

Sunday Readings Reflections of 5/15/2016

Reading 1 Acts 2:1-11

Today we celebrate the day when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples of Jesus. They were "filled with the Holy Spirit" and never again would be content to keep their faith to themselves. Now they were all fired up by the Spirit to share the Good News with everyone. Down came the barriers of fear. Down came the language barrier! All the pilgrims gathered in Jerusalem from many nations could instantly understand the disciples. And they, too, were filled with the powerful Spirit of God.

Reading 2 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Romans 8:8-17

Paul's letter today gives us two "proofs" that show we are cooperating with the Holy Spirit. First, we as a community can truly say, "Jesus is Lord." Second, each of us uses his or her gifts for the good of the community. We pull together to help bring about the reign of God among all people.

Gospel John 20:19-23 or 14:15-16, 23b-26

Once again we are reliving Easter night with Jesus and the disciples. He breathes on them, communicating the gift of the Holy Spirit. They gladly receive Jesus' Spirit and his ministry of forgiving sins. At Pentecost the Spirit will send them forth as living signs that Jesus has overcome sin and death.

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