



'I CAME TO BRING FIRE' **PENTECOST, MAY 31st**

“On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.” (John 20:19-23)

I. RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT:

Come, Holy Spirit, come!! Renew the face of the earth, renew the human heart. Come Divine Spirit, visit the soul of your faithful, fill them with the divine grace the hearts that

yourself created and kindle in them the fire of your love.

“*They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.*” (Jn 14:21). God loves me; He died for me in a Cross, He died for me being a sinner, being his enemy, (Rm 5:6-10; Eph 2:4-10) so why did He say “*I will love him*”? Is it His love for me conditioned by my love to Him? That cannot be, because God is Love. And we know through faith, so through absolute certainty, that “*as the Father loves Him, so He loves me;*” and He invites or commands me to “*abide in his love,*” (Jn 15:9) to remain in his love, to dwell in his love; because *without His love I can do nothing*, (cf. Jn 15:5) therefore, less I can love Him in the way He can only truly be loved: with all my heart, all my strength, all my being, and all my soul. (cf. Dt 6:4-7; Mt 22:36-40)

In fact, charity, love to God and neighbor for God, is a gift of the Holy Spirit, “*Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ... and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.*” (Rm 5:1-5) We cannot love without Him, without the Holy Spirit, without living in Christ and through Christ, “*In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son into the world so that we might live through him.*” (1 Jn 4:11,10)

It is the “*Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.*” (Jn 14:26) Divine Master or Love, the interior Master, that move all things smoothly and firmly, who gives us a share in His being: charity, the love between the Father and the Son; He is that Love.

We are call to live form the Spirit; to be vulnerable, docile, to his inspirations, motions and words of love; He is the Sanctifier, the Giver of Live, and we have in our souls with the sanctifying grace, which is a share in the divine nature, (2 P 1:4), the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, that we cannot move or activate are movements and actions in divine mode, the origin, rule and goal is God.

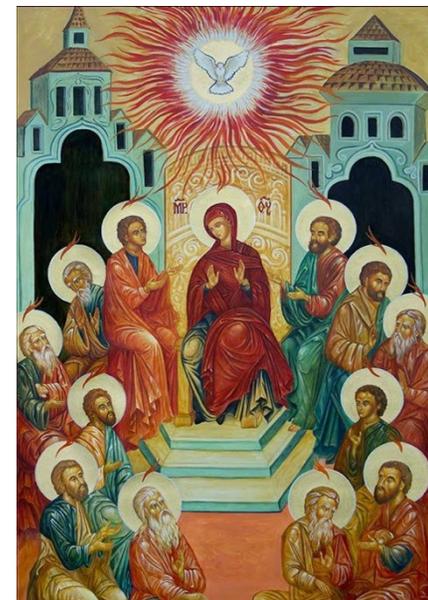
God wants to lavish the Holy Spirit, the Spirit that proceed from the Father and the Spirit of Jesus, He is the power that cover Mary and made the incarnation, He is the power that cover the Disciples in prayer with Mary and give life to the Church, He is “*power at work within us who is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine.*” (Eph 3:20)

The effusion of the Spirit that happened at Pentecost is the birth of the Church as witness of Jesus, risen from the dead, that effusion continue happening now and here in the Church; in the hearts of those who believe in Jesus.

Opening through faith and trust to God is opening to His Spirit, to his gift, to his grace, the Almighty work of God in the soul, through love. The first Christians were totally aware from the beginning that this is all about the gracious, generous permanent action of God in the heart, in the depth of our humanity, in the innermost, were He dwells always. (cf. Jn 14:16) Stephen the protomartyr pointed the difference of Christians and Jewish, “*you stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do.*” (Acts 7:51) He “*Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit*” is described as “*full of grace and power, who did great wonders and signs among the people.*” (Acts 6:5,8)

“*Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.*” (1 Cor 3:16-17)

Jesus wants more than any other thing to reveals Himself to you, to manifest himself and his love to you; love Him in the Spirit, make Him the delight of your heart and He will satisfy the desires of your heart, you will never hunger, you will thirst no more; “*The water that He will give to you will become in you a spring of water gushing up to eternal life*” (Jn 4:14)



II. AS THE FATHER HAS SENT ME SO I SEND YOU:

Petition: Receive the Holy Spirit! O Jesus, Breath in me! Breath in me your Spirit of life, that I maybe fill with a new life; teach me O Mary to receive the Spirit to be open to his graces, you the purest spouse of the Holy Spirit, who taught the Apostles to open to the Promise of the Father, and so they were filled with the power on God and capable with boldness to accomplish their mission.

To be aperson is to be sent. The essence and the meaning of the person is his mission. We are sent by God, everyone of us has a vocation and a mission; they are two aspects of the same reality: being a person.

Both, vocatin and mission, are given by God to every beloved child, to the One that is loved by God, within that love and through that love is given the mission. *“As the Father loves me so I love you;” “as the Father sent me os I send you;”* both are given and accomplish in the Holy Spirit, in the Love of God. The mission, the fact of being sent, is concomitant to the gift of the Holy Spirit. *“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’”* (Jn 20:21-22)

To have a vocation means to be called, here the One who called is the One created from nothingness the wholle Universe; And you *“yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ”* are *“God’s beloved”* and are *“called to be saints.”* (Rm 1:6-7)

It is God who calls us and give us the gift of his love, without it we can’t accomplish our vocation or our mission. *“We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.”* (Rm 8:28-30)

There are missions fundamental and basic that **are engrave in our being**, in our human personal nature, given by the Creator. **The animals are not sent, only persons are sent because the mission and the vocation is a called to their will.** There is a femenine vocation and a masculine vocation. These are the two ways of being person, the two kinds of person and therfore of mission. The woman represents God as Source as origin as Giver, she is call to bring to God through his being, through her mystery of beauty and goodness, through her fullness of being; living as a gift, livng as beloved, living from within, from

the awareness of being gracuosly loved by God; look at Mary. And her choice for accomplishing her vocation or not, means that she has to choose between being a mediatrix or being a seducer; bringing to Other, to

God or bringing to her.

The male mission is to guide, his mission is to lead toward God as fullness as fulfilment, his mission is opening to God as Goal, as happiness, he is given the authority in the family for accomplish this mission: **teaching to choose**, bringing to the union with God through our actions and works.

Both missions can be accomplish as Mary and Jesus only as children of God, therefore living from the Love of God, from the Holy Spirit. **Remain in my love! If you remain in my love you will bear fruit in abundance.**

III. VENI, SANCTE SPIRITUS:

Come, Holy Spirit, come!
And from your celestial home
Shed a ray of light divine!
Come, Father of the poor!
Come, source of all our store!
Come, within our bosoms shine.

You, of comforters the best;
You, the soul’s most welcome guest;
Sweet refreshment here below;
In our labor, rest most sweet;
Grateful coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.

O most blessed Light divine,
Shine within these hearts of yours,
And our inmost being fill!
Where you are not, we have naught,
Nothing good in deed or thought,
Nothing free from taint of ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour your dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away;
Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.

On the faithful, who adore
And confess you, evermore
In your sevenfold gift descend;
Give them virtue’s sure reward;
Give them your salvation, Lord;
Give them joys that never end. Amen.

Fr. Armando Marsal, DCJM.

