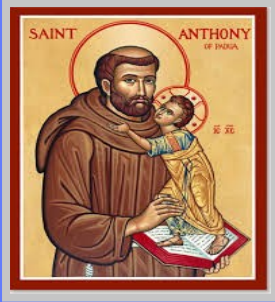


May 20, 2018

Pentecost Sunday



St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

Weekly Reflection



Pentecost Sunday REMEMBERING AT THE DOOR What was the first thing you did today as you entered the church? The very first ritual gesture we are invited to make is the dipping of our hand in a font or vessel of holy water. We then make a sign of the cross. For so many of us this gesture has become routine and its potential impact passes us by. Obviously, we make this gesture to remind us that baptism was our entry, our initiation, into the Church. Each time we come to worship, we remind ourselves that we are baptized believers. In order to recover the meaning of this gesture, many people have begun to add an extra remembrance to this gesture. When making the sign of the cross with the holy water, consider bringing to mind those who initially brought you to the sacrament of baptism—your parents and godparents. BAPTISM AS THE ROOT OF VOCATION On this great feast of Pentecost, when we celebrate the in rushing of the Holy Spirit, it is good for us to recall our own baptism. Baptism is at the foundation of each Christian's call, or vocation, to share in the ministry of Jesus Christ. For some, this means a response to the call to ordained ministry. For the vast majority of us, our vocation is played out in life's relationships and everyday situations. Our ordained leaders have the responsibility of inspiring us to do the work of building the reign of God in those places where our daily routines take us: school, work, the gym, the supermarket, the mall, our dinner tables, around the television, or at the computer. At our baptism, we were given the gift of the Holy Spirit. In confirmation, we were sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The power to share in the ministry of Christ is planted within us. Let us be open to rediscovering the power of the Holy Spirit on this Pentecost and throughout the coming year.

