

# Our Lady of Victory Church

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**Bishop:** Most Reverend Héctor Vila, DD; **Pastor:** Fr. Marc Lalonde

Our Lady of Victory parish is part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Whitehorse, Canada

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**Parishes and some mission re-open for Pentecost, all are limited to 9 parishioners and a celebrant until further notice. Pre-registration required. Register for OLV Mass, either 7.00pm Saturday or 10.00 am Sunday, by e-mailing [olov.whitehorse@gmail.com](mailto:olov.whitehorse@gmail.com) There will be no OLV weekday Masses at present, but 12.10 pm Mass at SHC will be on a drop in basis (limit 9).**

**Special Days of Prayer & Fasting - Wednesdays and Fridays:** In solidarity with people in our communities and around the world who are being affected by the Coronavirus situation, Bishop Vila has designated Wednesdays and Fridays as days of prayer and fasting within the Diocese of Whitehorse.

The 9.00 am Mass from SHC will still be live streamed on the [Roman Catholic Diocese of Whitehorse Facebook Page](#)

Please check regularly at: <http://www.whitehorsediocese.ca/> for updates.

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## May 31, 2020 Pentecost



Source: Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem

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### The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Wisdom, Knowledge, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Piety, Fear of the Lord.

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### The Fruits of the Holy Spirit

According to the teaching of Saint Thomas Aquinas, the Fruits of the Holy Spirit are nothing less than the inner sweetness that we experience in our souls when we correspond openly to the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Among these fruits are the following: **Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness self-control.** (Gal 5:22-23)

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This week's hymn: **Veni, Creator Spiritus** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKtXhfxEgpg>

**The wonderful acoustics of the Sistine Chapel: Cardinals singing at the Conclave in 2013**

## Fr. Roger Karban's essay for May 31, 2020: Pentecost

Acts 2:1-11; I Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23

If you're participating in a Bible Trivia contest, how would you answer the question, "On what day did the Holy Spirit come down on Jesus' disciples?"

The correct answer is, "I don't know." At least two different dates are given in today's liturgical Scriptures alone. In our Acts passage, Luke tells us it was on the Jewish feast of Pentecost — seven weeks after Passover; while John puts the event on Easter Sunday night — several days after Passover. You have no choice but to pay your money and take your pick.

Those who first collected our Christian sacred writings and eventually gathered them into one book couldn't have appreciated our problem. Falling back on their Semitic "both/and" way of thinking, they expected to find such contradictions. More concerned with the implications of our faith than with exact historical happenings, they often chose a date that would convey the meaning of a particular event, ignoring the actual calendar day that event took place. That's certainly why Luke puts the Holy Spirit event on Pentecost.

The Jewish feast of "Weeks" - or Pentecost - commemorates the Israelites entering into a covenant with Yahweh on Mt. Sinai. It's that agreement which formally creates the Chosen People. No longer just a ragtag band of runaway slaves, they're now Yahweh's people.

In a similar way, the arrival of the Holy Spirit transforms Jesus' disciples into the new people of God, committed to carrying on his ministry. This seems to be why Luke makes a big thing out of the many foreign pilgrims understanding the disciples' message in their native tongues. Throughout Acts, with the Spirit's help, these followers are going to spread Jesus' message to the "ends of the earth."

John, on the other hand, picks Easter Sunday night as the time for the Spirit's arrival because of his conviction that the Spirit is an integral part of Jesus' (and our) dying and rising, something we especially demonstrate in our forgiveness of others.

But there are many more scriptural implications of the Spirit than just these two. Paul shows that in our I Corinthians pericope. For the Apostle, it's precisely the risen Jesus' Spirit which provides us with the gifts that mold us into the Body of Christ. "There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit," he writes, ". . . who produces all of them in everyone." The key insight is his well-known teaching: "As the body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ." If the Spirit doesn't gift each of Jesus' followers in a unique way, the risen Jesus would be "bodiless." No one Christian can completely convey Christ's image. It takes all of us to pull that off, each one employing the gifts the Spirit's given him or her.

Paul's Corinthian experience of the Spirit's gifts creating conflicts in the church dovetails with Luke's Pentecost images of the Spirit: wind, noise and fire. Each one not only causes confusion, but also creates situations we'd prefer to avoid. Yet if we're serious about being the Body of Christ, we have to be willing to accept and deal with such problems, a sign we accept the Spirit's gifts.

Perhaps the most important line in today's three readings is Paul's remark, "To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit." When we refuse to put up with the wind, noise and fire which accompany the Spirit in our lives, we're also refusing to do the good which comes from being the Body of Christ.

If we have lots of peace and tranquility in our particular church, we're probably squelching the Spirit.

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## Sunday Gospel reflection with Father William Grimm MM, May 29, 2020

We sometimes forget that the reason the Church exists is not to be a club of the saved, but to be the herald of the Gospel. Our first concern must always be with those who are outside, for the men and women who have not yet come to know Christ.

## Fr. Joe's message for The Solemnity of Pentecost: We Are Church!

It was not a surprise. It did not come suddenly with the teaching of Jesus. The Hebrew Scriptures, the Old Testament referred to it continually. Here are just a few instances. In the very first book of Scriptures, *Genesis*, we heard that the Spirit of God hovered over the waters. Then we heard that it was the breathe of God that gave life to Adam, to humankind. It was the One who spoke through the prophets. It was the One whom Jeremiah could not contain within himself. Perhaps you remember Jeremiah's great complaint in Jeremiah 20:7-9:

*So the word of the Lord has brought me insult and reproach all day long. But if I say, I will not mention his word or speak anymore in his name, his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot.*

It was the One in Ezekiel's vision of the dry bones who gave life to the sinews and flesh that covered those bones. This was in Ezekiel 37:9:

*Then He said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may come to life."*

The prophet Micah said, "I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the Lord," in Micah 3:8. It was the One who kept pointing towards He Who Is To Come, the Center of Creation. It was and is the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity, the Holy Spirit.

And the disciples were told to wait for Him. Just before Jesus had ascended into heaven, the Lord told them that the Advocate would come. Then they would have a deep understanding of Jesus the Christ. Then they would be empowered to bring the Gospel to others.

And so they gathered in that Upper Room, the same room where they had celebrated the Last Supper, the First Supper of the New Age. They barred the door for fear of the Jews. And they waited. And on Pentecost Sunday they received. The Spirit was there. He came upon each of them. The signs of the Spirit's presence were the wind inside a closed room, and the fire, tongues of fire over each of them. And then they became the Church.

The Church. We use that term *Church* in many different ways. We called to our children this morning to hurry up and get ready or we would be late for Church. We drove by the Presbyterian Church, or the Methodist Church or the Greek Orthodox Church and drove into the parking lot of the Catholic Church. We walked past the Parish Life Center and Parish Office and walked into the Church. Catholic friends from St. Petersburg asked us which Church we went to, St. Luke's or St. Ignatius. We use the term *Church* in many ways, referring to a denomination, a building, a parish. The deepest meaning of the word *Church*, though, is the People of God formed by the Holy Spirit into the Body of Christ. On Pentecost Sunday, through the power of the Holy Spirit, we, the disciples of Jesus Christ, became Church. Church is not merely where we are right now, or not simply our religion. Church is who we are. We are the Church.

In an amazing paradox, the Holy Spirit unites us as one despite of and because of our differences. Each of us is a unique reflection of God. Each of us has his or her own gifts, our own manifestations of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit; and yet, we are all the same. Each of us and all of us are the Church.

We are transformed into a Living Body, the Body of Christ, just as the first disciples on Pentecost Sunday were transformed by the Holy Spirit into Church. Like those disciples, who once they received the Spirit, became apostles, we have to leave the Upper Room, the false security of our own little worlds, and dive into the world, leap into the world, bring who we are, Church, to the world. And we do this. We preach with our lives, and, as St. Francis of Assisi said, if necessary, with our words. We proclaim the eternal life offered for all who are willing to confess Jesus and accept His Gospel, live His Life. And others hear a language touching their hearts, yelling inside their hearts. We speak as Church and the Holy Spirit animates, brings life to those seeking meaning for life. We live as the Church we are, and others are drawn by the Spirit to be Church.

And yes, sadly, we can reject the Holy Spirit. We can close our ears and our hearts to His call to affirm the Gospel, to His call to reach out to others, to His call to embrace the Way with our lives, but then we are not just rejecting a particular grace, we are rejecting God. Simply put, I do not have the right to treat my

Catholicism merely as though I am a member of a group. None of us has that right. I have a responsibility to the world; we have a responsibility to the world, to be Church.

That is why our prayer life is so important. The union we nourish with Jesus Christ through daily prayers and Sunday Mass, the union that is nourished with Scripture and Sacrament, this union strengthens the spiritual life we have been given. It strengthens the Spirit that gives life to the Body.

Therefore, we pray, we live moral lives, we seek the presence of God in those who are hurting, and we proclaim with our lives, "Come, come and join us. Come and join us in the Body of Christ. Come, come and join us. Come, come and be Church." This is the message of Pentecost!

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**Prayer to the Holy Spirit** to be open to the seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit. By [Fr. Ed Broom, OMV](#)

*Come Holy Spirit, come fill my heart with your heavenly love. Enlighten my mind so that I may know the Truth, live the Truth, and be willing to die for the Truth.*

*Come Holy Spirit, come in the dark and lonely moments of my life, come to console me and comfort me. You who are the Sweet Guest of the soul, make me aware of your constant and living presence, so that I recognize that I am never alone because you are with me as a Faithful Friend.*

*Come Holy Spirit, come, you who are the Interior Master, teach me how to pray. I do not know how to pray well. I implore you to intercede for me with ineffable groans so that I can cry out: "Abba, Father!"*

*Come Holy Spirit, come in moments of doubt and confusion, be my light and counselor. Help me to make decisions, not according to my will but according to your holy will.*

*Come Holy Spirit, come in moments of weakness, give me strength. You who are the courage and strength of the martyrs, obtain for me interior strength to fight against sin, my fallen human nature, and anything that is not pleasing to you.*

*Come Holy Spirit, come, grant me a filial love for you and a sincere love for my neighbor, especially for those I live with and meet every day. Set my heart on fire with love.*

*Come Holy Spirit, come sanctify me with your presence. You who are the Sanctifier, attain for me an ardent yearning for holiness of life. "Be holy as your heavenly Father is holy." May I attain holiness of life so as to attain the promise of eternal life.*

*Come Holy Spirit, come, produce in me a reverential fear that motivates me to avoid all that is displeasing to you, and to avoid any persons, places, things, or circumstances that could damage my friendship with you.*

*Come Mary, Mystical Spouse of the Holy Spirit, Temple of the Holy Spirit, you who had the most intimate and constant union with the Holy Spirit, pray for me so that my knowledge and love of the Holy Spirit will grow daily until I am with you in heaven, worshiping forever the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen*

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**Monday June 1, Mary, Mother of the Church**

**Wednesday June 3, Saints Charles Lwanga and his Companions, Martyrs**

**Friday June 5, Saint Boniface, Bishop, Martyr**

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**The Pope's Prayer Intention for June 2020: The Way of the Heart**

We pray that all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus.

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**Pope Francis** will lead the major shrines around the world in praying the rosary to implore Mary's intercession and protection amid the coronavirus pandemic. Saturday, May 30, at 5.30pm Rome time. It will be broadcast to the principal Shrines of the world in order that they may join in the prayer of the Holy Father.

If you have difficulty viewing the livestreamed 9.00 am Mass from SHC, there are other options listed on <http://www.whitehorsediocese.ca/> and most dioceses list their livestreamed events on their web site.

**Weekdays: Rosary** 7.30 am & Mass 8.00 am – livestreamed from Immaculate Conception Parish, Kelowna. Sponsored by Springfield Funeral Home. ICC Livestream schedule here: <https://www.icckelowna.ca/>

Listen/watch Fr Bill Grimm's full Pentecost homily at: <https://www.ucanews.com/video/sunday-gospel-reflection-with-father-william-grimm/88141> 5.5 mins. Under the link 'Your Daily Mass,' you will find another link to 'Mass on Demand:' the daily Mass from Saint Francis Xavier Jesuit church in NSW, Australia.

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**For Bluegrass Fans – Dominican friars Foundation:**

The Hillbilly Thomists, a bluegrass band comprised of Dominican priests and student brothers, have created this video as a token of gratitude to all those who support the preaching ministry of the Dominican Friars. May it lift your spirits during these trying times.

[https://dominicanfriars.org/quarantine-sessions/?utm\\_source=Dominican+Friars+Foundation+Emails+List&utm\\_campaign=02ceb9d63f-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2020\\_05\\_28\\_02\\_15&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_2bd23d1b43-02ceb9d63f-86933825](https://dominicanfriars.org/quarantine-sessions/?utm_source=Dominican+Friars+Foundation+Emails+List&utm_campaign=02ceb9d63f-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_05_28_02_15&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_2bd23d1b43-02ceb9d63f-86933825)

**We have local movie stars! A message from Beth and Dawn:** With the rest of **Madonna House**, we have composed a video to thank our friends: <https://youtu.be/6ghQUv0NxrE>

**Virtual Home schooling for Catholics:**

**Religious education K – 12, from USA:** <https://www.catholiconline.school/>

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**Your prayers are asked for:**

the health of **Joe Hanrath, Gerry Whitley, Anglican Archbishop Terry Buckle.**

All who are ill; the repose of the souls of those departed and that their families may find peace.

All those suffering from Covid – 19 and their families and those at risk of Covid – 19.

All those caring for sufferers of Covid - 19.

Please also remember people elsewhere who are suffering from severe flooding. **Asia**, especially those in the eastern coastal states of India, who alongside Covid-19 are suffering from environmental events.

Cyclone Amphan made landfall on May 20. After the wind, the rain hasn't stopped and is causing severe flooding. Many lives have been lost and homes destroyed.

Flooding in **East Africa** has added another challenge to five nations already fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Across East Africa this year, floods have left thousands homeless, destroyed planting fields and washed away topsoil, and taken a heavy toll on infrastructure. Some bridges have been washed away and we have found a number of roads that are impassable," said Niek de Goeij, country representative in Uganda for Catholic Relief Services.

The region's bishops have been calling for help as agencies estimate that at least 1.3 million people in Kenya, Uganda, Somalia, Rwanda and Ethiopia are affected.

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**Local News**

**Please note that Priests will continue to administer the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick for those who are gravely ill. This will be done in accordance with precaution protocols of hospitals, care homes, and private homes. You may contact Fr Marc or any member of the clergy.**

- **New: Hospice Yukon: Living with Loss webinar: Wednesday June 3, 7:00-8:30pm - Via Zoom.** Hospice Yukon staff are still available to help by e-mail and telephone. Please check [hospiceyukon.net](http://hospiceyukon.net) for information regarding their services and resources during Covid-19.
- **New: Let's Chat Yukon:** Stuck at home and wishing you had someone to speak with? April 15th marked the launch of Let's Chat Yukon, a toll-free line you can call for enjoyable conversation with a fellow Yukoner. Just because you're self-isolating doesn't mean you're alone. A free service run by volunteers. 1-877-321-1001
- Thank you to all who mailed or dropped off donations to OLV.
- Fr. Marc can be reached by telephone at 633-2647 as it is automatically forwarded to his cell.
- If you need help during this time of self isolation, such as grocery shopping or other chores I'm willing to help if I am able. Please call Stella Martin at 668-4629 or 335-4629.
- **OLV Food Bank Outreach:** Suspended until further notice but our program will resume later. Monetary donations may be made at: [www.whithorsefoodbank.ca/donations](http://www.whithorsefoodbank.ca/donations)

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**Don't forget to pre-register for Mass this weekend, either at OLV or SHC, but please only one Mass so that as many as possible have access.**

