

21 May 2020

Dear Friends,

This weekend we celebrate Memorial Day – a time when all of us are grateful to thousands of brave men and women who gave their life for our nation. Let us offer this prayer for them and for our world:

*God of power and mercy,  
you destroy war and put down earthly pride.  
Banish violence from our midst and wipe away our tears,  
that we may all deserve to be called your sons and daughters.  
Keep in your mercy those men and women who have died in the cause of freedom  
and bring them safely into your kingdom of justice and peace.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

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I'm very grateful to Fr. Lyle Konen, who has been filling in for me this week while I'm away. Many of you will recognize Fr. Lyle – he has celebrated Mass here at MQP several times this past year. He is one of several priests who have been a big help by filling in for me at various times. *Thank you, Fr. Lyle!*

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Finally, let us pray a novena of prayers in preparation for Pentecost Sunday! The word “novena” comes from the Latin word for “nine”. It is a set of prayers that are prayed for nine consecutive days for a specific intention. In fact, the tradition was started in preparation for the First Pentecost. After Jesus' Ascension, the disciples prayed for nine days, and on the tenth day, the Holy Spirit came and filled them! The Pentecost Novena begins tomorrow, Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. You can find an example here:

[www.praymorenovenas.com/novena-to-the-holy-spirit](http://www.praymorenovenas.com/novena-to-the-holy-spirit)

Also, please consider praying this Holy Spirit Chaplet, asking for a New Pentecost in our parish and in our world: [ccrno.org/?p=48026](http://ccrno.org/?p=48026)

Furthermore, at Mass during these days, we will add this to the end of the *Our Lady of Seattle Prayer*:

*O Holy Spirit, through Mary's intercession, please come anew.  
Fill our hearts and kindle in us the fire of Your love.  
Send forth Your Spirit for a New Pentecost  
that renews our parish and the entire world.*

Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us!

