

TRINITY NEWS

The Day of Pentecost: Whitsunday

Welcome to Church of the Holy Trinity on this fiftieth day of Easter. (The word *Pentecost* means “fiftieth day.”) Today we conclude the seven weeks of celebrating our redemption, shown forth in the resurrection and ascension of Jesus and in his sending of the Spirit of God to us. It is the presence of the Spirit in the church that makes God’s action in the dying, rising, and glorification of Jesus of more than historical interest. It is the continued presence of the Holy Spirit that incorporates our lives into the risen life of Christ and makes us part of his Body.

This celebration of the Holy Spirit is, therefore, one of the four times in the year when Holy Baptism is particularly significant in the liturgy. (The other three times are the Baptism of Our Lord, Easter, and All Saints’ Day.) It is in Baptism that we receive the Spirit and are made partakers in the resurrection life. In Baptism we are made new members of the company of the apostles, and we are sent forth in the power of the Spirit to proclaim the risen Christ to people of every race and tongue and nation.

In the Gospel reading today, (John 14:8–17) Jesus, before his crucifixion, assures the disciples that his followers will continue the work of the Gospel after his departure. Indeed he will not be absent; he promises to dwell with his people through his Spirit, whom the Father will send.

In the reading from Acts, we hear the account of the first Pentecost Day, when the apostles received the Spirit and proclaimed the gospel in many tongues. In the presence of people from many parts of the world, they spoke the Word to all. According to Jesus' promise, the Holy Spirit descended on the infant church, empowering it to proclaim Jesus as Lord and to minister to all people.

The second reading, from 1 Corinthians, describes the work of God's Spirit in the church. Each of us in Baptism has received the Spirit, and each has been given gifts for ministry. Our unity in the Spirit brings all those gifts together into the work of the people of God.

We gather in the Eucharist as people reborn by water and the Holy Spirit in Baptism. Gifted with God's Spirit, we are sent to proclaim good news to every people and language and nation and to be built into a royal priesthood in Christ.

From The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year.

THIS WEEK:

Wednesday.

- Bible Study, 10:00am

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29;
Revelation 4:1-11; John 16:12-15

TO PLAN:

TRINITY SUNDAY May 22.

Single service at 9:00 a.m.

Celebrant:

Bishop Dixie Taclobao