ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CATHOLIC CHURCH

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JUNE 9, 2019

Pastoral Team Rev. Fr. Fredy Angel Pastor Deacon Ray Brown Deacon Steven Mancuso Sunday Masses English: 10:00AM Spanish: 11:30AM <u>Daily Mass</u> Monday-Wednesday: 9:30AM <u>Confessions</u> Sunday before Masses or by appointment

OFFICE HOURS Monday - Thursday 9:00AM - 3:00PM

COME, HOLY SPIRIT

As the Gospel of John depicts the Last Supper, Jesus leaves the disciples with these words before they rise from the table: "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you" (John 14:26). Jesus knows that he will be arrested that very night. He knows the kind of death he will suffer the next day, Good Friday. We might think Jesus tells his disciples to watch for the coming of the Holy Spirit because he simply runs out of time to leave them complete instructions about how to build the church. Rather, Jesus tells his disciples to look forward to the Spirit because the ongoing work of teaching and guiding is what the Spirit does best. The Advocate is not a hand-me-down replacement for the risen Jesus; the Holy Spirit is fully God, with mysterious power to help us grow in holiness.

COME TOGETHER

Jesus speaks grandly of the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity. He promises that the Spirit will teach "everything." Everything! Jesus' words reveal the completeness of God's plan. God, who could have chosen any method in the world to offer salvation to humanity, insists on acting as a unity of three persons in perfect complementarity. This is a profound and delightful mystery. We praise the one, undivided God, whose very existence is a communion. Contemplating God, we feel the awesome power of community. God prefers existing in relationship, and so must we. We recognize the sacred call to interdependence. This glorious feast of Pentecost invites us to consider all the people we know—and maybe especially the ones we tend to fear, reject, ignore, or dread—and ask the Spirit to teach us how to form better relationships with them. Even if we have tried before and failed, we boldly ask again. As Jesus says, the Spirit teaches *everything*.

Today's Readings: Acts 2:1–11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29–30, 31, 34; 1 Cor 12:3b–7, 12–13 or Rom 8:8–17; Jn 20:19–23 or Jn 14:15–16, 23b–26

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Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained. *John 20:22-23*

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June 9, 2019

Pentecost Sunday

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Today we are at the fiftieth day of the Easter celebration: seven weeks of seven days, a week of weeks, now culminating in a festival fiftieth day. While the liturgical color of the Easter season is gold, on this last day we have red. For the first thousand years of the church, there were no firm rules for using colors. Only wealthy churches could afford a full array of colors, and most places used the best vestments, no matter the color, for the greatest feasts. The Church spelled out an exact plan for color, including red for Pentecost, only in 1570, but local differences held on until the 1800s.

Color experts tell us that red is a hot color, best used for fast-paced, upbeat, active experiences. It is hard to be neutral before red, as any matador will tell you. It invites commitment, draws you in. It is a stimulating color, engaging the eye, stirring hunger. It is the most fitting color for this day when we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit into our lives, a dynamic presence overturning neutrality in favor of passion and commitment.

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