

Homily for Holy Pentecost

Archangels Chapel, Weatherly PA

Beloved in Christ,

Today we stand before the great mystery of Pentecost, the day when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles in the form of a mighty wind and tongues of fire. The same Spirit who moved over the waters at creation now renews the face of the earth by creating the Church.

In the Acts of the Apostles we heard that people from every nation under heaven each heard the Gospel in their own language. This is the miracle of Pentecost: the Spirit does not erase our differences, but He unites us in one faith, one Body, one Lord. What was scattered at the Tower of Babel through pride is gathered today through humility and grace.

In the Gospel, the Lord cries out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink." He speaks of the living water of the Holy Spirit, the gift that would be poured out once He was glorified. This living water is not only for the Apostles. It is for every believer. It is for us today.

The Holy Spirit comes to make Christ present in our hearts. He gives courage where there is fear, clarity where there is confusion, unity where there is division, and life where there is dryness. He is the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, the Giver of Life.

Pentecost is not only a feast we remember. It is a reality we enter. The same Spirit who filled the Upper Room now fills the Church. The same fire that rested on the Apostles is given to us in the mysteries of the Church. The same breath that gave them boldness is breathed upon us.

Let us therefore open our hearts to the Spirit. Let us allow Him to burn away bitterness, to soften what has grown hard, to heal what is wounded, and to strengthen what is weak. Let us ask Him to make our lives a living witness to the wonderful works of God.

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. Where the Spirit is, there is light. Where the Spirit is, there is the Church. And where the Spirit is, there is Christ, the Light of the world and the Lover of mankind. All glory to God!

Amen.

+Alexios