

28 May 2020

Dear Friends,

This weekend we celebrate Pentecost—when the Holy Spirit Descended upon the Apostles ten days after Jesus Ascended into Heaven. And, we make our celebration more complete by praying for a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon us—a *New Pentecost!*

We will celebrate this *New Pentecost* by dedicating this entire weekend to the Holy Spirit, including two special liturgies on Friday and Saturday. Please join us:

Friday, May 29, 7:00-8:00 p.m.: Mercy Night w/ Drive-in Adoration

We will have Adoration w/ readings and praise music in church plaza.

Join us from your car in the church parking lot (see parish media for more details).

Or live-streaming on our parish YouTube channel (and available afterwards).

Saturday, May 30, 5:00 p.m.: Pentecost Vigil Mass

Special Mass with additional readings reflecting on the role of the Holy Spirit in our life.

Live-streaming on our parish YouTube channel (and available afterwards).

Sunday, May 31, 9:00 a.m.: Pentecost Sunday Mass

Mass celebrating the Descent of the Holy Spirit into our world.

Live-streaming on our parish YouTube channel (and available afterwards).

Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa, OFM Cap., has been the Preacher to the Papal Household since 1980. He has written a “Message in Preparation of Pentecost 2020” (www.charis.international), in which he encouraged us to have *faith* in the power of the Holy Spirit. Furthermore, he encouraged us to give more of our *attention* to the Holy Spirit. He wrote that the example of St. Paul shows us we are not to make any difficulty we experience “the center of everything.” We shouldn’t “sadden the Holy Spirit by considering it as less important (or less powerful) than the virus” (or any of our afflictions).

Fr. Cantalamessa acknowledged that this is difficult to do. But, Pentecost is meant precisely for reminding us that—with God’s Grace—we *can* do it! The three young Hebrews praised God from the furnace (Daniel 3:51ff). Paul and Silas praised God from prison (Acts 16:22-26). And we will continue to praise God in all things (Thessalonians 5:18)!

The Holy Spirit has been given to us, and we can all upon His Power any time! On this Pentecost, “we praise [God] because we are sure that He will be able to draw good out of [every] evil.”

Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us!

