
Granville Catholic Church Record

Vol. II. No. 21.

May 24, 2026

Solemnity of Pentecost, Year A

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



PENTECOST *and the* BIRTH of the CHURCH

The mystery of Pentecost marks the great fulfilment of Easter and the Ascension, bringing the saving work of the Lord to its perfect completion. After the Ascending Lord disappeared from the sight of the Apostles, the small community of believers remained in the Upper Room, waiting in prayer for the promise of the Father. When the day of Pentecost arrived, the descent of the Holy Spirit transformed this frightened group into a courageous and living force. Within our Catholic tradition, this day is rightly celebrated as the birthday of the Church. Just as God breathed life into the first man at the creation of the world, the Holy Spirit was breathed into the young Church on this day, acting as its very soul. From that moment on, the Church was fully alive, ready to carry the light of Christ to the ends of the earth.

This reality has a direct and beautiful meaning for each and every one of us today. The Holy Spirit is not a distant power from the past, but the constant source of life within the Church and within our own souls.

Through the Sacraments, particularly Baptism and Confirmation, the Holy Spirit takes up residence in our hearts, guiding our thoughts and strengthening our wills. Whilst the Apostles received the visible signs of wind and tongues of fire, we receive the quiet, internal fruits of grace. This divine presence helps us to cultivate a holy fear of God - not a fear of punishment, but a deep reverence and love that makes us dread offending Him. It is in this interior grace that allows us to live out our faith in a world that often rejects it, giving us the supernatural strength to choose virtue over convenience.

Furthermore, Pentecost reminds us of the true nature of Christian unity. The Holy Spirit did not come to the Apostles as isolated individuals, but as a community gathered together in prayer with the Blessed Virgin Mary. In the same way, our relationship with God is intimately tied to our life within our parish. The Holy Spirit works through the structure and teachings of the Church to keep the faithful united in the one true faith across every

century and every nation. As we celebrate this great solemnity, we are invited to renew our dependence on this divine Guide, the Holy Spirit. We look to Him to refresh our tired souls, to heal our spiritual wounds, and to enkindle within us the fire of divine love. By yielding to His gentle promptings, we ensure that our lives reflect the holiness of the Church to which we belong.

We join our voices and hearts with the constant prayer of the Church throughout the ages, asking the Divine Comforter to renew the face of the earth and the hearts of all the faithful:



Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit and they shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth.

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

THE PARISH OFFICE

Address

200 The Trongate,
South Granville, N.S.W. 2142

T 0497 190 444

E granville@parracatholic.org

Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Parish Administrator

Rev. Fr. Galbert Albino

Assistant Priest

Rev. Fr. Joseph Nguyen

Business and Projects Manager

John Portelli

Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

Catechist Co-ordinator

Lana Leatherby

Piety Shop

Claudette Takchi and Annette Wirz

Holy Family Primary School

T (02) 8633-8200

Holy Trinity Primary School

T (02) 8633-8500

Delany College

T (02) 8633-8100

DONATIONS

BSB: 067-950

Account: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9:15 a.m.

Friday, 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, 9:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Confessions

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass

Second and fourth Sunday of the month,
11:00 a.m.

Rosters

Church and Toilets Cleaning

Flower Arranging

Samira Elias, David Elias, Juliet Nakhoul

SOCIAL MEDIA



holycrossgranville.org.au



HolyCrossGranville



Holy Cross Parish App



@holycrossgranville

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 8:15 a.m.

Thursday, 8:15 a.m.

Friday, 8:15 a.m.

Saturday, 8:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday, 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Holy Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Mass in Latin

First Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m.

Ghanaian Chaplaincy Mass

Second and last Sunday of the month,
11:30 a.m.

Vietnamese Chaplaincy Mass

Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

Rosters

Church Cleaning Group 3:
Vietnamese Community

Readers

Vigil Racquel La Rosa, Rosette Chidiac,
Rebecca Hanson

10:00 a.m. Merlin Sandhiya, Sisters, Mary
Georges

Children's Liturgy

Armani Barakat and Victor Liu

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Joseph Akkary, Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton,
John Augustus, Antonio Bifulco, Ann Blesson, John Borg,
Vincenzo Colosimo, Lucy Farrugia, Carmello Gioenco,
Evangeline Grabato, Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter
Higgins, Terese Jones, Therese Khalil, Jacob Lee, Josephine
Magro, Zoe Mrzljak, Sid Morgan, Scott Moulton, Ben
Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Don Provest, Ricardo
Tognini, Sam Wardan, Gerard Watts.



Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,
by the grace of your Holy Spirit
cure the weaknesses of your servants,
and mercifully restore them to full health.

IN MEMORIAM

Juanita Zavalla Adato, Gil Adato, Victor Azzopardi, Joseph
Baini, Carmen Bonello, Charlie Bonello, Dick Cahill, Gwen
Cahill, Vincent Cahill, Albert Camilleri, Les Camilleri, Tessie
Camilleri, Christine Derwin, Joe Paul Fehir, Alan Frost, Carmen
Galea, Maria Gambin, John Graham, Joe Grech, Mary Grech,
Sam Grech, Melissa Irons, Salim Karaki, Paul Karam, Chini
Maya Kc, Nouhad Khoury, Kaye King, Thomas Lam, Rustica La
Rosa, Laurie Lowe, Mouna Malkoun, Lucila De Manuel, Roy
McDonald, Aileen McIntyre, Jack McIntyre, Nancy McIntyre,
Marie McDonald, Giovanna Mondello, Santo Mondello,
Anthony Newell, Jessica Nguyen, Vincent Nguyen, Michael
O'Brien, Peter Olsen, Zackary Orenshaw, Doris Pickering,
Edward Pidgeon, Robert Pidgeon, Sheila Pidgeon, Peter
Robertson, Grace Saliba, Louis Saliba, Garry Smith, Alex
Taktak, Anthony Vella, John Vella, Peter Van Duc Vu, Graham
Wales, Carmel Watts, Phyllis Webb, Mershed Wehbe, Yasmine
Wehbe, William Yott, Dib Zaiter, Laila Zaiter, Jessie Zammit

Solemnity of Our Lady, Help of Christians Holy Mass

Join us in honouring the Solemnity of Our Lady, Help of Christians, the immaculate patroness of Australia.

While the Solemnity of Our Lady, Help of Christians is traditionally honoured every year on 24 May, the solemnity is transferred to Monday 25 May this year, as Sunday marks the great Solemnity of Pentecost.

To honour the day, two Masses will be offered across the parish on Monday, the first being at Holy Trinity Church at 8:15 a.m. and the second being at Holy Family Church at 6:00 p.m.

Make a serious and devoted effort to attend Mass on Monday, to honour our Blessed Mother and to implore her holy intercession and protection over our nation.

Let us kneel before the altar to beg her assistance for our families, our parish, and our homeland. By assisting at the Holy Sacrifice, we testify to our faith and our love for her Immaculate Heart. May her graces guide us always.

Silver Jubilee Celebrations for Fr. Joseph Nguyen

Parishioners are warmly invited to Holy Trinity Church next Saturday, 30th May at 11:00 a.m. as we celebrate a special Mass of Thanksgiving to honour the 25th Anniversary of Ordination for our Assistant Priest, Father Joseph, marking twenty-five years of faithful service and ministry.

Following the Mass, the festivities will continue in the primary school grounds. It is a wonderful opportunity for us to gather, celebrate, and show our sincere appreciation for Father Joseph's vocation and his service to Almighty God and the Church. May he be blessed in abundance for his faithful service.

Fr. Galbert On Annual Leave

Please be advised that our Parish Administrator, Fr. Galbert, will be away on annual leave for 3 weeks commencing this Sunday, and returning in mid-June.

During this time, the Parish Office and Mass schedule will remain as normal, and Fr. Joseph will also be available if required.

We wish Fr. Galbert an enjoyable time away as he takes time to visit his family and loved ones. We pray for his safe travels and return, asking God to bless his time away.

Diocese of Parramatta Bishop's Good Works Appeal

Across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, people turn to the Church for care, hope, guidance and belonging. Through the Bishop's Good Works Appeal, our Diocese supports vital ministries including Holy Spirit Seminary, Catholic Care, the Ephpheta Centre and the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.

Over the coming weeks, this Appeal will support Holy Spirit Seminary at Harris Park, helping form the future priests our Diocese will need in the years ahead. Your generosity provides education, spiritual formation, pastoral training and safe accommodation for seminarians as they answer God's call. Please give generously at parracatholic.org/appeal or scan the QR code. Thank you for supporting the future priests of our Church.



Wednesday Adoration at Holy Family Church

Please note that weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be temporarily cancelled during Fr Galbert's upcoming leave. Adoration will resume its usual schedule on Wednesday, 15 June.

During this time, Holy Mass will continue to be offered as normal on Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. The Sacrament of Penance (confession) will also remain available at the usual scheduled time. Please maintain your regular devotions and attendance at the Holy Mass during Fr. Galbert's absence.

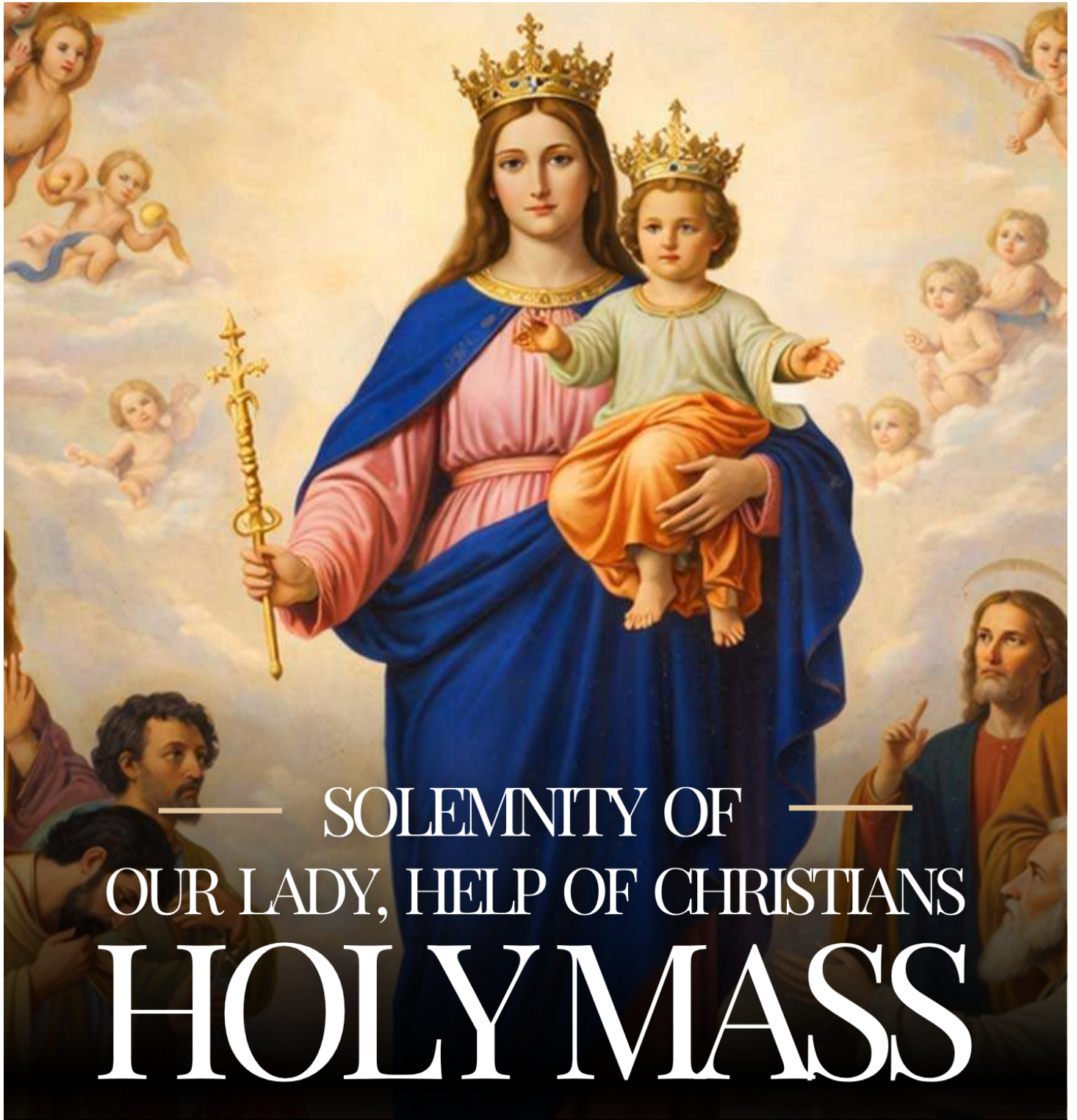
Holy Trinity Church Audio System Upgrade Appeal

Thanks to those who have already reached out regarding the audio system at Holy Trinity Church. This system has been the backbone of our communications during Holy Mass for many years, but it is now in need of upgrading.

This essential upgrade is a continued part of our long-term refurbishment and restoration program, which has been effectively improving both parish churches for many years. To ensure that every parishioner can hear the prayers and the Word of God with absolute clarity, we are hoping to install a modern, professional-grade system to provide vastly improved sound coverage in all parts of the church.

We continue to seek major sponsors and significant donations to fund this vital work. While we understand current cost of living pressures, we invite those in a position to do so to consider a significant financial contribution. Please contact the Parish Office during the week to discuss how you can help.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.



— SOLEMNITY OF —
OUR LADY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS
HOLY MASS

MONDAY, 25 MAY 2026

Holy Trinity Church: 8:15AM

Holy Family Church: 6:00PM





SOLEMNITY *of* OUR LADY, HELP *of* CHRISTIANS

The Solemnity of Our Lady, Help of Christians holds a deeply unique and historical place in the heart of the Church in Australia. While nations across the globe look to various patrons for guidance, the faithful of the Great Southern Land of the Holy Spirit have long rested under the mantle of the Mother of God under this specific, powerful title. As the first patronal feast officially granted to the nation, this solemnity invites us to pause, reflect, and renew our devotion to she, who has never failed to assist her children in times of need.

To understand the depth of this feast, we look back to its origins. The title *Auxilium Christianorum* - Help of Christians - has echoed through the centuries, most famously inserted into the Litany of Loreto following the miraculous victory at the Battle of Lepanto in 1571. Later, in 1814, Pope Pius VII established the feast day on 24 May as a thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin after he was released from years of Napoleonic captivity.

For Australia, the connection is providential. In the early days of European settlement, when priests were few and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was a rare privilege, the early Catholic pioneers kept the flame of faith alive through the recitation of the Holy Rosary. Left without the sacraments for long periods, they threw themselves entirely upon the maternal protection of Mary. When the first cathedral in

Sydney was built, it was fittingly dedicated to Saint Mary under this very title. She was their anchor, their comfort, and their certain hope.

In our contemporary world, the necessity of Mary's help has not diminished: if anything, it has grown more urgent. We face subtle and pervasive challenges to the family, to the practice of faith, and to the preservation of sacred traditions. The solemnity reminds us that we do not fight these spiritual battles alone. Just as she stood steadfast at the foot of the Cross, Mary stands alongside the Church today, offering her maternal aid to all who ask.

True devotion to Our Lady, Help of Christians is not a passive sentiment. It demands a deliberate imitation of her virtues: her profound humility, her absolute purity, and her unwavering obedience to the will of God. When we pray, "Mary, Help of Christians, pray for us," we are not merely asking for an easy path through life's trials. We are asking for the grace to say *fiat* - let it be done - just as she did at the Annunciation. We ask for the strength to remain faithful to the teachings of Christ and His Church, even when the surrounding culture turns away.

This year brings a beautiful convergence in our liturgical calendar. Because the traditional date of 24 May falls on a Sunday, it yields place to the great Solemnity of Pentecost. Consequently, our national patronal feast is transferred to

Monday, 25 May. Far from obscuring our devotion, this shift offers a profound spiritual reflection: the Mother of the Church, who stood in prayer with the Apostles in the Upper Room as the Holy Spirit descended, ushers us directly from the fire of Pentecost into the celebration of her own maternal assistance.

As we observe this transferred Solemnity on Monday, let us approach our Heavenly Mother with the confidence of children. We can bring her our personal anxieties, our family struggles, and our prayers for the renewal of the Church in our land. We might consider praying a family Rosary, spending time in quiet adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, or making an act of consecration to her Immaculate Heart.

The early Australian Catholics build a foundation of faith on nothing more than a string of beads and a profound trust in Mary's intercession. As heirs to that beautiful legacy, let us look to the southern skies with renewed confidence. Our Lady, Help of Christians remains the steady star guiding us through the stormy waters of this life, always pointing the way to her Divine Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ. Under her patronage, we find our refuge; in her prayers, we find our strength, confident that she who protected our ancestors will continue to shield and guide us for generations to come. May we ever remain true to her patronage.

HOLY CROSS PARISH GRANVILLE

SUNDAY 7TH JUNE 2026

Corpus Christi

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

10:00AM

HOLY MASS FOLLOWED BY
PROCESSION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

*Holy Trinity Church
Cnr. Randle St. & Bennalong St. Granville*



Saints & STUFF

St. Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi

Closing out May, we look to St. Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi, whose feast day is 25 May. This 16th-century Florentine Carmelite nun is one of the most intriguing mystics in Church history, known for experiencing intense spiritual "highs and lows" that offer great encouragement for anyone navigating their own faith journey.

Following her profession of vows, she experienced an extraordinary five-year period of intense spiritual ecstasy, during which she could speak rapidly about deep theological mysteries while completely detached from her physical surroundings. Because she spoke so quickly, her fellow sisters had to write her words down verbatim, resulting in volumes of profound spiritual text.

However, this period was followed by five years of severe "spiritual dryness" and temptation, which she called her "lion's den." She felt completely abandoned by God, yet her faith never wavered.

She serves as a powerful witness to the enduring presence of the Holy Spirit. Her life reminds us that holiness is not about constant emotional highs, but about resilient fidelity, proving that God is just as present in our moments of emptiness as He is in our moments of joy.

*St. Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi,
pray for us!*

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Gift of the Holy Spirit

731 On the day of Pentecost when the seven weeks of Easter had come to an end, Christ's Passover is fulfilled in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, manifested, given, and communicated as a divine person: of his fullness, Christ, the Lord, pours out the Spirit in abundance.

736 By this power of the Spirit, God's children can bear fruit. He who has grafted us onto the true vine will make us bear "the fruit of the Spirit: . . . love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control." "We live by the Spirit"; the more we renounce ourselves, the more we "walk by the Spirit."

767 When the work which the Father gave the Son to do on earth was accomplished, the Holy Spirit was sent on the day of Pentecost in order that he might continually sanctify the Church. Then the Church was openly displayed to the crowds and the spread of the Gospel among the nations, through preaching, was begun.

976 It was when he gave the Holy Spirit to his apostles that the risen Christ conferred on them his own divine power to forgive sins: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

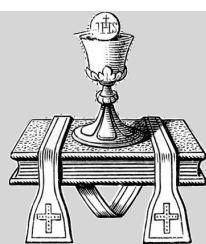
CATHOLIC Trivia

Gargoyles: Faith's Guardians

Gargoyles are perhaps the most misunderstood inhabitants of our historic cathedrals. While we often group all stone carvings on these buildings under one name, true gargoyles serve a very specific, practical purpose: they are functional water spouts. The word itself comes from the French gargoille, meaning "throat," which describes how these stone creatures carry rainwater away from a building's foundation, preventing erosion.

In the medieval imagination, gargoyles were far more than clever plumbing. They stood as stone guardians, often depicted as grotesque beasts, demons, or hybrid animals. Their presence on the exterior of sacred spaces served as a "visual sermon," reminding the faithful that evil, sin, and chaos were kept on the outside, while the interior of the church remained a place of peace and sanctuary.

Interestingly, carvings that do not spout water are technically called "grotesques" or "chimeras." While gargoyles protect the walls, these silent stone figures watch over the city. Together, they form a fascinating bridge between architecture and theology. They remind us that even in the most beautiful places, there is a complex, acknowledgment of the struggle between light and darkness.



MASS MATTERS

The Confiteor

During the Introductory Rites, we enter the Penitential Act, frequently praying the Confiteor ("I confess to almighty God..."). This significant prayer calls for total honesty as we acknowledge our sins before God and the entire heavenly court, preparing our hearts to encounter the Holy of Holies.

As we say the words, "through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault," we strike our breast with a clenched fist. This ancient gesture, rooted in scripture, is a visible sign of interior repentance and personal accountability. By striking the chest over the heart, we express true sorrow for our failings. Cleansed by this collective humility, we are ready to proceed on our sacred pilgrimage.

Solemnity of Pentecost, Year A

The Readings

Introit

(Wisdom 1:7)

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world
and that which contains all things
understands what is said, alleluia.

First Reading

The Acts of the Apostles

(Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11)

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

Responsorial Psalm

(Ps 103:1. 24. 29-31. 34. R. v.30)

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

Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches. **R.**

You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. **R.**

May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord. **R.**

Second Reading

First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

(1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13)

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

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!
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!

Gospel

The Gospel of John

(John 20:19-23)

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven: for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Communio

(Acts of the Apostles 2:4,11)

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

*Take a copy of this bulletin home with you
for important news and information.*