

# A PRAYER SERVICE AT HOME

## WHEN ATTENDANCE AT MASS IS NOT POSSIBLE

### Pentecost Sunday

In these extraordinary times when we cannot gather as a Christian Community to celebrate Mass, let us unite ourselves spiritually to the Mass as it is being celebrated in our churches.

One way you can do this by joining broadcast Masses on radio, television, or via the internet.

This resource is offered to provide a ritual by which families, "the domestic church," can keep the Lord's day holy by joining together to celebrate part of the Church's liturgy at home. Ideally, the head of the family will lead the service; other members of the family should take on roles as readers.

It would be appropriate to celebrate this service at the usual time the family would attend Mass. If possible, prepare a suitable prayer space with a crucifix, holy picture and/or a candle or two. If the family is blessed with musical talent, hymns would be appropriate.

#### INTRODUCTORY RITES

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

#### GREETING

Leader: We gather together to keep holy the Lord's Day. Sunday has been called the Lord's Day because it was on this day, the first Easter, that Jesus conquered sin and death and rose to new life. Unfortunately, we are not able to attend Mass today; in the light of the coronavirus pandemic, all public celebration of Mass has been suspended. But, let us now be united in the spirit of Christ with the Church around the world and celebrate our redemption in Christ's suffering, death and resurrection

Leader: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be God for ever.

**All: Blessed be God for ever.**

#### PENITENTIAL ACT

Leader: Coming together as God's family, with confidence let us acclaim the Father's forgiveness, for God is full of gentleness and compassion.

*After a pause for silent reflection, the leader continues.*

Leader: Lord, you ascended to the Father  
and gave us the gift of the Spirit,  
Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader Christ, by the power of your cross  
you draw all creatures to yourself.  
Christ, have mercy.

**All: Christ, have mercy.**

Leader Lord, you are the king of the universe  
and Your dominion lasts for ever.  
Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

GLORY TO GOD

**All: Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.  
We praise you, we bless you  
we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.  
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, (Jesus),  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

COLLECT

Leader: Let us pray.

O God, who by the mystery of today's great feast sanctify your whole Church in every people and nation, pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit across the face of the earth and, with the divine grace that was at work when the Gospel was first proclaimed, fill now once more the hearts of believers. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 2: 1-11

Reader: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem. At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd, but they were confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language. They were astounded, and in amazement they asked, "Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans? Then how does each of us hear them in his native language? We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites, inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene, as well as travelers from Rome, both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs, yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God."

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 104

Reader: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

**All: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

Reader: Bless the Lord, O my soul!  
O Lord, my God, you are great indeed!  
How manifold are your works, O Lord!  
The earth is full of your creatures.

**All: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

Reader: If you take away their breath, they perish  
and return to their dust.  
When you send forth your spirit, they are created,  
and you renew the face of the earth.

**All: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

Reader: May the glory of the Lord endure forever;  
may the Lord be glad in his works!  
Pleasing to him be my theme;  
I will be glad in the Lord.

**All: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 12: 3b-7, 12-13

Reader: A reading from the First Letter of Saint Peter

Brothers and sisters: No one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

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. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.

As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE

ODE TO JOY

**All:**

**Come, O Holy Spirit, come! And from your celestial home  
Shed a ray of light divine! Come, O Holy Spirit, come!  
Come, O Father of the poor! Come, O Source of all our store!  
Come, within our bosoms shine! Come, O Holy Spirit, come!**

**You of comforters, the best; You the soul's most welcome guest;  
Sweet refreshment here below; Come, O Holy Spirit, come!  
In our labor, rest most sweet; Grateful coolness in the heat;  
Solace in the midst of woe. Come, O Holy Spirit, come!**

**O most blessed Light divine, May that Light within us shine,  
And our inmost being fill! Come, O Holy Spirit, come!  
In your absence, we have naught, Nothing good in deed or thought,  
Nothing in the midst of woe. Come, O Holy Spirit, come!**

**Heal our wounds, our strength renew; On our dryness pour your dew;  
Wash the satins of guilt away; Come, O Holy Spirit, come!  
Bend the stubborn heart and will; Melt the frozen, warm the chill;  
Guide the seeps that go astray. Come, O Holy Spirit, come!**

**On the faithful who adore And confess you ever more,  
In your sev'nfold gift descend; Come, O Holy Spirit, come!  
Give them virtue's sure reward; Give them your salvation, Lord;  
Give them joys that never end. Come, O Holy Spirit, come!**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Cantor: Alleluia, alleluia.

**All: Alleluia, alleluia.**

Cantor:

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful  
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

**All: Alleluia, alleluia.**

GOSPEL

John 20: 19-23

Leader: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

REFLECTION

*This reflection appears in [The Word Among Us](#) which is providing free access to their magazine content during this stage of the coronavirus crisis. Visit [wau.org](#).*

Reader: They were all filled with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:4)

Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he told the apostles that they would be "baptized with the holy Spirit" (Acts 1:5). So together with Mary, they "devoted themselves with one accord to prayer" (1:14). And sure enough, the Holy Spirit came — with wind and fire and with a new boldness to preach the gospel.

Pentecost tells a beautiful story about God's power and the apostles' transformation. But they didn't receive the Spirit just that one day. They were immersed in the Spirit again and again. The Book of Acts records at least seven times that the apostles were "filled" with the Spirit (Acts 2:4; 4:8, 31; 6:8; 7:55; 13:9, 52). And this doesn't count all the other times that never made it into the Bible!

The same is true for us. Although we received the Holy Spirit in Baptism, we too need more of the Spirit's power and gifts to follow the Lord and proclaim the good news.

Jesus knew how much we would need the Holy Spirit, and so even long before his Ascension, he encouraged his disciples to pray for this gift: "If you . . . know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit?" (Luke 11:13). And John's Gospel assures us that God "does not ration his gift of the Spirit" (3:34). There is always more that God has for us!

Today, follow the apostles' example. Believe in God's promise of the Spirit and then pray for it. Keep praying, not just on this special feast, but every day. You might even ask a few faith-filled friends to pray with you for a new outpouring of the Spirit in your life. You may not see wind or fire, but the Spirit will come to you in new, unexpected, and even extraordinary ways — not only for your benefit, but for the good of his body, the Church!

"Holy Spirit, make your home in my heart, today and every day."

#### PROFESSION OF FAITH

**All: I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.**

**I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made,  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:**

[All bow during these two lines:]

**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and become man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the Prophets.**

**I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

#### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

A long-standing Pentecost tradition at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Richboro, PA, which has been preparing these resources, involves each petition of the General Intercessions being read in a different language spoken by at least some parishioners, with the response for each petition given in Latin. The different languages symbolize diversity in the Church, the common response, the unity of the Church — both of which are celebrated at Pentecost.

Bi-lingual and multi-lingual groups using this resource are invited to consider a similar approach. The rubrics for St. Vincent de Paul Parish are included to provide an example of the logistics involved. A group without speakers of other languages could still maintain the Latin responses.

Leader: Almighty God, as we are gathered together, not physically but spiritually, joined in hope and in faith. We ask you to minister to our needs. Send the Holy Spirit to fill the hearts of your faithful people and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Reader: Today's feast celebrates the power of the Holy Spirit to bring together all the languages of the world into one Church. As a sign of this unity and diversity within the Christian community, each of the petitions of the General Intercessions is being read in different language by a parishioner.

Each petition will end with the Latin phrase:

Orémus Dómino [o-RAY-mus DOE-me-no];, "We pray to the Lord."

Our response will also be in Latin:

**Dómine, exáudi nos.** [DOE-me-nay, ex-OW-dee nos], "Lord, hear us."

Reader: **Norma Yabut** **Filipino**  
For our church leaders,  
that they will be guided in their ministry  
by the influence of the Holy Spirit  
and that the Church, in the power of the Spirit,  
may make the Gospel understandable to people  
of every race, language, and culture.  
Orémus Dómino [o-RAY-mus DOE-me-no].

**All: Dómine, exáudi nos..**

Reader: **Elisabetta Erickson** **Italian**  
For all world leaders,  
that they be open to the wisdom and the power of the Holy Spirit  
to unite and reconcile the peoples and nations of the earth,  
bringing an end to war, hatred, discrimination,  
and the present Covid-19 pandemic.  
Orémus Dómino [o-RAY-mus DOE-me-no].

**All: Dómine, exáudi nos..**

Reader: **Joe or Valsa Kunnel** Malayalam  
For all baptized Christians,  
that each of us may develop more fully his or her response  
to all the gifts which the Spirit bestows  
for the service of the Body of Christ.  
Orémus Dómino [o-RAY-mus DOE-me-no].

**All: Dómine, exáudi nos..**

Reader: **Andrea Soto** Spanish  
For the entire world and its peoples with all our needs,  
questions and longings, in the midst of COVID-19,  
and for those who are tasked with providing  
the medical and community support and,  
eventually, in the long task of reconstruction.  
Orémus Dómino [o-RAY-mus DOE-me-no].

**All: Dómine, exáudi nos..**

Reader: **Edie Krieg** German  
For the sick, especially those for whom we have been asked to pray,  
and for those who care for the sick,  
those engaged in the caring professions  
and for family members who look after loved ones  
and especially for children who care for parents,  
that God guide them and strengthen them.  
Orémus Dómino [o-RAY-mus DOE-me-no].

**All: Dómine, exáudi nos..**

Reader: **Dominika or Sebastian Szczepanik** Polish  
For all our sisters and brothers who have died,  
that they be given a place at the heavenly banquet  
and that the Holy Spirit, who purifies us of sin and raises the dead,  
bring all our departed loved ones into the fullness of your presence.  
Orémus Dómino [o-RAY-mus DOE-me-no].

**All: Dómine, exáudi nos..**

Reader: **Deacon Jack Golaszewski** English  
For the prayers we now make in the silence of our hearts, (*pause*)  
Orémus Dómino [o-RAY-mus DOE-me-no].

**All: Dómine, exáudi nos..**

Leader: Everlasting God, on this Day of Pentecost,  
we rejoice in the wonderful gift of your Spirit.  
Send him again into our hearts,  
into our lives, and into our world.  
Through Christ our Risen Lord.

**All: Amen.**



LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave us.

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
Amen.**

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

St. Alphonsus Liguori

**All: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament.  
I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if You were already there,  
and unite myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to be separated from You.  
Amen.**

PRAYER OF BLESSING

Leader: St Michael, the Archangel, Protect and Pray for us.

**All: Amen.**

Leader: The Lord bless us and keep us; the Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us; the Lord turn his face toward us and give us his peace both now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

Leader: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

SOURCES

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