

## Readings for the week of May 19, 2024

### Sunday:

*Vigil:* Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/  
Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29,

30 (see 30)/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39

*Day:* Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 (see 30)/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25/Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

### Monday:

Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14/  
Ps 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7/Jn 19:25-34

### Tuesday:

Jas 4:1-10/Ps 55:7-8, 9-10a, 10b-11a, 23/  
Mk 9:30-37

### Wednesday:

Jas 4:13-17/Ps 49:2-3, 6-7, 8-10, 11/  
Mk 9:38-40

### Thursday:

Jas 5:1-6/Ps 49:14-15ab, 15cd-16, 17-18, 19-20/Mk 9:41-50

### Friday:

Jas 5:9-12/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8-9, 11-12/  
Mk 10:1-12

### Saturday:

Jas 5:13-20/Ps 141:1-2, 3 and 8/  
Mk 10:13-16

### Next Sunday:

Dt 4:32-34, 39-40/Ps 33:4-5, 6, 9, 18-19, 20, 22 (12b)/Rom 8:14-17/Mt 28:16-20

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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I was twenty-two years of age in August of 2000, I experienced World Youth Day in Rome. As for many of my generation, the event was life-changing for me. Surrounded by joyful, hope-filled young people from seemingly every nation and tongue, we were gathered around the Pope, sharing a common Faith and love. The Pope spoke to us of our shared family bond in the Church and invited us to give our lives in service to others. Now twenty-four years later, my life as a priest, like that of so many others from those special days, continues on that same path of love and unity — despite my many weaknesses. What makes that continuation possible?

This week's feast gives the answer: the Holy Spirit. The gift of God — His very life — the third person of the Trinity, is the Spirit who animates the entire Church and each member of it. He makes us one-in-love in a way that utterly exceeds human capacity. For example, he makes the apostles speak with tongues of fire, and everyone hears them in his own native tongue. The Holy Spirit is the means by which Jesus establishes a new family, one that crosses all possible boundaries of time, space, and culture. The Holy Spirit never tires in enthusing us for mission.

Aren't we longing to experience the Holy Spirit in a fresh way? Today we celebrate this untiring flame, once ignited on earth and burning still. So, we humbly cry out: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in us the fire of your love!

— Father John Muir

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

### Spirit to Spirit

Talk to any couple who are devoted to one another. Ask them when they realized they were in love — call-me-in-a-crisis love, face-the-day-to-day-with-me love — and the answer will probably not be “When I realized he was only dating me to win a bet with his boss.”

If you know what movie that references, you and 12-year-old me would have been great friends.

Like any other self-respecting American tween of the early 2000s, I used to watch a lot of romantic comedies. I forget how old I was when I realized that romantic comedies are actually ... really boring. Not because they're about love — true love is *fascinating*. I could watch real-life people talk about who they love for *hours*.

Because when we say we love someone — truly love them — what we mean is we love their spirit. We love what they are. We love the qualities that escape description, the attributes we have to talk around or reduce to cliché in order to define. We cannot love a body alone. We cannot love a name or a reputation. We cannot love a story that we've built around a relationship.

To be in love with someone you need to know their spirit. Intimately. And that knowledge cannot help but change everything about you. It changes your goals, your understanding of the world. It changes the amount of courage you have to face the life ahead of you. It changes your ability to be who God wants you to be.

The disciples lived and ate and walked with Jesus for three whole years before they really knew his spirit. They didn't know it on Good Friday when they scattered and hid and wept. They didn't know it on Easter Sunday, when they couldn't believe what they saw. They thought they loved him, but when push came to shove their love failed.

But by the end of their lives, the disciples knew the kind of love that sustained them even in the face of martyrdom.

What was it that changed? It was the Spirit. They finally knew the Spirit.

*“No one can say, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ except by the Holy Spirit.”*  
— 1 Corinthians 12:3

- Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

### Question:

How do we know when we receive the Holy Spirit?

### Answer:

My brothers and I discovered something as we got older. There's a little bit of dad in us. Each time we catch ourselves using one of his gestures, expressions, or comments about a meal, we say, “I'm getting more like Dad!” Many laughs and good-natured kidding have come out of it. Mom loves it, and so does Dad, although I doubt he'd admit it!

When we are confirmed, we receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit. There is no radical change in us that makes us seem suddenly different. Over a period of time, we come to see that there is a little bit of the Spirit in us. We catch ourselves using the gifts, and often end up wondering where a bit of wisdom came from, or why we were so patient, or we feel an intensity in our prayer. Perhaps we felt drawn to deepen our spiritual life or found courage in witnessing to our faith. That's when we know we have received the Holy Spirit. We take on his image. Yes, we grow in age, grace and wisdom, but we also grow in our awareness and understanding of the working of God in our life. We become more godlike, realizing we're getting more and more like God. Our thoughts, words and actions carry that quality and others too, see it in us. You might call it holiness. But be confident! There's a little bit of him in all of us.

# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit  
and began to speak in different tongues,  
as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim. (Acts 2:4)

### Psalm:

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.  
(Ps 104)  
Or: Alleluia.

### Second Reading:

In contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,  
patience, kindness, generosity,  
faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. (Gal 5:22-23)

### Gospel:

"But when he comes, the Spirit of truth,  
he will guide you to all truth." (Jn 16:13)

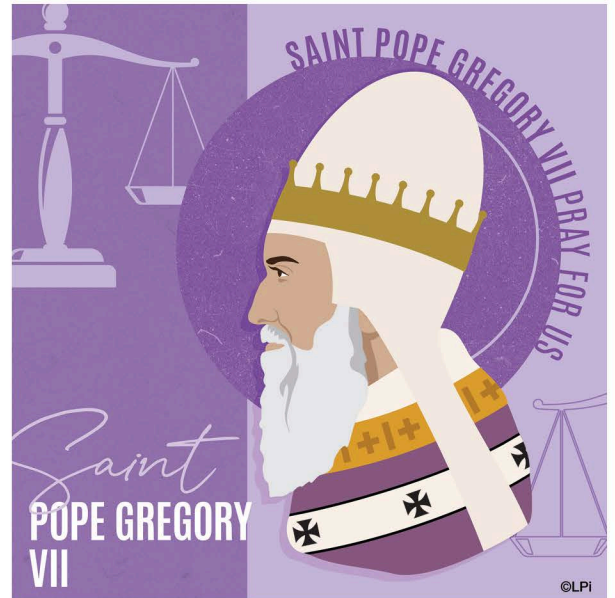
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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Like a stool that cannot stand on two legs alone, we need the Holy Spirit. The third Person of the Trinity is the puzzle piece whose testimony completes the beautiful picture of salvation. Let us never fail to say: come, Holy Spirit!

## Observances for the week of May 19, 2024

- Sunday:** Pentecost Sunday
- Monday:** Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church
- Tuesday:** St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
- Wednesday:** St. Rita of Cascia, Religious
- Saturday:** St. Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor of the Church; St. Gregory VII, Pope; St. Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi, Virgin
- Next Sunday:** The Most Holy Trinity



## Saint of the week

St. Pope Gregory VII was the initiator and namesake of the Gregorian Reforms of the 11th century. He worked to free the Church from the intrusion of civil leaders into the appointment of clergy. He recommitted the Church to unity in Christ and the Eucharist.

## Prayer for the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit!  
Enlighten us!  
Embolden us!  
Inflame us!  
Stir our hearts anew!  
You have called us to live and minister in this time, in these spaces, to these souls. Set us on FIRE with fresh inspiration and sacred direction!  
Amen.

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.”  
- Jn 15:26

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## Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

### First Reading:

We hear how the Holy Spirit allowed the mighty acts of God to be heard by people of all languages in every nation. Where do you see God at work in the world or in your workplace?

### Second Reading:

Paul encouraged believers in Galatia to be guided by the fruit of the Spirit (joy, peace, self-control) rather than by the works of the flesh (immorality, lust, idolatry) in order to inherit the kingdom of God. How might you practice the fruits of the Spirit this week?

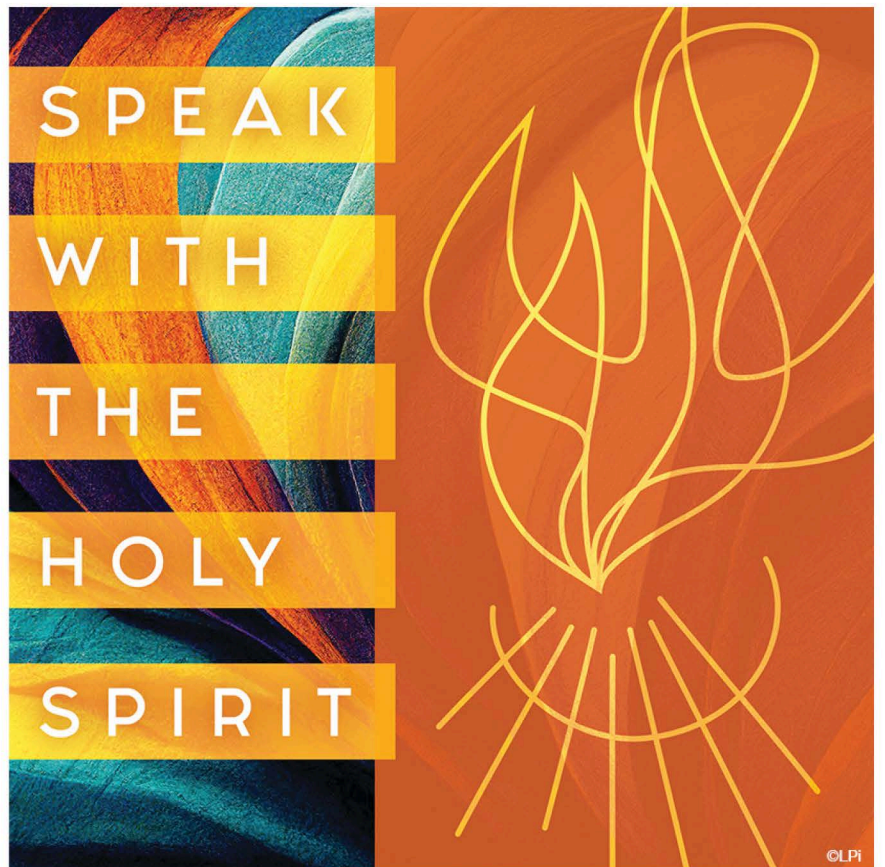
### Gospel:

Jesus taught his disciples he would send the Advocate, the Spirit of truth, to guide them and offer them divine gifts. What guidance are you seeking from the Lord?



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PENTECOST SUNDAY

# BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT



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“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. He will not speak on his own, but he will speak what he hears, and will declare to you the things that are coming. He will glorify me.” - Jn 16:12-14a

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