 & Monday, May 31 for the Memorial Day Holiday Weekend.

FATHER'S DAY IS JUNE 20. Spiritual Bouquet envelopes are included in your mailed packet.



Please fill out the envelope and place in the collection basket at any Mass. The envelopes will be placed on the altar & those intentions will be remembered at all Masses the month of June.

MEMORIAL FUND: We would like to acknowledge a donation made in memory of **Emma Marzen** from Jeana DePuy & Family.

REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES WHO SERVED:

On Memorial Day weekend Immaculate Conception will be honoring those who served. If any parishioners have pictures of loved ones who served in the Armed Services you may drop them at the Rectory office or give them to Judy, to be part of the Memorial Weekend Mass.



2021 BECAUSE WE ARE CATHOLIC ANNUAL APPEAL.

Many thanks to those who have made a pledge to the Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal. Making a six-month pledge to the Appeal allows you to maximize the amount that you may give by making monthly payments. For example, a \$120 gift to the Appeal may be setup with six \$20 installments. Remember, every gift counts, no matter how small. Your generosity funds the annual budget for important Diocesan ministries in our area. You can make your gift online at BecauseWeAreCatholic.org.

REMINDER: The St. Joseph Ecumenical Food Pantry will be closed Saturday, May 29.

OFFERING COLLECTION/USHERS AT ICC: As we begin to welcome back more parishioners to Mass we will hopefully be able to resume having Ushers take up the collection at the Saturday Vigil Mass. Until then we will continue to utilize the Collection box between the Baptismal font and the side entrance for you to drop your offering envelopes either as you enter the Church or leave.

OFFERING ENVELOPES: The next date to make changes, corrections or additions to the envelope mailing will be the end of June for the set that will include Aug. & Sept. envelopes. Please notify either Rectory of any address changes/updates by June 28th. If you are attending Mass & would like to receive envelopes please contact us to be registered. Please note our envelope mailing policy is that if envelopes/contributions are not made for a period of 6-8 months we will stop the mailing to save on cost. We have relaxed this policy during the last year, but as we begin to return to a more normal schedule we will again be going over the envelope usage. If you have any questions please call the ICC Rectory, 570-325-2791 or email iccjt@ptd.net.

DO YOU BELIEVE THAT GOD MIGHT BE CALLING YOU

to discern the Ordained Ministry of Christ the Servant, as a Permanent Deacon in the Diocese of Allentown? If so, you & your family are invited to attend a **COME AND SEE EVENT** at Saint Joseph the Worker Parish Church, Orefield, on Fri., June 25th at 6pm, at which a reflection on the Ministry of the Order of Deacon, relevant application information, & an overview of the formation process will be given. Registration is required. Please register by emailing jstewart@allentowndiocese.org or call the Office of Permanent Diaconate Formation at 610-332-0442, ext 2031. Attendance by Zoom is also optional and the session will be recorded & made available to those who cannot attend.

LORD, SEND OUT YOUR SPIRIT~ In today's responsorial psalm the Church sings out: "Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth." All three readings describe how God has answered that prayer already.

In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles and in the Gospel passage from John, we read of astonishing events that called covering disciples to step out of hiding and proclaim news that would condemn them and change the world forever!

In the second reading Paul's words reach out into the future to us: "we were all given to drink of one Spirit" (1 Corinthians 12:13). It is our task to truly pray today's psalm response. Let us together beg the Holy Spirit to renew the earth by renewing the Church, sending many more men and women to serve in its various ministries.



© J.S. Paluch Co.

WEEK AT A GLANCE EVENTS

Tuesday, May 25: Catholic Daughters, 6pm
Friday, May 28: Flame of Love, 1pm
Friday, May 28: Rectory Offices closed