

# PENTECOST SUNDAY



June 5, 2022

Today is the Feast of Pentecost. We recall the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles. This Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Love

that proceeds from the Father and the Son. The Love between the Father and the Son that is so total, absolute, and faithful that it is a "Person" in its own right: "*The Third Person of the Holy Trinity.*" Therefore, the Holy Spirit "proceeds from the Father and the Son" as we pray in the Creed. It is the Holy Spirit that unites the Father and the Son, animates the Body of Christ, the Church in the world and unites us to one another and to God. It is all about the Love of God that unites and gives us life and peace.

As noted last week the Easter Season has now come to an end with the celebration of Pentecost, now Christ's Passover is fulfilled in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Today the Holy Trinity is fully revealed: *Father, Son and Holy Spirit.* The glory of God's creation, damaged by sin is now redeemed, sanctified and given New Life. The Holy Spirit that was promised by Jesus has come into the world to be our advocate and guide. The Holy Spirit draws us into deeper communion with God. The Holy Spirit is the love that is perfectly shared between the Father and the Son that is now poured out into our hearts. This Spirit, the love of God, draws us into the life of God: The Holy Trinity. In a practical way, the presence of the Holy Spirit today in our lives is a foretaste of our eternal loving communion with God in Heaven. The Holy Spirit who with the Father raised Jesus from the dead, is the same Holy Spirit that gives us the New Life Christ won for us; Eternal Life. "*God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.*" (Romans 5:5)

As we read in the Gospel of St. John, on the night of the Resurrection, Jesus appeared in the upper room and breathed on the Apostles saying, "*Receive the Holy Spirit.*" The breath of the resurrected, glorified Christ is the Holy Spirit going forth from his resurrected glorified body. The Spirit is the breath of Eternal Life. It is not an earthly breath but rather the divine breath of God. It is no ordinary spirit but the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives life.

In this outpouring of the Spirit the first order of business is the forgiveness of sin because sin is contrary to love and life. The power of the Holy Spirit, given to the Apostles was a matter of restoring the divine likeness damaged by sin. This is the mission of Jesus; the forgiveness of sin, the conquering of sin and death: bestowing on us Eternal Life. This mission of Jesus Christ is given to the Apostles and the Church as the ongoing mission of Jesus Christ. With the forgiveness of sin, the true and life-giving communion with God is made present.

We read in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (737) "*The mission of Christ and the Holy Spirit is brought to completion in the Church, which is the Body of Christ and the Temple of the Holy Spirit. This joint mission henceforth brings Christ's faithful to share in his communion with the Father and the Holy Spirit. The Spirit prepares men and goes out to them with his grace, in order to draw them to Christ. The Spirit manifests the risen Lord to them, recalls his word to them, and opens their minds to the understanding of his Death and Resurrection. He makes present the mystery of Christ, supremely in the Eucharist, in order to reconcile them, to bring them into communion with God, that they may bear much fruit.*"

"*Thus, the Church's mission is not an addition to that of Christ and the Holy Spirit but is its sacrament: in her whole being and in all her members, the Church is sent to announce, bear witness, make present, and spread the mystery of the communion of the Holy Trinity.*" (738)

This feast day remembrance of Pentecost is a celebration of the birthday of the Church. Echoing Genesis; God breathes into the clay the breath of life which animates the clay: man. This foreshadows Jesus Christ breathing the breath of God into the Apostles thus giving life and animating the Church. The "birth" of humanity is fulfilled in the "birth" of the Church.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, the disciples went out in order to draw all people to this new life in Christ, the Church, the Kingdom. It is the Spirit of love that draws all people to Christ. It is the Holy Spirit that gives new life. Filled with the Holy Spirit we are drawn into the Body of Christ (the Church). Thus, we can say that it is "*through him, with him and in him*" we find salvation: perfect communion in the Holy Trinity.

With the Holy Spirit we are given Gifts, which we receive in the Sacrament of Confirmation. The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit draw us into a deeper relationship with Christ in the Church. The gifts of the Holy Spirit as we recall are *Knowledge, Wisdom, Counsel, Understanding, Fortitude, Reverence and Fear of the Lord.* These gifts help us to live as followers of Jesus Christ. These gifts build on our natural gifts, grace building on nature, so that we can live in a manner worthy of the new life we have received. We live this new life in the best possible way within the Church. These gifts, animated with the love of God give us a genuine vision of the world and empower us to live the Kingdom of God here and now.

The telltale sign of the presence of the Holy Spirit within our lives and our community is identified by the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. As we read in the Catechism of the Catholic Church... "*The FRUITS of the Spirit are perfections that the Holy Spirit forms in us as the first fruits of eternal glory. The tradition of the Church lists twelve of them: Charity, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Generosity, Gentleness, Faithfulness, Modesty, Self-control and Chastity.*" (No.1832) These "fruits" are signs and a foretaste of Heaven because they create an environment in this world that is a foretaste of their full perfection of goodness in the Kingdom of God. When these "fruits" are present to us in this life we experience the goodness of God. The manifestations of the "Fruits" are like windows through which we see beyond this world into the Kingdom of God. They spark within us a desire for greater communion with God. This life has many struggles and we need great assistance and reassurances along the way. We depend on the grace of God for assistance in our desire for holiness here and now. With the "fruits" of the Holy Spirit we are encouraged and reassured that we are on the right track. We will always have a desire for more until we reach the Kingdom. We are fortified with this glimpse of Heaven here and now as we set our sights on our way to our Heavenly home.

On a different note, yet carrying a theme from previous weeks, the 2022 Bishop's Annual Appeal is still taking place throughout the diocese. Every year the funds raised through this effort are an assurance of the continued work of the diocese. As I said previously our parish participation is something that needs to be addressed. We need to increase our parishioners participating in this appeal.

**JUNE 5, 2022**

At this writing, before Memorial Day, our total parish pledge is \$26,772.50 toward this year's Bishops Appeal. The number of parishioners/families participating is 121. We need and able to exceed the number of participants. We have about 650 families.

My suggestion is that everyone (individual households) take an Appeal envelope, fill in the information and make a contribution to this year's annual appeal. The envelopes are located in the pews. We need greater participation in this matter. We can realistically do this. Support for the work of the Diocese of Columbus is one of our responsibilities. Therefore, let this be a gentle reminder of our responsibility to the parish and the diocese. I just ask that every household pick up an envelope and respond accordingly.

Have a great week.  
Fr. Ralko

## This week we pray Week IV of the Liturgy of the Hours.

**FUNERAL LUNCHESES** – Do you enjoy cooking? If you would enjoy cooking a ham (provided) for funereal lunches, please call (740) 453-0597 ext. 14 or e-mail [pboggs@stnickparish.org](mailto:pboggs@stnickparish.org).

**Pre Jordan-Class - Tuesday, June 14** in the Parish Office at 7:00 p.m. Parents and sponsors of infants and small children who are to be baptized should pre-register for this class by calling (740) 453-0597, ext. 14.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - CATHLETICS** Training to Be Champions For Christ. **Registration is now open!** Registration forms can be found near the entrances of the Church, on the parish website and in the parish office. Please register by July 15<sup>th</sup>. **FAMILIES WHO REGISTER BY JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup> WILL RECEIE A FREE CATHLETICS CD!** Questions? Please call the parish office at (740) 453-0597 ext. 14 or e-mail: [pboggs@stnickparish.org](mailto:pboggs@stnickparish.org).



**SUPPORT OUR PARISH** by attending the festival planning meeting on **Monday June 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the St. Nicholas Parish Office**. The St. Nicholas Catholic Parish Festival has a long and rich history in our church beginning in the early 1940's as a fall event in the school basement expanding to an outdoor summer festival in the early 1950's and continuing still today. Won't you please come and support your parish by being part of this wonderful tradition?

**MEN OF THE EAST:** Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, 394 E. Main Street, Newark, OH 43055, will host the Men of the East for a traveling Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration on Thursday, June 9, 2022, starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. All Men of the twelve-parish consortium are invited and encouraged to participate in these once monthly Holy Hours. Men of the East is a Catholic Men's Laity Ministry comprised of all practicing Catholic men who attend one of the 12 parishes in Knox, Licking, or Muskingum Counties. Men of the East exists to support, strengthen, and help maximize the spiritual growth of men of the Catholic Church. Men of the East is part of the larger Catholic Men's Laity Ministry movement in the Columbus, Ohio Diocese. For more information about Men of the East and other upcoming events, visit [www.MenOfTheEast.com](http://www.MenOfTheEast.com).



The Daughters of Isabella seek to promote the welfare of the community in accordance with the teachings and rules of the Catholic Church through unity, friendship and charity. All women aged 16 and up are welcome to join us.

**The next meeting is Tuesday, June 14th at 6:00 p.m. at the St. Nicholas Social Hall (Church Basement). PLEASE NOTE LOCATION CHANGE.**

**JUNIOR BISHOPS SOCCER CAMP:** When: July 18,19, 20, 2022  
Where: Bishop Rosecrans High School  
Cost: \$35.00 Ages: K-8th Grade Time: 5:30-7:00 p.m. Camp Shirts for Campers signed up by the 4th of July.  
Contact Hugh Maxwell by email at [rhssoccer2010@hotmail.com](mailto:rhssoccer2010@hotmail.com) or by text at 740-319-4764



## Grief Support

**GRIEF SUPPORT** meets Tuesday, June 21 at 1:00 p.m. and again at 7:00 p.m. in the parish office. These are drop-in groups and no registration is required.

**TEACHERS NEEDED AT BISHOP ROSECRANS AND BISHOP FENWICK:** Middle School Math Teacher, Middle School Religion Teacher, Technology Teacher (fulltime) and K-4 Reading Teacher (full-time) Requirements for all teaching positions: Hold an appropriate Ohio teaching license (Professional, Permanent, or Resident Educator) or be eligible to obtain one before beginning to teach. Current satisfactory BCI & FBI background checks. Have attended or be willing to attend a VIRTUS Protecting God's Children training. Excellent verbal and written communication skills. Candidate must complete an online teaching application with the Diocese of Columbus. Interested parties should send their letter of interest and résumé to Executive Director of the Catholic Schools of Zanesville, Kelly Sagan, at [ksagan@cducation.org](mailto:ksagan@cducation.org)

# PENTECOST SUNDAY

## Church Support

Sunday, May 29, 2022

OFFERTORY	\$5,811.00
EFT	
TOTAL OFFERTORY	\$5,811.00

### ELECTRONIC CONTRIBUTIONS

St. Nicholas Church has a convenient way to make your regular offerings. With our electronic giving program, you can easily set up a recurring giving schedule. If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. To become an electronic giver, call or visit the church office or our website: stnickparish.org.

*Our thoughts and prayers remain with those serving our country currently and with their loved ones at home. We pray for a safe homecoming and that the world may one day be at peace.*



*Please join us each Monday at the St. Nicholas Parish Office Chapel at 10:00 a.m. as we gather to pray the Rosary*

*asking Our Lady's*

*Intercession for the any needs of our nation, community, and parish.*



## Summer Office Hours

### PARISH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

The Parish Office will begin its summer hours June 3, closing at noon on Fridays.

## What's Happening in Our Parish

MONDAY, June 6, The Blessed Virgin Mary

Mother of the Church

8:00 a.m., Mass: David & Mary Lou Wagner, anniversary, Church

10:00 a.m., Rosary, Parish Office Chapel

TUESDAY, June 7

8:00 a.m., Mass: Pastor's Intention, Church

WEDNESDAY June 8

8:00 a.m., Mass: Sandy Young, Church

THURSDAY, June 9, St. Ephrem

NO MASS TODAY

FRIDAY, June 10

8:00 a.m., Mass: Mr. & Mrs. James Shiplett, Church

## THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

SATURDAY, June 11, St. Barnabas

2:30 p.m. Wedding: Linda Steinke/Darren Zinn, Church

4:15 p.m.-4:45 p.m., Confessions, Church

5:15 p.m., Mass: Mike Andrews, birthday, Church

SUNDAY, June 12

8:15 a.m., Mass: St. Nicholas Parishioners, Church

10:45 a.m., Mass: Dixie Kreissl, anniversary, Church

## Readings for Week of June 6

Monday	Gn 3:9-15, 20	Jn 19:25-34
Tuesday	1 Kgs 17:7-16	Mt 5:13-16
Wednesday	1 Kgs 18:20-39	Mt 5:17-19
Thursday	1 Kgs 18:41-46	Mt 5:20-26
Friday	1 Kgs 19:19a, 11-16	Mt 5:27-32
Saturday	Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3	Mt 5:33-37
Sunday	Prv 8:22-31	Jn 16:12-15

### LITURGICAL MINISTERS' SCHEDULE

June 11-12 The Most Holy Trinity

	CANTORS	LECTORS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Saturday, June 11 5:15 p.m.		Tom Pitcock	Karen Robinson Sheila Wilson
Sunday, June 12 8:15 a.m.		Susan Thompson	Tammy Dovenbarger Dan & Cheryl Sylvester
Sunday, June 12 10:45 a.m.		Diane Hoffer	Diana Dunn Kevin Jones, Karen Hardman