



My Dear Parishioners,

Praised be Jesus Christ! Happy Pentecost, Happy Memorial Day Weekend! I'm not certain how often these two great celebrations fall together on the same weekend, but there is a fitting connection with the two that is worth saluting.

On this 50th Day of Easter – 50th Day since the Resurrection of Jesus Christ – God the Father together with His Son shared another wonderful Gift with the world. He poured forth the Holy Spirit, the very Love of God, Himself. We read this in Acts 2 and we see from that point on, the difference that the Love of God makes. There is no doubt that the Holy Spirit – the Love of God – made all the difference for the early Church. He turned cowards into courageous men; an early band of believers into powerful, public witnesses and that early Christian community into the Body of Christ! We see all of this happen at Pentecost and from that point on, it continues onwards and outwards into every land, people, and time.

God's historical coming at Pentecost coincides this weekend with the remembrance of those men and women who died in service for our country. In some ways, they may have been like that band of early disciples: Ordinary men and women who served something greater than themselves and gave themselves completely to that service. Yes, they lost of their lives but they found something that gave their life meaning. And their finding it, gives witness to all who come after. Their sacrifice points to something greater: something worth living for, something worth dying for. What is that something? It's love! And in a day in age when love is defined as "love", Memorial Day and Pentecost does something so much greater: It demonstrates love to be that Gift of Self: God to us and us to God and others! WOW!

At His Last Supper, Jesus spoke a lot about the Holy Spirit that He and the Father would send. He spoke of the Holy Spirit coming to the disciples and doing several things: 1) Reminding them of everything that He taught them. 2) Uniting, Guarding and Keeping them. 3) Making them witnesses to the world. The Holy Spirit continues to do these things and now we are the recipients! We are recipients because in His Plan, God has looked upon us with great love. There is a work to be continued, His Work and we are the workers! Now is our time to advance the beautiful work of God in this time and in this place. Let's not miss our opportunity to serve and love God and our neighbor VERY WELL. I close with this prayer of St. Augustine, asking the Holy Spirit to come!

Breathe in me, O **Holy Spirit**, that my thoughts may all be holy. Act in me, O **Holy Spirit**, that my work, too, may be holy. Draw my heart, O **Holy Spirit**, that I love but what is holy. Strengthen me, O **Holy Spirit**, to defend all that is holy. Guard me, then, O **Holy Spirit**, that I always may be holy. Amen

Peace, Fr Rogers

LIVING STONES APPEAL
St. Patrick Connecting Cornerstones Project

LIVING STONES APPEAL: PHASE II ~ MENDING THE GAP
Thank you to all who are part of our Connecting Cornerstones Project and to all those who continue to help us **MEND THE GAP!** As of 5/9/23:
MONEY RAISED: \$1,575,079
COST OF PROJECT: \$1,966,908
MONIES NEEDED: \$391,829
For more information or to make a donation, please visit our website.
www.stpatrickkennettssquare.org/living-stones-appeal/

DISTRIBUTION OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

In accordance with the directives from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, the distribution of the Precious Blood from the chalice to the lay faithful will resume at St. Patrick during all Masses next weekend (June 3 & 4). As such, we will use the center aisle to receive Holy Communion and return via the side aisle. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will distribute the Precious Blood from the top of the side aisles. As in the past, this practice will be suspended during heightened cold and flu seasons.

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