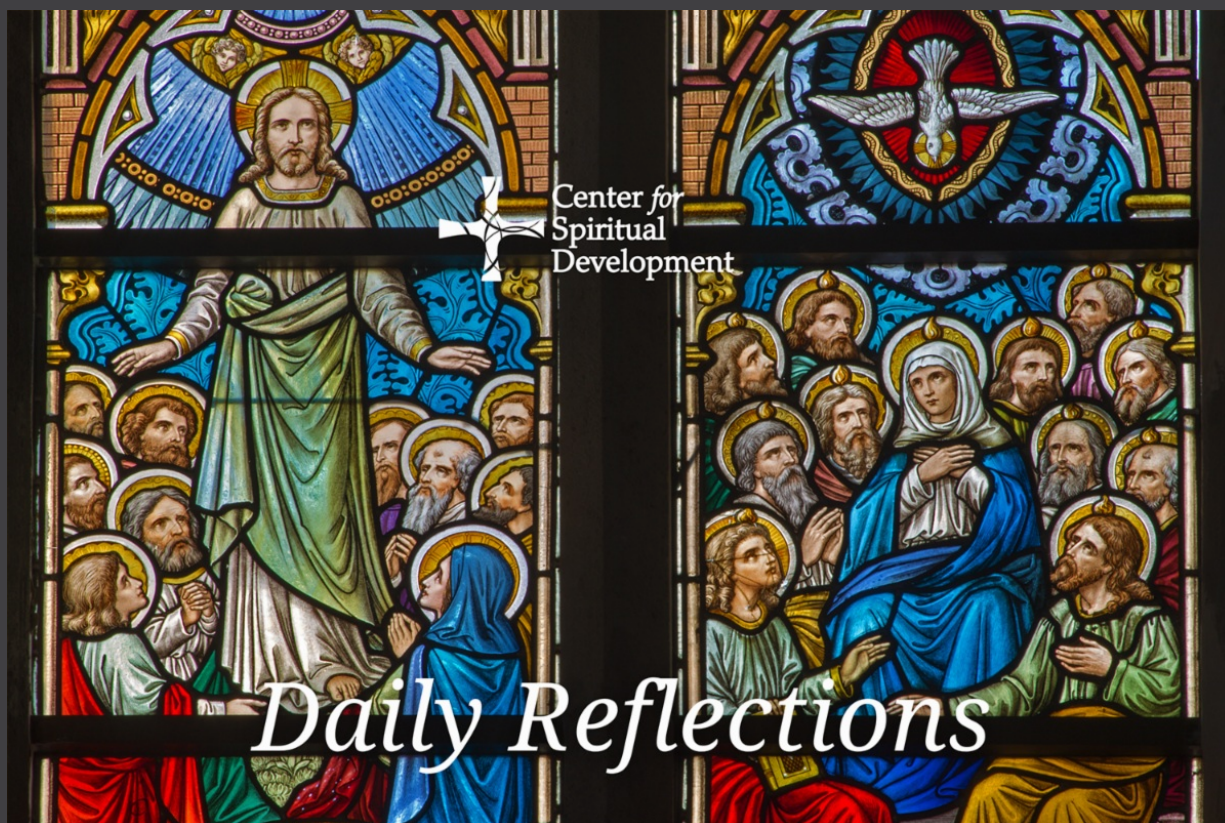


June 8, 2025



"LIVE IN THE SPIRIT OF LOVE"

PENTECOST SUNDAY

By Sister Jane DeLisle, CSJ

An Excerpt from Today's First Reading

*When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled,
they were all in one place together.
And suddenly there came from the sky
a noise like a strong driving wind,
and it filled the entire house in which they were.
Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire,
which parted and came to rest on each one of them.
And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and began to speak in different tongues,
as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.*

ACTS 2:1-3



Pentecost
Artwork by Jen Norton; Photo by Alicia Rodriguez

Reflection

Fifty days since Easter Sunday! Today we rejoice in the feast of Pentecost. We join in the earth's exultation and sing with expectant longing for the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts,

***“Come, Spirit, Come!
Come fill our hearts with the fire of your Love.
Ruha! Numa! Come Spirit Come.”***

Lyrics by Margaret Scharf, OP Western Australia

The Spirit's coming invites us to live in the mystery and the power of God's abiding Spirit. The Holy Spirit both inspires and unsettles us. On this Pentecost I seek to let go of stagnant, restless ways of living and perceiving life. I seek to put on the inner disposition of Jesus Christ, rooted in God's Love and inspired to serve, to give myself away in ways that the Spirit of God designs. I desire to be filled with the movements of grace that stir up love and push the boundaries of the everyday manner of being. I want to see as God sees.

To believe in the Spirit of God is to be open to mystery, to listen deeply to the whispering of God that transforms my inner being into the sacred sanctuary of God's in-dwelling. Then, relying on the Spirit to show me the way, "I no longer live, but Christ lives in me." (Galatians 2:20)

We were promised to never be left alone. Today we celebrate the profound Gift of the outpouring of God's Spirit upon us. This is more than a onetime gift at Baptism, or Confirmation, or a moment of contemplative prayer. The Spirit is continually being poured upon us. We need only respond and open our mind, heart and soul to receive the promptings of the Spirit in our daily living. Spiritual discernment alerts me to the Spirit's inspirations and to recognize what is of God and what may be pulling me away from God. Let us open our lives to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit so that we, too, may listen deeply, and learn to be a Lover in this life. May we be drawn into God more each day.

As the poet, Jessica Powers (Sr. Miriam of the Holy Spirit, O.C.D) wrote in the last stanza of her poem:

To Live With the Spirit

*To live with the Spirit of God is to be a lover.
It is becoming love, and like to Him
toward Whom we strain with metaphors of creatures:
fire-sweep and water-rush and the wind's whim.
The soul is all activity, all silence;
and though it surges Godward to its goal,
it holds, as moving earth holds sleeping noonday,
the peace that is the listening of the soul.*

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