

PASTOR'S COLUMN—SEPTEMBER 22, 2014

Dear Parishioners:

In using the sign of the cross in our prayer, we might think God the Father and Jesus the Son are more important than the Holy Spirit. However, when listening to St. Paul talking about His call to preach Christ Jesus crucified, Paul emphasizes that the power of His preaching is a result of the Holy Spirit. Jesus acknowledges that the Spirit of God is upon Him as the anointed one of the Creator Father to bring freedom to humanity by Christ's conquering sin and death.

The Holy Spirit is one with St. Paul and also with Jesus. On Pentecost the fire of the Holy Spirit came upon the early disciples of Jesus to empower them to spread Jesus' Gospel message. What opens us to the Holy Spirit is the gift of faith. Through Baptism we receive the gift of faith in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. The invisible power of the Father and the Son permeates our lives through the Holy Spirit.

Our main task as people empowered by the Holy Spirit is to be God's servants of more reconciliation among people and to bring mercy-laden justice to the world. As people filled with the fire of the Holy Spirit, we are required to have humble estimations about ourselves in the midst of God's power shining through our human weakness.

It is a wonderful faith relief to trust the Holy Spirit's power within us. Attentiveness to God's wisdom promptings in our depths via the Holy Spirit is God's saving love right now as we make the sign of the cross.

One with you in the Holy Spirit,

Fr. Terry