

Proper Prayers of the Mass
Pentecost Sunday
Provided Courtesy of Una Voce Orange County

of Sinai or the mighty sound in the midst of which the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles.

Taught by the “light of Thy Holy Spirit” (*Collect*), and filled by the gifts of the same Spirit poured out upon them (*Sequence*), the apostles became new men to go forth and renewed the whole world (*Introit*).

The gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church means, effectively, for each one of us the fullness of the life of grace, beginning with baptism and coming in due course to full development. It meant the same for the Apostles, and, additionally, the passing on of this same life from a spring that will never run dry. Forgiveness of sins, justification, redemption, our adoption as sons, as the children of God, Christian charity, the communion of saints - all these which make up the riches and very life of the Church, have been, and still are, bestowed upon us in the Holy Ghost by the Apostles and the successors of the Apostles within the Church of God.

Pentecost is not merely the anniversary of a past event; it is an ever-living reality in the Church and in us. “Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Thy faithful, and kindle in them the fire of Thy love”: that is the fervent prayer of the Church at the *Alleluia* of the Mass every day of the Octave; we should make it our own and the Holy Spirit will come down upon us.

The Fathers were fond of comparing the miracle of Pentecost when men of all languages suddenly understood the speech of the Apostles, with the confusion of Babel when, in their revolt against God, men were brought to such a pass that they could no longer understand one another and were scattered. Pentecost which is the foundation of the Church, repairs the broken unity of mankind by bringing it back to God.

1. M. Meschler, S. J. *The Gift of Pentecost: Meditations on the Holy Ghost*, translated by Lady Amabel Kerr, p. 247.
2. St. Luke 24. 49.

Commentary From St. Andrew Daily Missal, 1952 ed.



They were all filled with the Holy Ghost