

# PENTECOST

May 19, 2024

## Gospel: (John 15: 26-27; 16:12-15)

Jesus said to his disciples: *“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send you from the Father, the Spirit of truth that proceeds from the Father, he will testify to me. And you also testify because you have been with me from the beginning. I have much more to tell you, but you cannot bear it now. But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth.”*

## Reflection:

Jesus tells us that he is sending the Spirit to us. The Spirit is the Word speaking to us in a most profound way because he dwells with us and guides us to all truth. This Spirit is all we need, provided we allow the Spirit to speak through us and not turn God’s word into *our* word. Openness to the Spirit within is our guarantee that what we speak as disciples is spoken in Jesus’ name. This Pentecost commemoration isn’t simply recalling a past event but celebrating what God is doing with us now. In baptism each of us received the Spirit; that was our Pentecost. The Spirit dwells within us so we can be faithful and true disciples. The indwelling of the Spirit is a continual Pentecost! (Living Liturgy, p.144)

## Vincenian Meditation:

While at times one can hear the Spirit speak even in a noisy crowd, it is often only in silence that one hears the deepest voice, that one plumbs the depth of meaning. It is only when what is heard is pondered, that its full meaning is revealed. The quest for truth, therefore, involves prayerfulness and reflectiveness. Jesus turned to his Father again and again in prayer to listen to him and to seek his will. Prayer is then surely one of the privileged ways of listening. But it must always be validated by life. One who listens to “what the Spirit is telling me” in prayer, but who pays little heed to what others are saying in daily life is surely suspect. Prayer must be in contact with people and events, since God speaks not only in the silence of our hearts, but also (and often first of all) in the people around us. (Maloney, *The Way of Vincent de Paul*, p.24)

## Discussion: (Share your thoughts on the readings after a moment of silence)

**How have you listened to the Holy Spirit through people and events?**

## Closing Prayer:

Seeking the grace of the Holy Spirit, we pray,

**-Come, Holy Spirit.**

That the winds of Pentecost may move us to deeds of peace and justice

**-Come, Holy Spirit.**

That the fire of Pentecost may breathe new hope into the hopeless,

**-Come, Holy Spirit.**

That we may listen in the silence of our heart to people and events

**-Come, Holy Spirit. Amen.**

