

A MESSAGE ON THE PENTECOST FEAST JUNE 8, 2025

“After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly” Acts 4:31



My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Pentecost is a feast celebrated fifty days after Easter Sunday and it commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ, as described in the New Testament book of Acts. This event marks the birth of the Christian Church.

Pentecost is significant for Catholics for many reasons.

The gift of the Holy Spirit. Pentecost is a reminder of the promise Jesus made to send the Holy Spirit to guide and empower his disciples. The Holy Spirit strengthens believers in their faith and helps them to live as followers of Christ.

Unity in diversity. The story of Pentecost emphasizes the unity of believers from different backgrounds and languages. It reminds us of the universal nature of the Church and the call to embrace diversity while working together for the common good.

Missionary enthusiasm. After receiving the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the apostles boldly proclaimed the message of Jesus Christ, leading to the spread of Christianity throughout the world. Pentecost challenges us to share our faith with others and participate in the Church's mission of evangelization.

This year's Pentecost carries unique significance, as it celebrates the 2000th anniversary of the birth of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, the beloved saint known for her "Little Way" of spiritual childhood. Throughout the year, Catholics around the globe will be commemorating the life and teachings of this humble Carmelite nun, whose unwavering faith and profound love for God continue to inspire countless souls. As we celebrate Pentecost 2025, let us draw inspiration from St. Thérèse's example of trust and surrender, allowing the Holy Spirit to lead us into a deeper understanding of God's love and our vocation.

Pentecost completes our celebration of Easter and it is a time of great joy and celebration within the Catholic Church. It is a reminder of the promise of the Holy Spirit to guide and strengthen believers throughout their earthly journey.

Blessings in Christ

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