



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

Mass: 9:00 am – Sunday
Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei
(902) 535-2053

June 08, 2025

Solemnity of Pentecost

The Solemnity of Pentecost (Whitsunday), with Christmas and Easter, ranks among the greatest feasts of Christianity. It commemorates not only the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, Mary and Disciples, but also the fruits and effects of that event: the completion of the work of redemption, the fullness of grace for the Church and its children, and the gift of faith for all nations.

After Jesus had ascended to heaven from Mt. Olivet, the apostles and disciples returned to the Holy City. They remained together in the Upper Room or Cenacle, the place where Jesus had appeared to them and which may well be called the first Christian church. About a hundred and twenty persons were assembled there. They chose Matthias as an apostle in place of the unhappy Judas; they prayed and waited for the Paraclete.

Ten days had passed, it was Sunday, the seventh Sunday after the resurrection. At about nine o'clock in the morning, as they were together praying fervently, the Holy Spirit descended upon them. Note how all the great theophanies in Christ's life occurred during the course of prayer. After His baptism, for instance, when Jesus was praying the heavens opened and the Holy Spirit descended in the form of a dove; likewise, it was during prayer at night that the transfiguration took place on Tabor. Surely too it was while Mary was praying that Gabriel delivered his message, and the Holy Spirit overshadowed her. Pentecost followed precedent. The small community of Christians had prepared themselves through prayer for the coming of the Paraclete. The same is true at Mass today, every day; through prayer we ready our souls for the advent of the Spirit.

The descent upon the apostles was internal and invisible in nature although accompanied by certain visible phenomena. There came a mighty roar, like the onrush of a violent wind. It came suddenly, from heaven; but unlike storms that strike a structure from without, this one penetrated and filled the room where the disciples were gathered. Therefore it was not a natural wind, it was a miracle peculiar to the occasion. A second visible sign consisted in tongues of fire that descended upon each one present. These fiery tongues gave visible evidence that the Holy Spirit had descended upon them.

Today at Mass, particularly at holy Communion, the power of the Holy Spirit will come down upon us; fiery tongues will not be seen, but invisible tongues of fire will not be absent. There was still another external manifestation of the Holy Spirit; the apostles and disciples were enabled to speak various languages.

After the roar of the wind many of Jerusalem's pilgrims hurried to the Cenacle. Pentecost was one of the three festivals which obliged all Jews to be present in Jerusalem. Jews from distant lands, and Jewish converts from paganism too, attended these feasts. As a result, a colorful crowd speaking a variety of languages surrounded the house. Now the apostles, who so shortly before had hid in fear behind locked doors, came forth and courageously walked among the multitude speaking to each in his native tongue. It was indeed amazing! Galileans, and multilingual?

But the malicious too were present; they had the answer. Nothing marvelous at all! Those Galileans were simply drunk, and their drunken babble sounded like a foreign language! Peter showed no hesitation in answering the charge. None of their number, he said, were intoxicated; it was but nine o'clock in the morning, and at that hour men usually are sober.

What the multitude saw was, in fact, the fulfillment of Joel's prophecy: In those days (of the Messiah), God will pour forth His Spirit upon men and they will prophesy. . . . Then the apostle pointed his words more directly against the accusers: they had killed Jesus, had nailed Him to the Cross; but God had awakened Him and after His departure to heaven, He sent the Holy Spirit.

The pilgrims who had heard Peter give this first pentecostal sermon "were pierced to the heart and said: Brethren, what shall we do? But Peter said to them: Repent and be baptized; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Three thousand responded.

One final question: why the miracle of tongues? In answer, recall the story regarding the tower of Babel. Puffed up by pride, men attempted to build a tower that would touch the heavens. To punish their sin, God confused their speech. Sin causes confusion and division. Now Christ came to gather all men into His Church and thereby to unite them to Himself. This should result in creating but one family of nations again. To this blessed state the miracle of tongues points.

Yes, even we as individuals have a gift of tongues which all men can understand. It is the gift of love infused into us by the Holy Spirit. Love unites, love is a common language, by means of love we can speak to all nations.

—Excerpted from *The Church's Year of Grace*, Pius Parsch

Collection
June 01, 2025

Envelopes	\$480.00
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Notices:

1: Johnstown Landing Outdoor Farmer's Market: We are pleased to announce the fourth season of the Johnstown Landing Outdoor Farmer's Market. This year the Market will operate 10:00 am to 1 pm every SUNDAY from June 29 to September 7th. Interested vendors should call 902-631-0209. Note: vendors do not need to commit to attending every week. Johnstown Landing is located across from the Johnstown Parish Hall.

2: 60th Anniversary Celebration: Fr. Eugene Morris of Port Hood will be celebrating 60 years of Priesthood on **Sunday June 8, 2025**. There will be an open reception at St. Peter's Parish Hall from 1:30 to 3:30pm followed by Holy Mass at 4:30pm, in St. Peter's Church Port Hood (283 Main Street Port Hood). All are welcome.

3: COMFORT TEA ... Come For Tea – June 18, 2025: We all experience many types of losses throughout our lives. To promote awareness of the impact of grief, you are invited to join us for a beverage and sweets. You may bring a friend, photo, memento, or memory to share or just be with others who understand. 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm on Wednesday, June 18th, 2025 at the West Bay Community Centre, 3020 Cenotaph Rd, West Bay, N.S. Sponsored by the Strait Richmond Palliative Care Society and Nova Scotia Hospice Palliative Care Association Healing Pathways. All are welcome.

4: French Mass: There will be a Mass in French at the Centre Communautaire Étoile de L'Acadie (15 Inglis St, Sydney, NS) on Saturday June 14, 2025 at 5:30PM. Pot Luck supper to follow along with music from Le Cercle Musicale de la région de Sydney. Everyone welcome !

5: Strawberry Festival: The Outdoor Mass and Strawberry Festival are only 4 weeks away. Sacred Heart Ladies Group are asking for people to bake Biscuits, Bonnach and Oat cakes for the festival. We will also require help to set up and serve on the 6th. If you can help please let us know.

6: Camino Nova Scotia

Since 2014, as part of the educational outreach of the Atlantic School of Theology, Camino Nova Scotia has "made pilgrimage local." Pilgrimage is spiritual travel for transformation. Camino Nova Scotia offers guided group walking pilgrimages in—you guessed it—Nova Scotia!

This summer we are offering Caminos along the South Shore of Nova Scotia and on the Western shore of Cape Breton Island, both of which highlight the seaside beauty of our beautiful province. Join us on pilgrimage and discover more about yourself in community, as you also discover the Gaelic, Mi'kmaq, and Acadian histories of the Land under your feet.

Visit www.caminonovascotia.ca for more information.

7: Schedule of Events that will take place at the Johnstown Parish Hall this summer: More information will be provided as the event get closer

Sunday July 6th, Our Lady of Guadalupe Outdoor Mass – 2:00 pm -Richmond County Men's choir will be singing. Please bring your own chair.

Sunday July 6th – Strawberry Festival – 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Saturday July 19th – Cold Plate Supper

Sunday August 10th – Cemetery Mass – 9:00 am

Sunday August 10th – Pancake Breakfast – 9:45 am

Friday August 22nd – 93rd Annual Milling Frolic and Square Dance: Music for the dance will be provided by Keith, Kyle and Colin MacDonald