



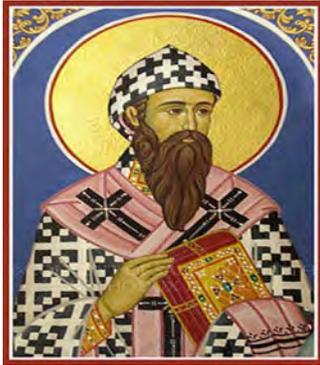
PENTECOST SUNDAY May 23, 2021



From a commentary on the gospel of John by Saint Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop

(Lib. 10, 2: PG 74, 331-334)

I am the vine, you are the branches



The Lord calls himself the vine and those united to him branches in order to teach us how much we shall benefit from our union with him, and how important it is for us to remain in his love. By receiving the Holy Spirit, who is the bond of union between us and Christ our Savior, those who are joined to him, as branches are to a vine, share in his own nature.

On the part of those who come to the vine, their union with him depends upon a deliberate act of the will; on his part, the union is effected by grace. Because we had good will, we made the act of faith that brought us to Christ, and received from him the dignity of adoptive sonship that made us his own kinsmen, according to the words of Saint Paul: He who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.

The prophet Isaiah calls Christ the foundation, because it is upon him that we as living and spiritual stones are built into a holy priesthood to be a dwelling place for God in the Spirit. Upon no other foundation than Christ can this temple be built. Here Christ is teaching the same truth by calling himself the vine, since the vine is the parent of its branches, and provides their nourishment.

From Christ and in Christ, we have been reborn through the Spirit in order to bear the fruit of life; not the fruit of our old, sinful life but the fruit of a new life founded upon our faith in him and our love for him. Like branches growing from a vine, we now draw our life from Christ, and we cling to his holy commandment in order to preserve this life. Eager to safeguard the blessing of our noble birth, we are careful not to grieve the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, and who makes us aware of God's presence in us.

Let the wisdom of John teach us how we live in Christ and Christ lives in us: The proof that we are living in him and he is living in us is that he has given us a share in his Spirit. Just as the trunk of the vine gives its own natural properties to each of its branches, so, by bestowing on them the Holy Spirit, the Word of God, the only-begotten Son of the Father, gives Christians a certain kinship with himself and with God the Father because they have been united to him by faith and determination to do his will in all things. He helps them to grow in love and reverence for God, and teaches them to discern right from wrong and to act with integrity.

RESPONSORY

John 15:4, 16

Live in me as I live in you.

– Just as a branch cannot bear fruit of itself apart from the vine, so you cannot bear fruit unless you live on in me, alleluia.

I chose you to go out and bear fruit, a fruit that will last.

– Just as a branch cannot bear fruit of itself apart from the vine, so you cannot bear fruit unless you live on in me, alleluia.

BIBLE STUDY CORNER



Bible Studies Virtual Meetings:

1. Letter to the Hebrews - Saturday at 10:00am
2. Gospel according to Matthew -
Tuesdays at 7:30 pm
3. Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life -
Saturdays at 10:30 am
4. Bible Timeline - Saturdays at 10:30 am
5. An Introduction to the Theology of the Body -
Saturdays at 11:00am
6. St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians - Saturdays at 10am

For info, call Chito 604-808-4129 or Beth 604-231-9190

Reflections on 1 Corinthians 12:12-13

So it is with Christ: This identification of the Church with Christ is much more than a mere metaphor, it makes the Church a society which is radically different from any other society: "The complete Christ is made up of the head and the body, as I am sure you know well. The head is our Savior himself, who suffered under Pontius Pilate and now, after rising from the dead, is seated at the right hand of the Father. And his body is the Church. Not this or that church, but the Church which is to be found all over the world. Nor is it only that which exists among us today, for also belonging to it are those who lived before us and those who will live in the future, right up to the end of the world. All this Church, made up of the assembly of the faithful - for all the faithful are members of Christ - has Christ as its head, governing his body from heaven. And although this head is located out of sight of the body, he is, however, joined to it by love." (St Augustine, "Enarrationes in Psalmos", 56, 1).

From the treatise Against Heresies by Saint Irenaeus, Bishop

(Lib. 3, 17. 1-3: SC 34, 302-306)

The sending of the Holy Spirit



When the Lord told his disciples to go and teach all nations and baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, he conferred on them the power of giving men new life in God.

He had promised through the prophets that in these last days he would pour out his Spirit on his servants and handmaids, and that they would prophesy. So when the Son of God became the Son of Man, the Spirit also descended upon him, becoming accustomed in this way to dwelling with the human race, to living in men and to inhabiting God's creation.

The Spirit accomplished the Father's will in men who had grown old in sin, and gave them new life in Christ. Luke says that the Spirit came down on the disciples at Pentecost, after the Lord's ascension, with power to open the gates of life to all nations and to make known to them the new covenant. So it was that men of every language joined in singing one song of praise to God, and scattered tribes, restored to unity by the Spirit, were offered to the Father as the first-fruits of all the nations.

This was why the Lord had promised to send the Advocate: he was to prepare us as an offering to God. Like dry flour, which cannot become one lump of dough, one loaf of bread, without moisture, we who are many could not become one in Christ Jesus without the water that comes down from heaven. And like parched ground, which yields no harvest unless it receives moisture, we who were once like a waterless tree could never have lived and borne fruit without this abundant rainfall from above. Through the baptism that liberates us from change and decay we have become one in body; through the Spirit we have become one in soul.

The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and strength, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of God came down upon the Lord, and the Lord in turn gave this Spirit to his Church, sending the Advocate from heaven into all the world into which, according to his own words, the devil too had been cast down like lightning.

If we are not to be scorched and made unfruitful, we need the dew of God. Since we have our accuser, we need an advocate as well. And so the Lord in his pity for man, who had fallen into the hands of brigands, having himself bound up his wounds and left for his care two coins bearing the royal image, entrusted him to the Holy Spirit. Now, through the Spirit, the image and inscription of the Father and the Son have been given to us, and it is our duty to use the coin committed to our charge and make it yield a rich profit for the Lord.

RESPONSORY

Acts 2:1-2

On the day of Pentecost
they had all gathered together in one place.
Out of the heavens suddenly there came
– the sound of a great wind,
which filled the whole house, alleluia.

The disciples had gathered together in one room.
Suddenly there came a sound from heaven.
– The sound of a great wind,
which filled the whole house, alleluia.

Stewardship Reflection:

"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone." - 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

All of us are blessed, regardless of our own individual circumstances. God has given each of us many gifts. How we use those gifts is our gift back to God. For God's plan to work, each must do what we are called to do. Guess what? We are not all called to do the same thing! For God's plan to work you have to do what God is calling you to do and I have to do what God is calling me to do.



Reflection
May 23, 2021
Pentecost
Solomon Nguyễn

Spirit and Mission — Open the Gifts of Confirmation

How many of you remember your Confirmation? If you have photos, it may bring back memories of PREP classes, choosing a saint, dressing up, seeing the Archbishop, a beautiful mass, picture shoots and maybe a party afterwards. But how many of you remember feeling different after your Confirmation? A better question might be: did you feel different?

I think most of us did not feel too different after our Confirmation, we did not feel a change within us. That does not mean we did not prepare well enough, or that our teachers did not do a good job teaching us, or that we did not receive the full Holy Spirit. I am sure we did. The reason I think we do not feel too different after our Confirmation is because we do not live out the gifts of the Spirit that we received in Confirmation fully.

In the Acts of the Apostles we hear of the dramatic descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and believers, with tongues of fire and a great wind. Then right after, we see the ones the Holy Spirit descended upon do two things: they speak in other languages and preach the Good News. And the only reason they are speaking in tongues is to preach the Good News. So the giving of the Spirit is directly tied with the preaching mission of all believers. This is confirmed by the words of Jesus Himself in both options for the Gospel of Pentecost. In the first option, the Gospel of John says, “Jesus said to them ‘Peace be with you. as the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them ‘receive the Holy Spirit.’” The second option says Jesus says, “When the advocate comes... He will testify on my behalf. You are also to testify.” The Holy Spirit is given to us for the sake of mission. The Catechism of the Catholic Church emphasizes this point when she lists one of the effects of Confirmation as “give(ing) us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross.” (CCC 1303)

I think this is why we do not feel different after our Confirmations, because we do not live out the special grace that Confirmation gives to live as a true and bold witness of Christ. I do not mean that we all go out and preach, there are many ways to live out the gifts of the Spirit and be witnesses to Christ. St. Paul, in his letter to the Corinthians, compares the many ways to live out the life of the Spirit to the fact that though we have one body, we have many members of that body. But for how many of us is Confirmation a thing we did as a child that has no repercussions now? How many of us can honestly say that the descent of the Holy Spirit on us in Confirmation has made us stronger, bolder, and more loving Catholics?

The sacrament of Confirmation that we have received does so much for us. It roots us as God’s beloved children, unites us to Christ more firmly, instills the gifts of the Holy Spirit, makes us full members of the Church, and perfects the life of the Trinity who lives in our souls since Baptism. One way we can live this sacrament out more is by mission, that is, living a life of witness to what God has done for you, how He has loved you and how He wants to love others through you. A way in which we can live this mission life more is to reflect and pray about the seven gifts given to us at Confirmation and ask for the one we lack in particular and thankful for the one that comes more naturally to us. They are: wisdom which sees God in all things; understanding which seeks the truth; counsel which helps us know right from wrong; fortitude which strengthens us to do what is right; knowledge which looks for the meaning of things; piety which is a reliance on God; and wonder and awe which is a love for God where we marvel at his works and do not want to stray from Him. Each gift is given to speed the Good News and help our relationship with God. Which gift do you need? Ask Him to help you open it.

PRAYER CORNER



Morning Consecration to Mary

My Queen, My Mother, I offer
myself entirely to thee.
And to show my devotion to thee,
I offer thee this day, my eyes,
my ears, my mouth, my heart,
my whole being without reserve.

Wherefore, good Mother, as I am thine own,
keep me, guard me as thy property and possession.

The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,
that never was it known that anyone who
fled to your protection, implored your help
or sought your intercession, was left
unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly
unto you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To
you I come, before you I stand, sinful
and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word
incarnate, despise not my petitions, but, in
your mercy, hear and answer me. Amen



Prayer to Walk as Children of the Light

Joy of Heaven, we are so blessed that You came to dwell
in each of us on Pentecost, when Your church was born.
Surely, through Your Spirit, we have died to sin and are
alive to holiness. May we serve You faithfully, in praise,
prayer, and loving service to others, as we are changed
from glory to glory. May we walk as children of the light,
in all goodness, righteousness, and truth. Amen.

Prayer for Boldness in God's Work

God of Wind and Fire, we celebrate today the indwelling
of Your Holy Spirit, which You sent upon the believers on
the day of Pentecost, and which is our blessing today.
Lord, we thank You for the transforming work of Your
Holy Spirit in our lives and through our lives toward
others. We thank You that You have given us boldness to
proclaim the Gospel. Remind us to use Your power to do
the work You have given us. Amen.



POETRY CORNER

Quiet Must be in Me

If I am to touch Him,
I must be at peace.
If I am to love Him,
Quiet must be in me.

For turbulence does not invite the Lord,
Nor does anger or hate.
Peace is the gateway to Christ.
Love is the avenue to the Most High Holy One.

Surrender your vengeance to Him.
Give all your difficulties to Him.
Find a quiet place, and lay
Your problems at His feet.

Seek His peace,
And soak in the quiet.
There you will find Him,
In the center of your soul.

Relish the moments,
Few though they be.
Seek His solace,
In your worldly day.

Together you will conquer
All that lies ahead.
The Lord your God, the Comforter
And His child resting his head.

L. Lapiz

Heaven-Haven

I have desired to go
Where springs not fail,
To fields where flies no sharp and sided hail,
And a few lilies blow.

And I have asked to be
Where no storms come,
Where the green swell is in the havens dumb,
And out of the swing of the sea.

Gerard Manley Hopkins



What's happening in Saint Paul's Parish...

THIS WEEK

- Monday** Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother of the Church
Victoria Day
- Tuesday** St. Bede the Venerable, Priest and
Doctor of the Church
- Wednesday** St. Philip Neri, Priest

World Day of Prayer for the Church in China May 24

In May 2007, Pope Benedict XVI asked that May 24 be observed a Day of Prayer of the Church in China. He chose this day since it is the traditional Feast of Our Lady of Help of Christians, venerated at the Shrine of Sheshan in Shanghai.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH

Elaine Winkler, Christine Bay, Bertha Romero, Myrna Moffat, Peter Murtagh, Jaime Pestano. *(Please notify the parish office of any changes)*

PROJECT ADVANCE 2021

Our Way Forward

Our annual archdiocesan appeal is here once more. There are many ways to give: complete the pledge form you receive in the mail; come to the parish office to make your donation; give online at <http://rcav.org/giving/>



YOUTH MINISTRY

Info: Jiggy @ 778-874-8569

LIFE TEEN has gone virtual with weekly Zoom nights! Contact Jiggy for the link.

Keep checking our social media for updates!



www.instagram.com/stpaulslifeteen



www.facebook.com/StPaulsLT



ST. PAUL YOUNG ADULTS COMMUNITY (SPYAC)

Info: Katherine Angustia at spyacteam@gmail.com



www.facebook.com/groups/208926245900606/



www.instagram.com/spyacteam

SPIRIT PRE-TEEN MINISTRY

Info: ministries.spirit@gmail.com



www.spirit youthministry.wordpress.com



www.instagram.com/stpauls.spirit/



LIVESTREAM MASSES

WEDNESDAY: 8:00AM

SUNDAY: 10:00AM

<https://stpaulparish.ca/livestream>

INFANT BAPTISM COURSE

Classes for parents seeking baptism for their infants - please call the Convent at 604-275-2844



PREP: Parish Religious Education Program

Thanks to all students, families, and teachers for your hard work and dedication this year.

Online registration for the 2021/22 school year will be available in June.

If you have any questions, please contact Clay Imoo (PREP Director) at clayimoo@shaw.ca.



SCHOOL CONNECTION

Sending big cheers and support to all our school families doing their Walkathon walk over this long weekend! This is our one big school fundraiser for the year, so wear your St. Paul Spirit wear and show your school pride! Thank you for all you do for our school community.

Calling all Young Adults to join the Saint Paul's Young Adult Community (SPYAC) on June 4th at 7:30pm for a fun-filled night of fellowship with some classic board games. Let your competitive side come out or just come out to have fun with us! To make things a little more interesting, the player with the highest score at the end of the night will win a \$25 gift card to Holy Family Bookstore!! Please register using the google form: <https://forms.gle/UpwsKVdgSiTav6RP6>. The Zoom link will be sent to those who register. Looking forward to seeing you there!



KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS

Membership Drive: Now through June 30, join Knights of Columbus for free online at <http://bit.ly/KofC2021> and use promo code MCGIVNEY2020.

STAY CONNECTED/STAY INFORMED

www.facebook.com/stpaulrichmond

www.instagram.ca/stpaulrichmond

ST. PAUL PARISH - DONATIONS



Since the beginning of the pandemic, it has been possible to make your regular offertory gift online, either by credit card or direct bank debit. Your parish relies on your regular offertory giving to both sustain itself and grow.

By making your pre-authorized offertory gift, you are providing crucial support to carry your parish during this difficult time.

To set up a pre-authorized gift to your parish, please [click here](#)

If you would like make a gift to any Second Collection, please [click here](#)

 If you have questions regarding the process, or would like to make changes to your gift, please contact the Archdiocese of Vancouver Development Office at 604-683-0281 (ext. 50323).



What's happening in the Archdiocese...

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GET THE LATEST UPDATES FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE RIGHT TO YOUR INBOX, PLEASE SIGN UP HERE:

<https://rcav.org/newsletters/subscribers/new>

<https://beholdvancouver.org/>

<https://thesearch.rcav.org/>

<https://weareproclaim.com/>

Canadian Martyrs Parish is looking for a custodian who may work with flexible time/schedule, as well as working well with people. Please email your resume to cmartyrs@rcav.org or contact the parish office at 604-272-5563.



Corpus Christi Eucharistic Conference - Give glory to the king of kings and celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi as the universal Body of Christ with Catholics across the world. Discover new depths and insights on the Church's teaching of the Holy Eucharist and what this central doctrine of our faith means for how we live our everyday life. Join us on **Friday, June 4 to Sunday, June 6** online. Register online at beholdvancouver.org/events

Redeeming Adversity - Healthy Relationship Series



Can today's struggle become tomorrow's blessing? Join Brett Powell in this online presentation on healthy relationships, followed by Q&A **Thursday, May 27** from 7:30 - 9:00pm. This event to open to all adults, whether single, dating or married.

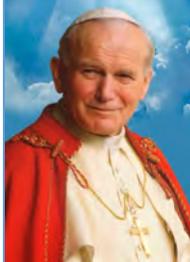
Learn more and register at beholdvancouver.org/events

Year of the Family



On March 19, the church celebrates five years since the publication of the Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* on the beauty and joy of love in the family. Pope Francis announced that a special year dedicated to the family will launch on the same day, which will conclude on June 26, 2022 on the occasion of the 10th World Meeting of Families in Rome with the Holy Father. "This special Year will be an opportunity to deepen further the content of the document *Amoris laetitia*, through proposals and pastoral tools. These will be made available to ecclesial communities and families, to accompany them on their journey." Learn more and view resources at rcav.org/year-of-the-family

Into the Deep: Saint John Paul II: A Pope of Dialogue, a Pope of Unity



Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB will describe the major initiatives and contributions of Saint John Paul II to ecumenical and interfaith dialogue. Join us on Friday, May 28 from 7 - 8:30 p.m. on Zoom. Register for free at beholdvancouver.org/events

Year of St. Joseph



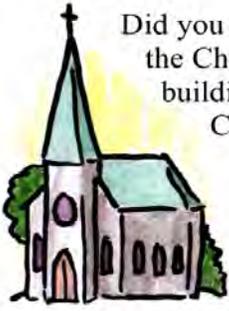
Pope Francis announced a Year of St. Joseph, beginning Dec. 8, 2020 and ending Dec. 8, 2021, in honour of the 150th anniversary of the saint's proclamation as patron of the Universal Church. The Pope established a Year of St. Joseph, who with the Canadian Martyrs is one of Canada's patron saints, so that "every member of the faithful, following his example, may strengthen their life of faith daily in the complete fulfillment of God's will." Visit rcav.org/stjoseph to learn more.

Pentecost Sunday
May 23rd, 2021



*Who came to the Apostles on Pentecost Sunday?
Fill in the blanks with the letters in the flames:
go around the Apostles clockwise,
skipping every other letter. Start at Mary's.*

Happy Birthday, Church!

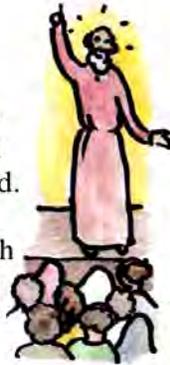


Did you know that Pentecost Sunday is the Church's birthday? Not the church building, but the people who are the Church.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Why is Pentecost the Church's birthday?

Because on that day, the Holy Spirit first came to the apostles and sent them out to become the Church and to teach the good news about Jesus everywhere in the world.



The Holy Spirit works through the Church in many ways. He inspired the men who wrote the Bible. He teaches us through priests and missionaries and teachers. Did you know that He even inspires us to pray?

You can pray that God will send you the Holy Spirit every day. Jesus tells us in the Gospel that God will give the Holy Spirit to whoever asks.



Answer to puzzle on front: The Holy Spirit
Answer to Word-Find: native language.

www.thekidsbulletin.com

Pentecost Word-Find

M N C Y R E N E A T
E L A M I T E S I A
S V P R O M E E L S
O A P H R Y G I A I
P P A M P H Y L I A
O J D N G U P A G M
T E O P O N T U S E
A W C R E T A N S D
M S I J U D E A E E
I P A R T H I A N S
A R A B S L I B Y A

PARTHIANS
MEDES
ELAMITES
MESOPOTAMIA
JUDEA
CAPPADOCIA
PONTUS
ASIA
PHRYGIA
PAMPHYLIA
EGYPT
LIBYA
CYRENE
ROME
JEWS
CRETANS
ARABS

On Pentecost Sunday, when the apostles went out of the upper room, there was a great crowd in Jerusalem for the Jewish feast. So they began to tell the people the good news of Jesus. See if you can find the names of all the different kinds of people who were in the city listening to them.

All these people heard the apostles speaking in their



_____!
_____!

Saint Bede the Venerable May 25

SAINT BEDE WAS BORN IN ENGLAND IN 672, NEAR A MONASTERY. AT AGE 7 HE WAS SENT TO LIVE THERE AND SPENT THE REST OF HIS LIFE THERE.

HE BECAME A DEACON AT AGE 19 AND A PRIEST AT 30.

ST. BEDE LOVED LEARNING, ESPECIALLY ABOUT GOD.

Today I will tell you the story of St. Augustine's conversion.
HE ALSO TAUGHT OTHER MONKS.

HE WROTE MANY BOOKS TO PASS ON HIS KNOWLEDGE.
I should write lives of the saints.

HE WROTE THE HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY IN ENGLAND, AND TRANSLATED THE BIBLE.

The whole world could not contain the books that could be written.
SAINT BEDE DIED IN 735. EVEN ON THE DAY OF HIS DEATH HE WORKED ON TRANSLATING THE GOSPEL OF ST. JOHN.

SAINT BEDE BECAME HOLY BY STUDYING AND TEACHING, ESPECIALLY ABOUT THE BIBLE, AND THE SAINTS WHO BROUGHT THE FAITH TO HIS COUNTRY. DO YOU KNOW WHO BROUGHT THE FAITH TO YOUR COUNTRY? YOU CAN HELP TO SHARE THE FAITH BY LEARNING MORE TOO!

thekidsbulletin@gmail.com



May 23, 2021



TRUE REFORMERS: EPISODE 3 ST. PHILIP NERI

This week we celebrate St. Philip Neri, the Apostle of Rome. To a Rome ravaged by war and wearied by the decadence of the Renaissance popes, St. Philip Neri came as an unlikely reformer. Mystic, hermit, prankster, and effortless leader of men, Neri had a great sense of humor and an even greater heart.

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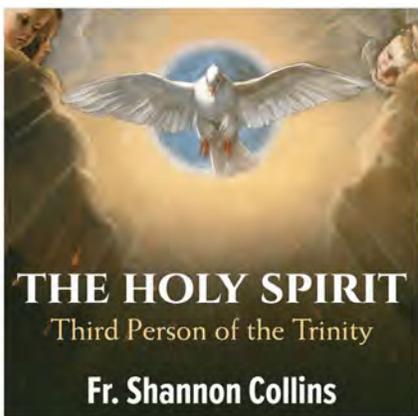
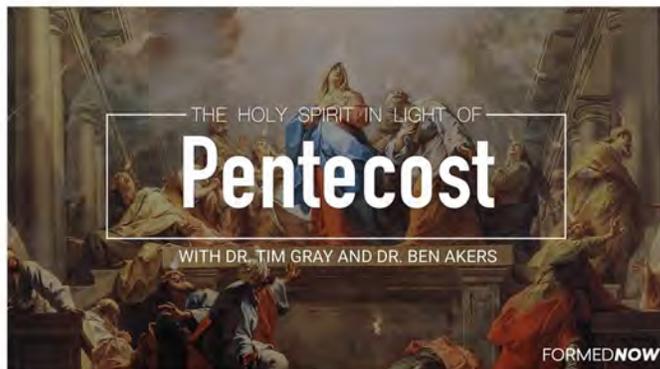
WATCH

LEARN

FORMED NOW: THE HOLY SPIRIT IN LIGHT OF PENTECOST

This week we celebrate the Solemnity of Pentecost, often referred to as the birthday of the Church. Join Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. Ben Akers as they discuss Christ's sending of the Holy Spirit in this monumental event. After watching, you'll recognize the meaning of Pentecost for our lives today.

<https://bit.ly/3tZH0l>



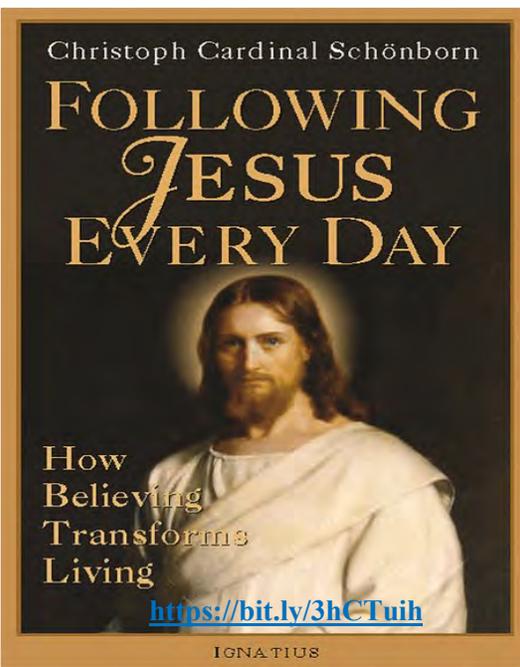
THE HOLY SPIRIT: THIRD PERSON OF THE TRINITY BY FR. SHANNON

In this captivating presentation, Fr. Shannon Collins discusses the essential character of the Holy Spirit and his role in salvation history. Drawing upon Scripture and Tradition, Fr. Collins explains the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit and how he works in the lives of believers and how this "sweet guest of our soul" seeks to bring us closer to divine life.

<https://bit.ly/3hFe95o>

LISTEN

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Type in your name

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The next time you access [Formed.org](https://formed.org), choose SIGN IN