

ST. JOSEPH PARISH AND SCHOOL – JUNE 9, 2019

Dear Parishioners and Families,

The three principle Feasts of the Church are Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost. Pentecost is the least recognized of the three.

Pentecost is a Jewish festival time fifty days after the Passover. In this Palestinian area, it was an agricultural Feast because is coincided with the harvest of the grain. Their seasons are earlier than our own.

Pentecost was a holiday season for the Israelites and attracted visitors from afar because of its celebration. God chose this Jewish festival to fulfill his promise after Jesus' Ascension. Jesus promised that the Father would send an Advocate and the Advocate is the third person in the Blessed Trinity, the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is the quiet person of the Trinity. The wind of the Spirit reminds me of one of my tasks as a young boy. I was to set the clothes line in the backyard and place the clothes poles so the line would not sag when the wet sheets and clothes were hung. Mother hung the clothes. Two or three hours later, the gentle wind and breeze had dried the sheets and what a wonderful outdoor aroma they maintained when put on the bed. The Holy Spirit is that breeze or wind that when allowed to work leaves the sweet perfume of the Spirit's activity.

The power of the Spirit is also seen in the kite. The wind or breeze will take the kite up into the Heavens to places where we cannot fly on our own. So it is with the Spirit. One must be patient, quiet, and reflective to let the Holy Spirit fly our kite or to dry our wetness.

Additional Lectors Invited

Sandy Blazewick will soon be making out the July/August ministry schedules for Mass. She tells me we are needful of additional lectors. This is a talent just as singing is a talent. A lector should have a pleasant voice, ability to read with understanding and expression, and faithful in attendance at our services. Fr. Tom would like to interview each candidate so that the Word of God is expressed clearly and meaningfully. If you are interested in becoming a lector, please call Sandy and leave your name and contact number.

Wanda Spartage Celebrates 95th Birthday Saturday, June 8: Mary Denny is 109 on June 10th

Wanda was born in Ivydale, a small unincorporated community located along the Elk River. The day after graduating from high school, she left West Virginia and came to the Akron Canton area. Here she met John Spartage and they were married. He died on January 2, 1996 and is buried in our cemetery.

Wanda is a long time member of our parish. She now resides in the Altercare Nursing Home in Alliance. It is here that Communion Ministers visit her and bring her the Eucharist.

Wanda seems aged at ninety-five but when you look at Mary Denny, one sees a decade and a half more of inspiring life. The Liturgy at the 5:00 PM Mass on Saturday is offered in thanksgiving to the Lord for the Mary Denny among us. There is also a party Sunday from 12:00 noon to 2:00 PM in Gaudete Hall honoring Mary Denny. All are invited!! God has certainly blessed our parish through her.