

## Christ Our Hope Catholic Church

# FAITH IN LAITY CORNER

Monday, June 10, 2019

1<sup>st</sup> Reading Acts 2:1-11



## Spirit Breeze

**Pentecost!** What is the significance of the joy and celebration of today? Today is Pentecost, the color is red and the Paschal candle will be lit for this day and then removed from its position on the front of the altar. Why? It is the birthday of our Catholic Christian faith!!!! We launched our church under the guiding power of the Holy Spirit to take up the task which Jesus the risen Savior left for us to do!! Many of us know that without the Holy Spirit coming, there would have been no Catholic church and our faith would have floundered and died centuries ago; but it didn't and wouldn't because of one *'power'* reason. Our Catholic Church was not founded on the ideals of the human intellect, the efforts of man or the persistence of the disciples; but under the power of the Holy Spirit. It will not fail.

We recognize that it is now 50 days after we celebrated the Resurrection of Jesus and some 10 days since we acknowledge the fact that with the early tasks completed He returned to His Father in heaven. For some strange reason, Jesus kept reminding His followers, wait for *'this Spirit'*, and wait for the Advocate, the one Who is to come. Why was Jesus so adamant that everyone just prays and wait for *'this Spirit'*? What was so special about *'this Spirit'*?

And it came .....

*“Suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind.” (Acts 2:2)*

Think of *modern day* reporters trying to get an angle on this scene, witnesses to the outpouring of the Spirit. What would they see? *Is this a tornado, a cyclone on land, is that gale force winds, is this a dust storm, hurricane winds....* I guess everyone would have had something to say.

*“It filled the entire house in which they were.” (Acts 2:2)*

This *Spirit wind* was following a particular path, it was very subjective and selective. It was happening in one house and that house alone... What did that mean? Who were the people in that house? Why did it not affect other houses along the way? What was happening now, that our eyes could not see?

*“There appeared to them tongues as of fire,*

*which parted and came to rest on each one of them.” (Acts 2:3)*

The room was filled with some 120 followers of Jesus, His Apostles, Mary, Jesus’ mother, Mary Magdalene, Mary, mother of James, Salome, Stephen, and many other followers- the first Catholic congregation. What were they doing in that room altogether? They were having a prayer *vigil*- watching, waiting in prayer.... Yes, they were in prayer. This Pentecostal (50) spirit movement was **powered** by prayer. The Spirit did not come like a soft breeze; it came with spiritual **power force**- thundering wind and fire.

***The Spirit came, with movement... windows were opened, doors were unbolted- the praying disciples, now became the preaching, proclaiming, and linguistic experts moved by the Spirit!!***

This Spirit causes movement, powering them and now, us to do the work that Jesus left for us to do..... The Spirit enabled the followers of Jesus to travel via foot, donkey, boat, or horse to preach in the name of Jesus who had lived, suffered, died and rose to eternal glory.

Each of us when baptized received the Holy Spirit; those of us who received our Confirmation had the laying of hands, anointed and the Spirit was poured out upon us.

*One word resounds in the spirit-power, movement, MOVEMENT!!*

If we are people of the Pentecost breeze we are about moving to preach, teach, pray, give; minister to the sick, homeless, jobless; testifying about our faith, evangelizing, encouraging, caring for those who are rejected, scorned, in pain and worries -We are movers in the front line of the ***Jesus tasks-*** *powered by the Spirit breeze*. What is the Pentecost breeze doing for you? If you are not moved by the ‘Spirit breeze’, then you need to pray for that Pentecost spirit **so that this breeze CAN MOVE you!!!**

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*We pray for that spirit breeze of the Pentecost to touch the hearts of the faithful willing and enkindle the firepower of love for the Jesus mission so that the face of our earth may be renewed, changed and placed under Divine Order .....*

***Faith in Laity Corner** is a weekly sharing of Holy Week readings written by Brenda Chee Wah,  
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