

MAY 31, 2009

**THE SOLEMNITY
OF
PENTECOST**



When they entered the city they went to the upper room where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these devoted themselves with one accord to prayer, together with some women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. ...

When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim. —Acts 1:13-14; 2:1-4

FROM A CATECHETICAL INSTRUCTION BY SAINT CYRIL OF JERUSALEM, BISHOP

The living water of the Holy Spirit

The water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of living water, welling up into eternal life. This is a new kind of water, a living, leaping water, welling up for those who are worthy. But why did Christ call the grace of the Spirit water? Because all things are dependent on water; plants and animals have their origin in water. Water comes down from heaven as rain, and although it is always the same in itself, it produces many different effects, one in the palm tree, another in the vine, and so on throughout the whole of creation. It does not come down, now as one thing, now as another, but while remaining essentially the same, it adapts itself to the needs of every creature that receives it.

In the same way the Holy Spirit, whose nature is always the same, simple and indivisible, apportions grace to each man as he wills. Like a dry tree which puts forth shoots when watered, the soul bears the fruit of holiness when repentance has made it worthy of receiving the Holy Spirit. Although the Spirit never changes, the effects of his action, by the will of God and in the name of Christ, are both many and marvelous. The Spirit makes one man a teacher of divine truth, inspires another to prophesy, give another the power of casting out devils, enables another to interpret holy Scripture. The Spirit strengthens one man's self-control, shows another how to help the poor, teaches another to fast and lead a life of asceticism, makes another oblivious to the needs of the body, trains another for martyrdom. His action is different in different people, but the Spirit himself is always the same. *In each person, Scripture says, the Spirit reveals his presence in a particular way for the common good.*

The Spirit comes gently and makes himself known by his fragrance. He is not felt as a burden, for he is light, very light. Rays of light and knowledge stream before him as he approaches. The Spirit comes with the tenderness of a true friend and protector to save, to heal, to teach, to counsel, to strengthen, to console. The Spirit comes to enlighten the mind, first of the one who receives him, and then, through him, the minds of others as well. As light strikes the eyes of a man who comes out of darkness into the sunshine, and enables him to see clearly things he could not discern before, so light floods the soul of the man counted worthy of receiving the Holy Spirit, and enables him to see things beyond the range of human vision, things hitherto undreamed of.

PENTECOST
May 31, 2009

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Mon	7AM	Lawrence Alessandria
	9AM	R. Martin
Tue	7AM	Unbelievers
	9AM	Mary & Joseph Reilly
	10:30AM	Grace Lawrence
Wed	7AM	Elizabeth Mullin
	9AM	William P. Walsh
Thu	7AM	Ed Charbonneau
	9AM	Norma Geissberger
Fri	7AM	George Vasquez, <i>living</i>
	9AM	Special Intention
Sat	7AM	Souls in Purgatory
	9AM	Teresa McDonough

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Lorenzo Acciai, Ken Anderson, Marco Balistreri, MaryAnn Bellia, Bertha, Beverly, Joseph Calleja, Patricia Cane, Charles, Yondellan Coleman, Elizabeth Crowley, Bill & Vladia Cutler, Dick Degan, Doris Doty, Doug, Msgr. Bruce Dreier, Nanette Duffy, Ed, Luke Duval, Faith Gillis, Philip Hansen, Taro Hart, Rosemarie Hayes, Michelle Hufford, Eleanor Jean, Joseph, Germaine Khohayting, Karla Kincade, Jan Lamphere, Frank Lucas, Manda Masse, Warren McGuire, Richard Mogas, M. Maroevich, Tony, Valerie Milroy, Marie Palleschi, Mark Piatti, Joe Popovich, Stephanie, Steve Schlesselmann, Paul Smith, Rose Tannlund, Tim, Elizabeth Ward, Sibeal Whitty, & Camilla Wolfe.

STEWARDSHIP – A WAY OF LIFE

Last weekend's collection	\$3,219.
Weekly goal	\$5,200.
Weekly average	\$4,629.

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE

Assessed Goal:	\$65,200.
Received:	\$52,309.

Donors *this week*: Mr./Mrs. M.B. McGowan

127 Families have given, out of 496 registered.

We are counting on *you!*

Please do your fair share
for our parish and the archdiocese.

Please respond to this annual appeal.

ON THE SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST

“We receive the Spirit of truth so that we can know the things of God. In order to grasp this, consider how useless the faculties of the human body would become if they were denied their exercise: Our eyes cannot fulfill their task without light, either natural or artificial; our ears cannot react without sound vibrations, and in the absence of any odor our nostrils are ignorant of their function. Not that these senses would lose their own nature if they were not used; rather, they demand objects of experience in order to function. It is the same with the human soul. Unless it absorbs the gift of the Spirit through faith, the mind has the ability to know God, but lacks the light necessary for that knowledge.”

*—from the treatise On the Trinity
by Saint Hilary, bishop*

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Tues	Scripture Class – Parish Hall – 9:30am
Thu	Catholic Author Piers Paul Read speaking in Parish Hall—7:30pm
Fri	Marin Catholic Breakfast Club—7:30am

“You will not see anyone who is really striving after his advancement who is not given to spiritual reading, and to him who neglects it, the fact will soon be observed in his progress.”

—St. Athanasius

COFFEE & DONUTS, ANYONE?

We would like to try to have coffee and donuts (and perhaps something more nutritious?) one Sunday per month after the 9am and 11am Masses.

If you are available on the 2nd or 4th Sunday of the month and would like to help, call Pat Lindstadt at 258-1753. We'd need assistance with brewing the coffee and picking up the donuts or other refreshments, serving, and cleaning up. We'd schedule on the Sunday on which we have the most volunteers or interested people. Join in, and help build community at St. Sebastian's through your hospitality.

PENTECOST. Feast commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles. It takes its name from the fact that it comes about fifty days after Easter. The name was originally given to the Jewish Feast of Weeks, which fell on the fiftieth day after Passover, when the first fruits of the corn harvest were offered to the Lord (Deuteronomy 16:9), and later on the giving of the law to Moses was celebrated. In the early Church, Pentecost meant the whole period from Easter to Pentecost Sunday, during which no fasting was allowed, prayer was only made standing, and Alleluia was sung more often. (Etym. Greek *hē pentēkostē*, the fiftieth day.)

—from the *Pocket Catholic Dictionary*
by John A. Hardon, S.J.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

111 The Second Vatican Council indicates... criteria for interpreting Scripture in accordance with the Spirit who inspired it.

113 *Read the Scripture within “the living Tradition of the whole Church.”* According to a saying of the Fathers, Sacred Scripture is written principally in the Church’s heart rather than in documents and records, for the Church carries in her Tradition the living memorial of God’s Word, and it is the Holy Spirit who gives her the spiritual interpretation of the Scripture (“according to the spiritual meaning which the Spirit grants to the Church.”).

“Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person—among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life.”

Catechism of the Catholic Church #2270

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED!

St. Sebastian’s needs new Altar Servers! Parents, please chat with your children and encourage them to apply. We’ll train them and welcome them aboard. As young ones grow, our numbers diminish, so please phone Fr. Paul or Fr. Mark at 461-0704.



1260 on your AM dial
immaculate heart radio
sharing the heart of the Christian faith

SAINT SEBASTIAN’S **BIBLE CAMP**

Bible Camp is planned for the week of August 10-15th from 2:00 pm – 5:30 pm here at St. Sebastian’s. Activities include Scripture study, catechesis, Eucharistic Adoration, along with related crafts, games, music, and snack time. The week will conclude with Mass and BBQ for all. To register or for more information, contact Marian Previtali at 479-5316 or Celeste Chapman at 789-9627.

Pink registration forms may be found in the pews; when completed, they may be placed in the collection basket during Mass or sent to the Parish Office.

NAZARETH HOUSE

Nazareth House, built in 1962, is a Retirement Home for the elderly located in San Rafael. It is a one-storey structure with beautiful landscaped grounds, owned and operated by the Sisters of Nazareth. The sisters and staff provide a caring, loving, and secure environment with excellent services including meals, housekeeping, a wellness center, and a wide range of daily activities. There is also daily Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Applicants of all denominations are welcome. For more information, call the admissions coordinator at 479-8282. Nazareth House is located at 245 Nova Albion Way in Terra Linda.

MARRIAGE FOR LIFE

Engaged couples are invited to view marriage as Sacrament of our Church. The Archdiocesan-approved program focuses on viewing marriage as: A lifelong commitment; A journey of love and renewal; A relationship that includes Christ; and An integral part of our Church. Upcoming programs are held at St. Mary’s Cathedral in SF. Both dates must be attended from 8:30am to 12:30pm. Dates are Saturdays July 18th and 25th; Sept. 12 & 19th. Call 664-8108 or e-mail: daura@ccwear.com.

CATHOLIC ADULT SINGLES

We are Catholics, single or single again, who are interested in making new friends, taking part in social activities, sharing opportunities for spiritual growth and becoming involved in volunteer projects that will benefit our parishes, our community, and one another. We welcome those who would share in this with us. Info. 897-0639.

Our New Parish Website
www.sebastian94904.com