

June 4, 2017

Pentecost Sunday Solemnity



Veni, Sancte Spiritus!
Come Holy Spirit

Today is Pentecost, the final day of the great Fifty Days that brings the Easter season to its conclusion. We celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Church. Through the Spirit of God the world is renewed. We are reconciled with God and with each other and together we spend ourselves for the common good.



Flowers for the altar this weekend are donated by Carol & Randy Barta in thanksgiving to God on the occasion of their 40th Wedding Anniversary.

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, June 10

4:30 p.m. Benjamin Smolik

Sunday, June 11

8:00 a.m. Frances & Joe Koudelka

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY LITURGY



Next weekend is *The Most Holy Trinity*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

First Reading: Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9

Responsorial Psalm: Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Gospel: John 3:16-18

SPECIAL FATHER'S DAY MASS - JUNE 18

To have your father specially remembered in the Mass intention of the day, drop your Father's Day envelope in the collection basket or mail by June 13.

Extra envelopes available at the main entrance to Church.

Remember the sick in your prayers this week, especially James Kubecka.

St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha



We thank the following for their recent contributions:

In Memory of Lillie Zimmerhazel
St. Anne's K.J.Z.T. Society #4 Praha - \$100

To make a tax deductible donation towards *St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha* contact Fr. Gabriel at 361-596-4674.

ORIENTATION

Pentecost

The celebration of Pentecost does not simply commemorate a past event, however great it might be. It celebrates a mystery which happened once and for all time, but which also unfolds throughout time. It proclaims the permanence of Pentecost.

The Spirit continues to build the Body of Christ, of which we become members by baptism and the Eucharist. It revives those who, crucifying the "flesh" with its selfish tendencies, allow themselves to be taught and led by its impulses. It makes them sons and daughters of God and inspires in them the prayer: *Abba, Father!* It joins with the gradual dawning of the new heavens and the new earth, the whole creation that cries out in pain while awaiting its deliverance. "For in hope we were saved."

Pentecost – "fifty days after Easter" – Pentecost of every day: the Spirit is given in abundance to those who pray the Father to send it to them in the Lord's name.

VOTIVE CANDLE INTENTIONS

The Catholic custom of lighting candles is rooted in Church teaching that Christ is the Light of the World. Candles serve as an outward sign of the light of faith burning in our hearts. They are our silent sentinels lifting up our prayer intentions to the Lord.



Remember to pray for the following intentions:

For Odie's Health

Prayers For Cancer

For An End To Abortion

Pray For St. Mary's Parish

For The Healing of My Daughter, Jennifer

For My Big Family In Sickness & In Health

For The Health of Mary B, Kathy W. & Vlasta B.

For Conversion of the Deocariza & Calo Families

For All Those In Need, For My Family, For World Peace

For A Deepening of Faith For All Priests & Religious, especially The Holy Father

For Patrick Miles Natividad & Celia Kiok for Continuing Healing of Cancer

For The Special Requests of our St. Faustina Arise Group & For Our Country

– Votive Candle Intentions to be continued

REFLECTION

Creative Fire

To understand what Jesus breathed upon his disciples on that day long-ago Sunday evening, believers are to go back into the Bible. The *Spirit* is described as *ruah*, a Hebrew word translated as *Breath* or wind. (Genesis 1:2). The Spirit is also a gift of vision and freedom that liberates and enables those who welcome it so they can move beyond human failure into light and peace.

One might expect that Jesus, fresh from torture and the tomb, might be hatching a plan of retaliation with his disciples for the injustices perpetrated against him. No, rather he breathed a Spirit of peace that prompted a ministry of forgiveness. His death was not to be avenged, but celebrated and the Spirit would give the disciples the strength and courage to do so. Strength from the Spirit would also enable and empower their future mission. Just as God had sent Jesus into the world to reveal Him to the world so did Jesus send his disciples forth for the same purpose. The Church has a divine origin. It is not simply another social organization. It discovers its reason to be in existence not in its apparent successes but in the call and commission of Jesus Christ. This we remember; this we celebrate, this we believe!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



June 5 – Jessica Schneider

June 6 – Gayle Hill

June 8 – Beatrice Patek

June 9 – Madison Vrazel

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



June 4 – Congratulations Carol & Randy Barta
on your 40th Wedding Anniversary

June 8 – Patricia & James Gready

June 10 – Diane & John Decker, Sr.

Praha Picnic

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2017

Picnic Raffle: Thomas Petru and Liz Janak are finalizing the raffle donor list this week so it can be sent to the printers. If you have not been able to get your donation to them yet, please do so this weekend.

Picnic Chairpersons forms are due June 8. If you have not returned your forms yet, please do so this week.

Bands for the Picnic: *The Moravians,*
The Czechaholics & Texas Sound Check Band

Pentecost is the celebration of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Church.



Throughout the Easter season the Paschal candle, which has been prominent in Church by the ambo since Holy Saturday, will now stand by the baptismal font. All year round it will be lit at Baptisms and funerals, a reminder that these are celebrations of the resurrection of the Lord.

After the intensity of Lent, Triduum and Easter, we return to Ordinary Time.

Ordinary Time During The Summer

Everything has a tendency to slow down over the Summer. People go on vacation, school is out. The hot weather makes everyone want to relax in the shade with a cool drink – a good time to reflect upon the gifts of God's creation.

Parish life tends to reflect this slow down as well. Even the liturgy takes on a new rhythm. The Sunday liturgies during Ordinary Time do not celebrate a specific aspect of the mystery of Christ. They are devoted to the mystery of Christ in all aspects. They give us the time to reflect on the faith we celebrated during Lent and Easter – to discover how to live our faith day by day, in the light of the risen Christ, with the Holy Spirit as our guide.

The Gospel passages during Summer Ordinary Time offer an assortment of Jesus' parables about what the Kingdom of God is like: It is like the seeds that have been sown in good and bad places. The Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed, like yeast in dough, like a buried treasure, or like a net thrown into the sea seeking fish. All these parables invite further reflection and contemplation.

Sunday Solemnities: Ordinary Time begins with two great Feasts of the Lord:

- ***The Most Holy Trinity*** (next Sunday), where the Lectionary Readings draw us into the mystery of God: Father, Son and Spirit.
- ***The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ***, where the passages focus our attention not only on the ways God nourishes the life of his people, but also on the fact that by sharing in the Eucharistic bread and cup, we become one Body of Christ in the Church.
- ***The Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul*** (the following Sunday) focuses our attention on their important work of the ongoing and far-reaching proclamation of the Gospel.

After that, the *Numbered Sundays* of Ordinary Time will follow without interruption for many weeks.

AREA PICNICS

Today – Sacred Heart, Flatonia

June 10 – Czech Kolache Klobase Festival, East Bernard

June 11 – St. Rose Picnic, Schulenburg