

THE MONO COUNTY CATHOLIC



Before the mountains were born, the earth and the world brought forth, from eternity to eternity you are God. Psalm 90:2

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE SEVENTH WEEK OF EASTER
Our commitment to daily prayer using the weekday Mass readings as our guide

MONDAY 5/21
Acts 19:1-8
John 16:29-33

TUESDAY 5/22
Acts 20:17-27
John 17:1-11

WEDNESDAY 5/23
Acts 20:28-38
John 17:11-19

THURSDAY 5/24
Acts 22:30; 23:6-11
John 17:20-26

FRIDAY 5/25
Acts 25:13-21
John 21:15-19

SATURDAY 5/26
Acts 28:16-20, 30-31
John 21:20-25

Feasts, Solemnities, and Memorials This Week:

Friday, Bede the Venerable, Pope Gregory VII, & Mary Magdalene de Pazzi; Saturday, Philip Neri

EL CONSULADO DE SACRAMENTO EN MAMMOTH

El Consulado de Sacramento llevara a cabo un consulado móvil en Mammoth Lakes el 9 de Junio del 2012 en el Village Lodge, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, 1111 Forest Trail. ES NECESARIO HACER UNA CITA EN MEXITEL 1-877-MEXI-TEL o sea 1-877-639-4835 www.consulmex.sre.gob.mx/sacramento/

SERVICIO DE FOTOGRAFIA

El estudio Bluebird Imaging estará cobrando solo \$5 por las fotos de pasaporte por persona. 123 Commerce Drive, Studio C6, (760) 924-0316, www.bluebirdimaging.com

SERVICIO DE COPIAS

La biblioteca pública de Mammoth Lakes es la más barata de la área cobran 10 centavos por copia y si usted es miembro de la biblioteca cobran 5 centavos.

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN

It's how the Good News gets around. **Pope Benedict XVI**, in his 43rd message for World Communication Day, said that technologies like television, radio, text messages, billboards, DVDs, and the Internet are "truly a gift to humanity and we must endeavor to ensure that the benefits they offer are put at the service of all human individuals and communities." Next week we will take up a special collection to benefit the Catholic Communication Campaign.

PRAYERS

Our prayers are requested for Bonnie Zwart, Mark & Mary Anne Bewsher, Tina Quan, James Zvetina, Pat Glynn, Bobbie Engstrom, Diane Evans, Raquel Rodriguez, John Gracey, Bob Tomko, Jr., Virginia Reyes, Elizabeth Cauzza, Kay Reilly, Mary Jo Ferreir, Julie Rogers, Antonio Salinas, Josefina Flores, Jim Rothe, John Wallis, Sue Ann Logar, and for the repose of the soul of Refukio Zamaripa.

DAILY MASS

Weekday services are celebrated daily at 7:00 AM, Monday through Saturday, in St. Joseph rectory adjacent to the church in Mammoth Lakes. Walk right in; stay after for coffee and fellowship.

May 20, 2012

Ascension of the Lord

"You will receive power when the holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight.

Acts of the Apostles 1:8-9



SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE
Mammoth Lakes: St. Joseph Church –
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 PM
Sunday Mass: 8:00 AM
La Misa en Español: 5:30 PM
Lee Vining:
Our Savior of the Mountains Mission -
Sunday Mass 10:00 AM
Bridgeport: Infant of Prague Mission -
Sunday Mass 12:00 Noon

CONFESSIONS

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated at St. Joseph Church in Mammoth Lakes from 5:30 to 5:45 on Saturday afternoons, 7:30 to 7:45 on Sunday mornings, y en español a las tardes del domingo de 5:00 a 5:15; and upon request before mass at Our Savior of the Mountains mission in Lee Vining and Infant of Prague mission in Bridgeport. The "Act of Contrition" is on page 194 of the missalette.

SAINT JOSEPH PARISH
OF MONO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
P.O. Box 372,
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Phone: 760-934-6276

Rev. Paul Boudreau, pastor

Mono County Catholic May 20, 2012

FIRST READING: Acts 1:1–11

You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Can the church preach effectively without the power of the Holy Spirit? I think not. Do we get the Holy Spirit automatically when we're baptized and confirmed? Yeah, sure. That is the doctrine of our faith. God works within us *ex opere operato*, a Latin phrase meaning "from the work done" referring to the effectiveness of the Sacraments deriving from the Sacrament itself as opposed to the merits or skills of the minister or the recipients. Does that mean all Catholic priests, deacons, and bishops are effective preachers? Well now, if the answer to that question was yes, we probably wouldn't be hearing so many complains about lousy preaching in the Catholic Church.

The Holy Spirit is like the gas in the tank of your car: it's not going to provide the power unless you fire it up and use it. The Spirit is compelling, but it cannot overcome our choice not to use it or even believe that it's present in us.

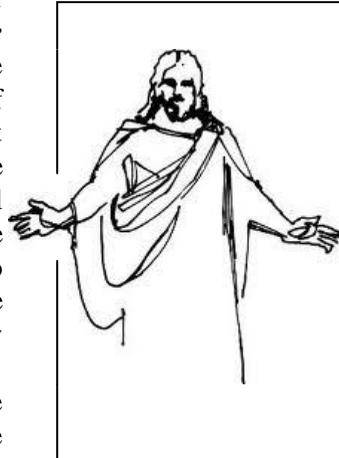
The two Scriptural models of the disciples' encounter with the Holy Spirit were the "mighty wind" and "tongues of flame" story in The Acts of the Apostles (Acts 2:1–4) and the "breathed upon" story in the Gospel of John (John 20:22–23). The story in Acts was set forty-nine days, a "week of weeks" after the resurrection of Jesus while the story in John took place in the evening of the very same day of the resurrection. One represented an immediate awareness while the other was a

more gradual dawning. Either way, the power was unleashed from the experience of fear. The disciples thought they were definitely in trouble and would suffer severe consequences, but it turned out they were pardoned. Only the forgiven sinner can truly know the transforming power of God's love.

SECOND READING:

Ephesians 1:17–23 or Ephesians 4:1–13

May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that



Jesús es el Señor

De los muchos títulos que la Iglesia le atribuye a Jesucristo en esta temporada, la liturgia de hoy destaca uno en particular. En esta solemnidad, para todos, Jesús es el Señor, el principio y el fin de la historia y del tiempo. Él ha sido glorificado por el Padre y vive para siempre a su diestra con el Espíritu Santo. El Evangelio de hoy describe los signos que han de acompañar a los discípulos del Señor Jesús. Demos necesita reflexionar y responder a estas preguntas claves que reflejan hasta qué punto hemos tomado en serio la nueva vida resucitada que la Iglesia proclama en este tiempo pascual: ¿cuáles son los demonios que han arrojado durante este tiempo: prejuicios y rencores, envidias y acusaciones? ¿Qué formas de sanación han sentido? ¿Se puede sentir entre sus miembros un cambio significativo del amor y de la justicia a la que la temporada los llama?

belongs to his call ... and what is the surpassing greatness of his power for us who believe ... as you were also called to the hope of your calling.

Healthy people do not need a doctor. This simple image of common sense climaxes a series of events in Matthew's gospel that demonstrates the extraordinary power of forgiveness. "I have come to call not the righteous," Jesus continues in Matthew 9:13, "but sinners." The statement is in response to criticism from the religious authorities that he had befriended a tax collector and was sharing a meal with

reprobates and immoral persons. (Matthew 9:10–12) The episode follows the one where he heals a paralytic by saying to him, "Your sins are forgiven." (9:2)

The church celebrates two sacraments that carry with them the absolution of sins: reconciliation and anointing. They are called "healing" sacraments because they release people from the power of sin and thereby set them free. Once freed from sin, human potential soars. "I can do all things through him who strengthens me," Saint Paul writes in

Philippians 4:13.

The failure to totally accept this complete release from sin has the opposite effect. "That is why many among you are ill and infirm, and a considerable number are dying," Paul charges in First Corinthians 11:26–34. The Corinthians are eating the Lord's Supper without correctly "discerning the body"; i.e. they are not understanding, nor are they accepting the remission of their sins.

Imagine the power we would experience if we totally accepted the forgiveness of our sins. And imagine what we could awaken in others if we totally forgave their sins.

GOSPEL: Mark 16:15–20

In my name they will drive out demons, they will speak new languages, they will pick up serpents with their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not harm them. They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.

The Ascension marks the rising of Christ above everything. "He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together," Saint Paul writes in Colossians 1:17. Today's gospel proclaims that he has taken his seat at the right hand of God. From this position he assures us, through the apostle, that "neither death, nor life ... nor powers, ... nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:38–39)

While this "longer ending" of today's gospel passage isn't authentic to the authorship of Mark, it is accepted by the church as inspired Scripture. Neither Luke nor Matthew carries it over to his account, perhaps because it may have been added to Mark's gospel text at a later time. But Luke captures the essence of the promises in his story of Paul's shipwreck on the island of Malta in Acts 28:1–9.

So what happened? Somewhere along the line we must have somehow qualified this power of God at work in believers. One argument goes that the power ended with the "age of the apostles." But the miracles performed by contemporary saints contradict this.

Belief is the key. No miracle can be worked where there is no faith. (Mark 5:5–6) Accepting that in Christ sins are forgiven unleashes the power of the Spirit within. When we cross the threshold of faith, we enter the rarefied world of kingdom power.