



Reflection

Pentecost Sunday

June 8, 2025

Acts 2.1-11

Today, we commemorate one of the most significant moments in the Church's history, Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles, transforming them from terrified followers into courageous messengers of the Gospel.

The writer of the Acts of the Apostles says, “*And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.*” (Acts 2:4). This is more than a dramatic story. The birth of the Church marks an important moment in history.

Moreover, the Spirit manifests itself as wind and fire, representing God's presence, power, and purification, respectively. The Spirit begins by opening voices and hearts to proclaim the Good News in all languages.

First, the Holy Spirit bestows courage. The same apostles who fled in fear after Jesus' crucifixion are now publicly preaching His resurrection. Fear is replaced by faith and hesitancy by mission in the presence of the Holy Spirit. We, too, are called to be courageous, not because of our strength, but because the Spirit is with us. Furthermore, the Spirit did not descend to make the disciples comfortable but to send them forth. Similarly, we are not expected to keep our faith private or passive. Each of us is blessed, enabled, and sent. Let us hope that this Pentecost will revitalize us, fill us with the fire of God's love, and give us the courage to share Christ with the world.