

MAY 15, 2016

SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST



ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 2:1–11

PSALM 104:1, 24, 29–30, 31, 34

1 CORINTHIANS 12:3B–7,
12–13 OR ROMANS 8:8–17

JOHN 20:19–23 OR
JOHN 14:15–16, 23B–26

REFLECTION

Pentecost Sunday is often called the birthday of the Church, since the Apostles received the Holy Spirit and began spreading the Good News of Jesus' life and Resurrection on that day. It is important to note that the Church begins when the Spirit is received. On this Sunday, we remember that, while we are a human institution with many faults, we as a Church are guided by the Holy Spirit. With each new year, we grow deeper in our understanding of God's will. On our birthdays, we often think about where we are in our own growth. We consider the ways in which we have changed over the past year, and we make birthday wishes that reflect the things we hope will happen in the coming year.



Listen to a contemporary arrangement of the ancient Christian prayer,
Veni Creator Spiritus.

JOHN ANGOTTI

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jUIZ_2ly8BY

ACTION

This Sunday, think about yourself as another year older in the life of the Church. In what ways have you grown in faith over the past year? What "wishes" or intentions do you have for your growth in faith and service of God over the next year? You might want to write down your intentions on a piece of red paper (red being the liturgical color for Pentecost) and put it in your desk drawer or wallet. Over the course of the year, every time you see the piece of red paper sticking out, you will be reminded of your intentions.

JOURNALING QUESTIONS

- In what ways have you experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit?
- What does the Spirit inspire you to be or to do?