

Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church



Pentecost Sunday May 19, 2024

66192 St. Mary Drive, Pearl River, Louisiana, 70452
www.sppcprla.com email: info@sppcprla.com

ABOUT OUR PARISH

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday
5:00 p.m.

Sunday
7:00 a.m.
8:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon	No Mass
Tue	8:00 a.m.
Wed	6:30 p.m.
Thu	8:00 a.m.
Fri	8:00 a.m.

HOLY DAY MASSES

Vigil and Holy Day Mass times vary; please see bulletin or website

SPECIAL DEVOTIONS

Tuesday: St. Jude Novena following
8:00 a.m. Mass

Thursday: Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Novena following 8:00 a.m. Mass

Thursday: Patriotic Rosary in Church
6:30 p.m.

First Friday: The Most Blessed Sacrament
and Eucharistic Adoration following 8:00 a.m.
Mass until 5:00 p.m. closing
with Benediction

First Saturday: Mass at 8:00 a.m. followed
by the Rosary and Confession

RECONCILIATION

Sat	4:00-4:45 p.m.
Wed	6:00-6:15 p.m.
Or by request	

YOUR CLERGY

Most Rev. Gregory M. Aymond, D.D.
Archbishop of New Orleans

Very Rev. Gerald Seiler
Dean, Deanery X

Fr. Kevin DeLerno
Pastor

Deacon Francis "Frank" Drake
(Retired)

YOUR STAFF

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Jerry Broussard
Facility Custodian

OFFICE HOURS

Monday 1:00-3:00
Tuesday-Thursday 8:00-3:00
Friday 8:00a.m.-3:00 p.m.

CONTACT US

Main Office
985-863-7935

Fax

985-863-5431

Parish Mission Statement

It is the mission of our Church Parish to follow the commands of Jesus to Saints Peter and Paul: "Feed My sheep" and "Carry My name among the nations."

REGISTER

If you are new to the parish, we invite you to register by filling out a form located in the holder at the Church entrances and place it in the collection basket or come by the office.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism

Usually the third Sunday of the month (except during Lent) following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Please call for registration forms at least **three weeks** in advance.

Matrimony

By appointment with the parish priest or deacon at least **six months** in advance. No other arrangements should be made before contacting the priest.

Anointing of the Sick

Upon request for the seriously ill, infirm and those undergoing major surgery. Please contact the Church Office when someone is homebound or hospitalized and in need of the sacrament.

Communion for Ill/Shut-In

Please call the Church Office if you know of anyone who would benefit from this ministry.

Funerals

Families should contact the priest (office) before making arrangements.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Tuesday Morning Rosary—Tuesday after 8:00 a.m. Mass and St. Jude Novena in Parish Hall

Legion of Mary—Thursday 10:00 a.m. St. Anthony Hall

Patriotic Rosary—Thursday 6:30 p.m. in church

CAUTION: SPIRIT AT WORK

If Pentecost celebrates the gifts of the Spirit, it can tempt us to separate the Spirit from the Father and Jesus. Sometimes we think of the Father as the God of the Old Testament, Jesus as center of New Testament, and the Spirit as God of the present age, almost as if the Father and Jesus were enjoying their retirement. Actually, all three persons share one God-life. Instead of three gods debating the fate of the universe, we have one God who is over all and in all.

The Spirit has been active in all ages. The prophets were empowered by the Spirit to proclaim God's word to Israel. Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit led Jesus into the desert at the beginning of his ministry. (Search the word "spirit" in the four gospels and it appears 75 times.) Jesus was filled with the Spirit as he preached and worked miracles. Then at Pentecost the disciples were filled with the Spirit.

So what about Pentecost? It is really about using our gifts and sharing the good news. The Spirit gives us the power, courage, and energy to do this. The Spirit's gifts are meant to be shared. The prophets could not help proclaim God's message. Jesus shared all he knew with his disciples. The disciples went out to the world to spread the news of Jesus' death and resurrection. So we, too, are given gifts to be shared.

The greatest gift we have been given is the news of our salvation. This feast reminds us to share that with others. We may do that by example, as when we worship together, forgive others, give to the poor or help someone in need. We can also share that news by teaching our children about God and his love for them, teaching them to pray, or sharing our faith with other adults. As we come to realize how much God has done for us and how close he is to us, we will want to share that with others. Obviously, we can't make everyone believe in Jesus. But how sad would it be if someone we know was looking for the truth and we neglected to offer it?

Tom Schmidt

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, May 20

(Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14; Jn 19:25-34)

No Mass Scheduled

Tuesday, May 21

(Jas 4:1-10; Mk 9:30-37)

8:00 a.m. Wanda Morel

Wednesday, May 22

(Jas 4:13-17; Mk 9:38-40)

6:30 p.m. Purgatorial Society

Thursday, May 23

(Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:41-50)

8:00 a.m. Debra Goodey

Friday, May 24

(Jas 5:9-12; Mk 10:1-12)

8:00 a.m. Eirich Family

Saturday, May 25

(Jas 5:13-20; Mk 10:13-16)

5:00 p.m. Joseph D'Antoni, Jr.†, Roszczynialski/Stottman Family, Poor Souls in Purgatory, Lee & Yvonne Tracey†, Ken & Adele Salzer†, Danny Ragusa, Sr.†, Sarah Stokes, Eleanor Strickland, Earline Garitty†, Altar Society Members, Antonians & Benefactors, Claude Yarborough†, Lawrence Otillio†, Lee Ann Scogin

Sunday, May 26

(Dt 4:32-34, 39-40; Rom 8:14-17; Mt 28:16-20)

7:00 a.m. Sylvester & Lois Franzella†

8:30 a.m. Deacon Pat Downey†, Glen Parker†, Earline Garitty†, Jacques P. Damare†, CJ Lightell†, JC Spiers†, Riley Richard & Family, Melanie Blakeman†

10:30 a.m. People of the Parish

PRAY FOR THE SICK



Audrey Bonnet, May Caballero, Diana Bradshaw, Mary Salzer Brown, Elizabeth Kittel, Zachary Cresson, Patricia Cuccia, Kathy Johnson, Ed Roszczynialski, Norris Ripp, Bunny Shriver, Mary Ware, Ryan Ware, Lily Jorns, Dalin Davis, Maria Kalcic, Beverly Cosse, Lou Lou Battle, Fay

Vogt, I&J Landry, Steve Dunn, Joann Brewin, Vivian Sedgebeer, Romana Smith, Joseph Decaro, Barbara Galino Gonzales, Isaiah Deblanc, Lois Leonard, Donald Paul & Larry Dickerson, Shirley Matthews, Jim Richmond, Catherine Lambert, Ed & Carol Wallace, Frederick Songy, Sue Miller, Molly Hymel, Lucy Reese, Brenda Dehm, Andriana Richard, Landon Jeffrey, Glenn Bunting, Camila Dest

PARISH ROSARY PROGRAM



Weekly Rosaries: 288

Year to Date: 6243



POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR MAY

We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual, and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.



THE POWER OF PENTECOST

Today's first reading recounts the great event of Pentecost. Pentecost is often called the birthday of the Church. What does that mean?

Before he ascended into heaven, Jesus said to his apostles: "stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high" (Lk 24:49).

Christ made it clear that without the Holy Spirit, his apostles could not do the work he did. They could not grow in virtue. They could not accomplish the mission he gave them. It was only after Pentecost that the Church was able to live, thrive, and grow. Even though they had just spent three years with Jesus, the leaders of the Church that Christ had established couldn't do anything without the indwelling of the Spirit.

Two thousand years later, we need the Holy Spirit more than ever! St. Pope John Paul II constantly stressed openness to the Spirit of God, "We must rekindle in ourselves the impetus of the beginnings and allow ourselves to be filled with the ardor of the apostolic preaching which followed Pentecost."

Through baptism, the third person of the Holy Trinity makes our bodies his temple, a gift that is "confirmed" in the sacrament of confirmation. This is how Christ gives us the power to know Him and the Father, and to do what He calls us to do.

But the Holy Spirit, even as He lives inside of us as baptized Christians, is only as active as we allow. We must implore Him daily to help us. Having free will, we can choose to fan into flame the gift of the Holy Spirit and truly be transformed and empowered, or we can quench the flame and even allow it to be extinguished in us.

St. Pope John Paul II also said, "Whenever the Spirit intervenes, He leaves people astonished. He brings about events of amazing newness; He radically changes persons and history." This is the power of Pentecost. All we need to do to experience this kind of transformation is to say, like Mary did, "Be it done unto me."

Breathe into me, Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy. Move in me, Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy. Attract my heart, Holy Spirit, that I may love only what is holy. Strengthen me, Holy Spirit, that I may defend all that is holy. Protect me, Holy Spirit, that I may always be holy. (St. Augustine)
By Christine Hanus



THE BLOOD CENTER
Serving you for life!

Blood Drive for Riley Kate Richard
Sunday, June 30, 2024, 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Sts. Peter & Paul Church



SCAN ME

Riley has hypoplastic left heart syndrome, which means that the left side of her heart is not developing fully. She will need several heart surgeries, the first right after birth. The Blood Center will cover all of Riley's blood needs and will donate \$15 per pint collected to go toward her medical expenses. In order to have enough phlebotomists to help the donors, you will need to register online using the provided QR code. On behalf of Riley and her family,

THANK YOU!

PASTORS CORNER PENTECOST



PASTOR'S CORNER

Today is Pentecost Sunday. Many would say that Pentecost was the day when the Catholic Church was born. That very special event where the remaining eleven apostles who were so scared and afraid to leave the house for fear of the Jews suddenly overcame their fear and were willing to rush out and to die for their faith.

When the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples, they immediately began proclaiming the Gospel. In fact, three thousand people were baptized that day. The disciples, through the gift of the Holy Spirit, were answering Jesus' call to "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). The Holy Spirit is vital in the mission and witness of the Church, so we consider Pentecost the birthday of the Church.

On the Feast of Pentecost, Christians commemorate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, gathered around the Mother of the Lord (Acts 2).

The reason we call it Pentecost is because the feast is celebrated on the 50th and final day of the Easter season. The Greek word "pentekoste" literally means "fiftieth."

This is the story of Pentecost, the 11 remaining Apostles returned to Jerusalem after the Ascension of Jesus into Heaven. Acts 1:14 says, "All these with one accord devoted themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren." During this time, the Apostles chose a replacement for Judas Iscariot. They cast lots between two men, and the lot fell on Matthias. After nine days of prayer, the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples. They heard a sound like a "mighty wind," and "tongues as of fire" were resting on their heads. So this is the origin of the novena, or nine days of prayer that we often use today.

Going out, Peter boldly proclaimed to the crowd that had gathered all that he had learned from Jesus. Even though, just a few weeks earlier, he had denied Christ three times, Peter courageously proclaimed the Gospel. That day, three thousand people believed in Christ and were received into His Church. (So the Holy Spirit used him to touch the lives of many of his Jewish brothers.)

In the Old Testament origins, Pentecost was a harvest festival for the grain harvest. This is known as the Feast of Weeks or the Feast of Harvest (Deuteronomy 16:9-11). Among modern Jews, it is called Shavu'ot.

St. Luke describes the setting of the descent of the Holy Spirit as "the day when Pentecost had come" (Acts 2:1). This Fiftieth Day (pentekoste) was for Israel a spring harvest feast ending the days of celebration after Passover. It was also a celebration of the giving of the Law on Mt. Sinai. For the Christian, it remains the "fiftieth day," but after Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection, and the celebration of the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (paragraphs 731-732) says: 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. On that day, the Holy Trinity is fully revealed. Since that day, the Kingdom announced by Christ has been open to those who believe in him: in the humility of the flesh and in faith, they already share in the communion of the Holy Trinity....

The reason that Pentecost is important to Christians today is seen in John 14:26, Jesus said, "[T]he Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you."

Thus, Pentecost is not only an historical event. As the fulfillment of Jesus' promise, it continues to bear fruit in the Church today, especially in the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation.

One very interesting note is that both Jews and Christians celebrate this feast—for Jews it is the culmination of the Passover from slavery to freedom in the giving of the Divine Law; for Christians the fulfillment of Christ's Passover from sin and death in the giving of the Divine Spirit. These feasts occur at different times, however, as Passover and Easter only occasionally coincide. As Catholics we know that the Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Most Blessed Trinity. God the Father is the First Person, and God the Son (Jesus) is the Second Person of the Holy Trinity. According to the Catechism (paragraph 691): "Holy Spirit" is the proper name of the one whom we adore and glorify with the Father and the Son. The Church has received this name from the Lord and professes it in the Baptism of her new children. [Cf. Mt 28:19]



The term “Spirit” translates the Hebrew word *ruah*, which, in its primary sense, means breath, air, wind. Jesus indeed uses the sensory image of the wind to suggest to Nicodemus the transcendent newness of him who is personally God’s breath, the divine Spirit. [Jn 3:5-8] On the other hand, “Spirit” and “Holy” are divine attributes common to the three divine persons. By joining the two terms, Scripture, liturgy, and theological language designate the inexpressible person of the Holy Spirit, without any possible equivocation with other uses of the terms “spirit” and “holy.”

While the Holy Spirit is revealed in the New Testament, it is hidden in the Old Testament. The Holy Spirit is the force of creation, and can be seen in the very first book of the bible. Check out Genesis Chapter 1:1. “In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless wasteland, and darkness covered the abyss, while a mighty wind swept over the waters.” The wind here acting over creation, that force that brought everything into existence is none other than the Holy Spirit. And if you look a little further in chapter 2:7, you can see the further implicit work of the Holy Spirit. “...the Lord God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and so man became a living being.” So what is this force, this breath that brought man to life from formless clay? You guessed it, the Holy Spirit! And yes, there are other places in the Old Testament that implicitly show signs of the Holy Spirit, but this is enough to show us how God the Holy Spirit is at work from the beginning.

I pray that God will give you a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit today as we celebrate Pentecost.



First Holy Communion

The following children will make their
First Holy Communion today, May 12, 2024:

Madelyn Breaux

Ari Dover

Chad Kellum

SAINT RITA OF CASCIA (1381-1457)

MAY 22

If you're ever in Philadelphia on May 22, forget parking anywhere near Saint Rita's shrine. Cars line streets and fill medians as throngs pack a candlelight vigil and six Masses, honoring this patroness of lost causes, hopeless situations, and—as her statue in countless churches built by twentieth-century immigrants testifies—difficult marriages, troubled homes, and alienated children. Wise people warn, be careful what you pray for. “Divine Savior,” Rita prayed, “let me suffer like you!” Obedient to parents who refused her wish to become a nun, Rita married a man who returned her devotion with twenty years of abuse. When enemies murdered him, Rita’s two sons swore revenge. Paintings depict her pointing the angry boys toward Christ crucified, whom she begged to restrain them. Within the year, both sons died. Alone now, Rita went to the convent but was refused. The nuns feared violence, since one of them was related to the murderer. Rita arranged peace between the families, made vows, and became much sought after as a counselor and intercessor for forty years on earth—and ever since in heaven.

—Peter Scagnelli



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Laurie Howell 985-290-6983

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Roger Ruiz 601-799-4527

rogruiz@gmail.com

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Cynthia Ripoll 985-774-9917

cynthiaripoll@yahoo.com

Mike & Cynthia Ripoll 8:30 am

Harold & Shelia Loyacano 10:30 am

PATRIOTIC ROSARY

Ellie Ross & Dana Bunting 985-960-1613

Every Thursday in Church 6:30 pm

PRAYER CHAIN

Barbara Laughlin 985-290-9482

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TUESDAY ROSARY

Eydie Richmond

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Lauryn Jeffrey 985-259-9604



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