

Pentecost Sunday May 23, 2021

There are different kinds of
spiritual gifts
but the same Spirit.

— 1 Corinthians 12:4

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 cowering 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.

FEAST OF FAITH

Liturgy: Work of the Spirit

The Spirit of God who hovered over the waters at the dawn of creation—the Holy Spirit who descended upon the disciples at Pentecost in ever-changing forms in the sound of a mighty wind or tongues of flame—hovers also over our celebration of the liturgy, giving it life, making it real. It is the Spirit of God who draws us, gathering us together, Sunday after Sunday. It is the Spirit of God who called loudly to the inspired writers of the scriptures and who continues to whisper to us, revealing ever-new facets of God's word, granting insight just when we need it. It is by the Spirit's power that, when Christ's words are uttered by the priest, the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. And it is surely the Spirit who inspires us—that is, breathes in us—when, sent forth from the assembly, we seek ways to serve our brothers and sisters, to allow the gospel to come to life in the world. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14; Ps 87:1-3, 5-7; Jn 19:25-34
Tuesday:	Sir 35:1-12; Ps 50:5-8, 14, 23; Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday:	Sir 36:1, 4-5a, 10-17; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Mk 10:32-45
Thursday:	Sir 42:15-25; Ps 33:2-9; Mk 10:46-52
Friday:	Sir 44:1, 9-13; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Mk 11:11-26
Saturday:	Sir 51:12cd-20; Ps 19:8-11; Mk 11:27-33
Sunday:	Dt 4:32-34, 39-40; Ps 33:4-6, 9, 18-20, 22; Rom 8:14-17; Mt 28:16-20

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday:	The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church
Tuesday:	St. Bede the Venerable; St. Gregory VII; St. Mary Magdelene de'Pazzi
Wednesday:	St. Philip Neri
Thursday:	St. Augustine of Canterbury
Saturday:	St. Paul VI; Blessed Virgin Mary

WEEKLY



Finance Corner: Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated! For the month of **May** offerings: PLEASE mail to St. Philip/St. Teresa Parish, P. O. Box 339, Occidental CA 95465. Or donate at our website www.stphilipstteresa.org via Paypal or card. Please include your offering envelope # [if you have one] with your donation. Bless you!
5/23: No 2nd collection. 5/30: Rural Food. 6/6: Diocesan Priest Ben Welfare.

Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

Parish Council [PC]: TBA

Finance Council [FC]: TBA

Liturgy Committee: TBA

St. Teresa Ladies Guild: Contact Diane, 823-6044

St. Philip Ladies Guild: Contact Penny, 559-367-7403

Centering Prayer ZOOM: Tues. noon/Fri. 930am - info www.stphilipstteresa.org

✠ ♥ ✠ Mass Intentions ✠ ♥ ✠ Schedule

Email or voicemail the office to request a future Wed/Thurs/Sun Mass Intention. (\$10 offering is mailed to PO Box 339, Occidental CA 95465.)

5/23 Sun. 8am Mass ✠ Jacqueline Windler

5/23 Sun. 9:30am Mass ✠ Linda Anne Smith

5/30 Sun. 8am Mass for the People

5/30 Sun. 9:30am Mass Andrew Zeller

Prayer Requests: Please leave a message at 707-408-2650 to add or remove a name from the next bulletin. Thank you.

Teresa K., Pat K., Thomas T., Susan B., Lorri McC., Sarah, Clifford J., Terri A., Fred P., Theresa S., Sara, Mary Anne P., Barbara, Dave C., Jim P., William, Parson P., Dave, Mary O., Bill Z., Daniel, Sally T., Michael D., Richard M., Kathleen, Peter, Rosa S., Susan B., Joyce D., Anita C., George H., Mimi H, Steve, Barry, Lorrin K., Hugh P., Robert S., Britney N., Chuck, Rebecca A., April K., Jacinta G., Leo A., Ed C. family, Kathy R., Donna W., Jim K., Sherry S., Papke family., Gail F., Marie N., Christine, James, Gary S., Peter R., Gerry N., Diane K., Janet K., Norma M., Elaine J.



RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE for May 2021:

On Tuesday, May 11, 51 families (37 children, 18 seniors, 78 adults) received nutritional support during our drive through distribution at the St Philips Parking lot. Thanks to suggestions from our clients we increased our publicity efforts about our program. Thanks to our parishioners who helped spread the word about our Rural Food program, we saw an increase in our client attendance. Both new clients and former clients returned to receive nutritional support this month.

If you are aware of a family which needs nutritional assistance, please let them know about our program. Leave a message at the parish office, (707) 408-2650 to get a call back with additional information.

This program is funded through monthly Rural Food Collection, private donations and the dedicated, awesome volunteers. **Thank you for your generous donations as we strive to meet the nutritional needs of all attendees at our food distributions.**

RURAL FOOD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES in the Parish Hall and parking area: Saturday, June 5, 9-10:00 am repackaging; Monday, June 7, 9:00 - 11:00am set up; and Tuesday, June 8, 7:30a - 11:00am to distribute food to clients.

Pastor Speaks...

We ask that you refrain from talking aloud when you enter church prior to Mass and leave church after Mass, out of respect for the presence of the Blessed Sacrament and respect for those who wish to pray. If you must talk, please keep it to a whisper. This will be greatly appreciated.

From Sunday May 16, we resume our practice of distributing Holy Communion during Mass with due restrictions and procedures.

It has been the tradition at our parish to have a 9am Mass out at our own Bodega Calvary Cemetery on Memorial Day. *This occasion on May 31 will join us in prayer for those who have died in war that we might live in peace, and for all who are interred in our cemetery.*

Beginning on Sunday May 30, the 9:30am Mass at St. Teresa's will be held inside the Church. County COVID guidelines requiring masks and social distancing will be followed. Please join us in celebration.

Starting Tuesday June 1, we resume the 9am Masses on Tuesdays and Fridays, in addition to the 9am Masses already occurring on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Thank you.
Fr. Bala



Illustration from the 11th-century *Svyatoslav Miscellany* depicting the Church Fathers (Source: [Wikimedia Commons](#))

Deacon-structing Church Fathers, part 1

by [Deacon Pedro](#)

All throughout the season of Easter we've been learning about the men and women saints that the Church calls "doctors" for their contributions to Catholic teaching (see [Deacon-structing Doctors of the Church](#)).

As I also learned about the Doctors of the Church, it didn't take long for me to begin wondering about the men whom the Church calls "Fathers" (since many of the Doctors are also called "Fathers"). Even though I did not have to study "Patristics", I know that this is a basic theology course for anyone in seminary. My understanding was that studying Patristics means studying the writings of the Church Fathers.

Then I received an email from Joe Atkinson of North York, Ontario who wrote:

"A quick thank you very much for the outlines of the Doctors of the Church. It filled in several gaps for me. Much appreciated. Now, I would love to see the same thing for the men who are called the Fathers of the

Church. Have you (or someone else) done this? I am sure there must be a few women among them, but no one has been bold enough to call them Mothers of the Church, except of course for Our Lady, the Virgin Mary, herself."

I didn't need more encouragement.

When I went to check, I discovered that it's not so simple: We have Early Church Fathers, Eastern and Western Great Fathers, Apostolic Fathers, Syriac Fathers, and also Desert Fathers (no Church Mothers, sorry Joe, but I promise to keep searching).

Patristics (sometimes also referred to as Patrology) is the study of the writings of some of these early Church Fathers. The name comes from the Latin word for father: *pater*. Patristics only covers the early period of the Church, from the second century (after the end of the New Testament) to either the Council of Chalcedon (AD 451) or the Second Council of Nicaea (AD 787). Everything that we know about the early Church following the Gospels and the writings of the Apostles we know from the writings of these men.

Some of the Early Church Fathers are considered **Great Fathers**. They are divided between those in the Western (or Latin) Church and those in the Eastern (Greek) Church:

Western Church

Ambrose (340–397)

Jerome (347–420)

Augustine of Hippo (354–430)

Pope Gregory I (540–604)

Eastern Church

Athanasius of Alexandria (c.296 or 298–373)

Gregory of Nazianzus (329–c.390)

Basil of Caesarea (c.330–379)

John Chrysostom (347–407)

You will recognize that all of them are also Doctors of the Church.

Other than these, the most prominent Church Fathers in the Patristic era are:

Ignatius of Antioch, Clement of Rome, Polycarp, Justin Martyr, Irenaeus of Lyons, Clement of Alexandria, Tertullian, Origen, Cyprian of Carthage, Gregory of Nyssa, Cyril of Alexandria, Maximus the Confessor, Isaac of Nineveh, and John Damascene.

Of this list, Cyril of Alexandria and John Damascene are also Doctors of the Church.

Let's begin with the first three, who are known as the Apostolic Fathers because they lived in the 1st and 2nd centuries. Their writings are the principal sources about the early Church in the two or three generations following the Apostles:

Apostolic Fathers

Ignatius of Antioch (c.35–c.108) was a disciple of the Apostle John and the third Bishop of Antioch. Tradition holds that St. Peter himself left instructions that Ignatius should be appointed Bishop of Antioch. There is also a tradition that he was one of the children that Jesus took into his arms and blessed in Matthew 19, Mark 10, and Luke 18. Ignatius is mainly known for the letters he wrote on his way to martyrdom in Rome. Read more about him [here](#).

Clement of Rome (?–c.101) is named in the 1st Eucharistic Prayer as the fourth successor of St. Peter as Bishop of Rome. However, there is a tradition that says he was consecrated by Peter and may have actually succeeded Peter as pope (all three, Linus, Cletus, and Clement may have been consecrated as bishops by Peter at the same time). It is very likely that he is also the Clement that St. Paul refers to in Philippians 4:3. He was also martyred and is remembered mainly for his epistle to the Corinthians.

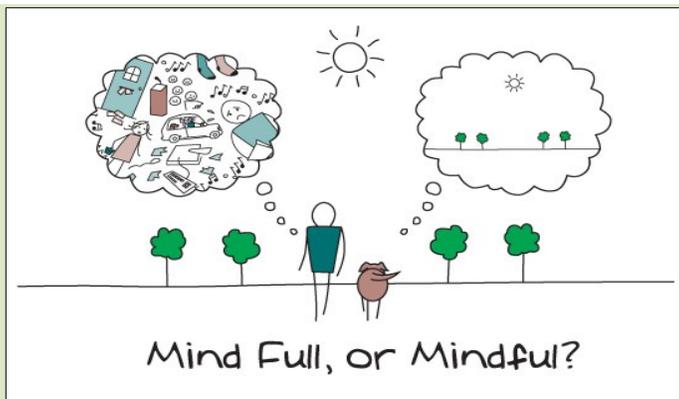
Polycarp of Smyrna (c.69–c.155) was a friend of Ignatius of Antioch, a disciple of the Apostle John, and Bishop of Smyrna (in present-day Turkey). Tradition holds that St. John himself ordained him Bishop of Smyrna. Together with Ignatius and Clement, Polycarp's writings are the earliest Patristic writings that we still have. He is remembered for his martyrdom, where tradition holds that he was stabbed multiple times when the flames of the stake he was tied to failed to consume him. Less known but also considered one of the Apostolic Fathers is **Papias of Hierapolis**, who was a companion of Polycarp and also a disciple of St. John. Hierapolis was a Greek city, near Ephesus, in what is present-day Turkey, where the [Apostles Philip and Nathaniel were martyred](#). There is a tradition that holds that Papias learned from the daughters of Philip. In his writings, Papias refers to "John the Elder", which could refer to a different John other than John the Apostle, John the Evangelist, or even John of Patmos (which could all be the same John as well). It is in one of these writings that we learn that the evangelist Mark was the interpreter for St. Peter and wrote the Gospel "accurately as many things as he recalled from memory – though not in ordered form". Although many fragments still exist of Papias' writings, any full texts are lost.

If you want to know what the Church was like in that first century, after the time of the Apostles, you have to read the writings of our Apostolic Fathers.

Come back next week and we'll look at the Greek (or Eastern) Church Fathers.



Every week, Deacon Pedro takes a particular topic apart, not so much to explore or explain the subject to its fullness, but rather to provide insights that will deepen our understanding of the subject. Contact: pedro@saltandlighttv.org.



Pause for Prayer: Thursday 5/20

Concord Pastor

by One of the benefits of these twice daily posts is how they remind us to stop and make some time for prayer. Regardless of the content of what's posted, the very titles, Pause for Prayer, Night Prayer, call attention to attend to our relationship with God. Attending to our relationship with God, paying attention amid all the distractions...

Amid all the distractions
whirling within and around me,
help me stop each day to pause, to pray
to pay attention, Lord - to you...

Help me pay attention
to how *you* pay attention to *me*:
24/7, ever watchful in your vigil,
day and night...

Help me attend to any words you speak,
you whisper in my heart:
words to guard and guide me
and keep me from harm's way...

Help me attend to your Spirit,
moving in my mind, my thoughts;
help me respond to what you ask of me
and walk the path you chart for me each day...

Help me pay attention to all whose paths
cross mine today:
help me attend to their burdens and their needs
and what gifts of peace they offer me...

Make me mindful of you, Lord,
of how you're ever mindful of me:
in the quiet of my prayer help me attend
to your presence in my heart...

Amen.



Chapter Talk – May 9, 2021, cycle-B

Fr. Hans Urs von Balthasar comments on Sunday's gospel: "Remain in my love." These words are to remain alive in the hearts of believers, permitting Jesus to address us inwardly in heart and conscience long after he no longer lives among us outwardly" (Light of the Word, p.193). 'Remain in my love': these words are to be alive in and upon our hearts; they also are to be alive upon our daily consciousness and conscience. Are they? Do we hear the Divine voice speaking to us: 'My love is with you, remain in my love'? This is our essential task as monastics no matter where we are or what we are doing: to remain in this transforming, healing love of our God.

Furthermore, Von Balthasar writes: "These words of farewell are also an irrevocable promise, an assurance that includes, sealed within itself, a requirement....His farewell promises are so overwhelmingly immense that they simply contain within themselves the demands they make of us. Has he not communicated to us the entire abyss of God's love and chosen us to live within it" (Light of the Word, p.193). To live within the 'abyss

of God's love' includes demands, demands that are inherent in the gift. We often operate out of this: I must be loving because this is the Christian thing to do. While morally this is fine, theologically and spiritually there is something deeper and truer to what Jesus is communicating. The requirement or the demands placed upon us are held within the love that we are to remain in.

In other words, as we abide in Christ's love the demands inherent in this love are something we want to do because we have experienced this love from inside...and it has changed us. And, further, we want to love because in the act of loving we are close to Christ, we participate in his life and become more like him in our words and deeds.

Abiding in Christ's love is not the 'reward' per se. Thomas Merton has written: "The reward is in the fact that love is exercised" (CF-13, p.83). There is no separation between abiding, remaining in God's love and living from that love. They are one, flowing one from the other.

'Remain in my love': let us take a few minutes of silent meditative prayer, letting these words of Jesus circle around our hearts and our lives...

Sr. Kathy DeVico, Abbess



Hollywood on the Tiber: When Francis met Redford

by [Deacon Greg Kandra](#) 12.4.19

Here's something you don't see every day: Robert Redford and the Holy Father.

Rome Reports has an interesting roundup of celebrities who have lined up to meet him – and, in some cases, even kiss his ring.



Cardinal Parolin: Vatican wants to 'do everything possible' to end Israel-Gaza conflict

By [Courtney Mares](#)

Vatican City, May 19, 2021 / 05:00 am America/Denver (CNA).

The Vatican Secretary of State said Tuesday that the Holy See is committed to doing everything it can to help end the Israel-Gaza conflict.

"This conflict is bringing destruction and death," Cardinal Pietro Parolin told journalists in Rome May 18.

Parolin said that the Holy See is concerned that international efforts to reach a cease-fire have not been successful and that the Vatican wishes to "do everything possible to stop the conflict."

He added that he does not see the Holy See as acting as a "mediator, in the technical sense of the word," under the current conditions, stressing the importance of direct negotiations.

"It's necessary that any action, any initiative of goodwill, must lead to a cease-fire. Direct negotiations must be taken up again between the two sides, in such a way that puts an end to this age-old conflict and reaches a solution," he said.

"The solution ought to be in keeping with the two-state solution, which will enable each of them to live in peace."

The cardinal made the comments at a book launch at the Italian Embassy to the Holy See's Palazzo Borromeo. Parolin's [full remarks](#) at the event were published by Exaudi News.

The [book](#) is an Italian biography of Mario Agnes, who served as president of Catholic Action and later editor-in-chief of *L'Osservatore Romano* from 1984 until his retirement in 2007.

"If there is one episode that more than others summarizes Agnes' attitude towards the theme of peace, it is the title 'Never again war,' written in large letters, on the occasion of the Gulf War," Parolin said in his prepared remarks.

"In a comment published on March 10, 1991, after the 'cease-fire' in Iraq while popular uprisings are raging in the country, Agnes stated: 'In establishing justice and working for peace, one cannot continue to ignore a problem that is at the bottom of many other problems: the indiscriminate trade in arms of all kinds. Unscrupulously arming the poor to fight each other and pretending that this is a non-existent or irrelevant fact is an ignoble action that cries out for vengeance in the sight of God.'"

Parolin said that Pope Francis would discuss the Israeli-Palestinian conflict when he meets with Ursula von der Leyen, the president of the European Commission, on May 22.