

## Reflection

### Pentecost Sunday 1 Cor 12.3-7

We are all asked to let the Spirit's power to work in our lives on this Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost serves as a reminder that God utilizes us as his instruments to accomplish his purposes and change the course of our lives.

In 1 Cor., Paul states that although there are many kinds of gifts and roles to play, they all come from one God, one Lord, and one Spirit—that is, from the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Moreover, we do not own these gifts exclusively, nor do they elevate us above other people in our community. Paul reflects that everyone in the faith community have a spiritual gift, making them all important. Thus, spiritual gifts serve the community as a whole and are not goals unto themselves. Indeed, gifts are intended to benefit and save other people. The following is a summary of some of the charisms: music, teaching, administration/leadership, discernment, knowledge, wisdom, and missionary. Even though a person may not be aware that they are actively seeking to identify their charism, the Holy Spirit typically uses other people to recognize a person's gift and inspire them to pursue it.

Therefore, each of us ought to ask themselves: "Is there a charism that the Lord has given me, through the power of his Spirit, and that my Christian brothers and sisters have acknowledged and supported? Or do I ignore it and eventually lose track of it? Or is it possible that it makes me feel proud of myself to the point that I constantly criticize other people and insist on having my way in the community? Let us not forget that there are countless opportunities to experience spiritual encounters in this world. Be open to receiving and renewing the spirit and may this be the prayer you say to the Lord every day: "Lord, send forth your spirit and renew the earth."