



Pentecost Sunday

Pentecost marks the occasion of God sending the Holy Spirit upon Jesus' disciples after his Resurrection. The book of Acts describes how the disciples were gathered together in one place on the day of Pentecost. The Jewish feast of Pentecost (Shavuot or the Feast of Weeks) was a day that commemorated the giving of the law to Moses, a day soon to be marked as well by the giving of the Holy Spirit.

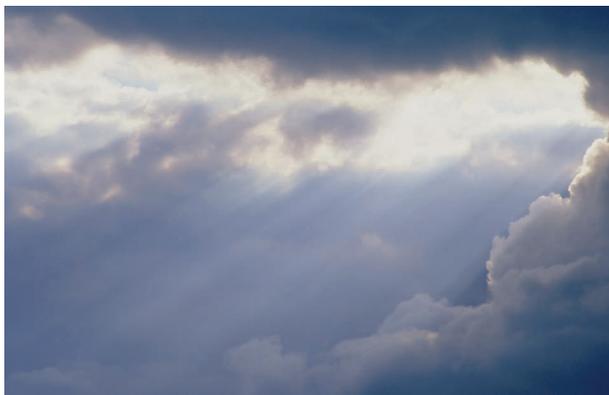
On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit gave the disciples the strength to fulfill their commission to spread the Good News of Jesus. The Solemnity of Pentecost, which crowns and fulfills the Easter season, is a good time to pray for a deeper indwelling of the Holy Spirit.



Prayer to the Holy Spirit

The following prayer was recited by Pope Benedict XVI in a homily on November 7, 2006. This is a prayer to the Holy Spirit.

Let us invoke him
so that he will irrigate, warm and straighten,
so that he will pervade us
with the power of his sacred flame
and renew the earth.
Let us pray for his with all our hearts
at this time, in these days.



Prayer to St. Anthony

St. Anthony of Padua is celebrated on April 13. He is often prayed to when articles have been lost.

O blessed Saint Anthony! The grace of God has made thee a powerful advocate in all necessities, and the patron for the restoration of things lost or stolen. To thee I turn today with childlike love and heartfelt confidence. Oh, how many thousands hast thou miraculously aided in the recovery of lost goods! Thou wast the counselor of the erring, the comforter of the afflicted, the healer of the sick, the raiser of the dead, the deliverer of the captive, the refuge of the afflicted. To thee do I hasten, O blessed Saint Anthony! Help me in my present affliction. I recommend what I have lost to thy care, in the secure hope that thou wilt restore it to me if it be to the greater glory of God and to the spiritual benefit of my soul. Obtain also for me an active faith, peace of mind, disgust for the vain pleasures of the world, and an ardent desire for the imperishable goods of eternity. Amen