



A Gift for All People of All Times

ANN M. GARRIDO

When reading aloud today's passage from **Acts of the Apostles**, do you stumble over the names of the peoples gathered as I do? "Parthians, Medes, and Elamites." Where is "Cappadocia, Phrygia, and Pamphylia"? And why were all these peoples in Jerusalem in the first place?

It might help to know that Pentecost did not originate as a Christian feast. There are three pilgrimage festivals that drew Jews from across the Mediterranean region to Jerusalem. Sukkot celebrates the fall harvest and God's protection during the exodus from Egypt. Two are in the spring: Passover, the Feast of the Unleavened Bread, recalling the night the Jews were freed from enslavement in Egypt; and Shavuot, or *Pentecost* in Greek, remembering the giving of God's law on Mount Sinai.

The scene described in Acts echoes the story at Mount Sinai. The peoples who gathered outside the house in Jerusalem represent the breadth and diversity of peoples known at that time, and not just at that time. Some of the civilizations mentioned had not existed for hundreds of years. The book of Acts wants us to know that the gift of the Holy Spirit was an event of such significance that somehow *all* were mysteriously present—not just those of times gone by, but even we who live in such far-away, hard-to-pronounce places as Islamabad or Albuquerque. Today, we celebrate a gift that transcends time and geography. A gift that continues to draw all of us together in wonder and awe. ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

***Do I often remember that the Church encompasses people of every nation:
those gone before us and those to come?***



[The Jews] were astounded, and in amazement they asked, "Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans? Then how does each of us hear them in his own native language?"

ACTS 2:7-8

ST. BARBARA PARISH

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St. Thomas More Site

302 Chestnut Street
Dalzell IL



Holy Trinity Site

Parish Office

212 S Main Street
PO BOX 159
Cherry IL

Adoration Room at STM Site

Open Daily from 9 am-6 pm

Confession Info

Saturday morning, alternating
between STM Site & HT Site
in the Confessional between
10:30 am-11:15am

Church Office Info

Pastor: Father Thaddeus Tran

Pastoral Assistant: Melissa Pasillas

Office Hours at HT site: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am-1pm

Emergency Number: 779-248-2164

Email: Melissahtc@outlook.com



E-giving is a great way to continue supporting your church, especially during the busy summer months. To sign up, visiting our website, "bureaucatholic.org"; scroll down on home page to "Please Consider Our Online Giving" on the right side. If you need help, contact the church office.

St. Barbara Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of May 25, 2026

Monday	05/25			† No Mass
Tuesday	05/26	9:00 am	STM Site	† Bernard Schwamberger
Wednesday	05/27	5:30 pm	HT Site	† Bob McCook
Thursday	05/28	9:00 am	HT Site	† John & Dena Bussa
Friday	05/29	9:00 am	STM Site	† For the Purgatory Souls

St. Barbara Mass Intentions for the weekend of May 30 – 31, 2026

Saturday	05/30	4:00 pm	ST. Thomas More Site	† For the Parishioners
Sunday	05/31	9:00 am	Holy Trinity Site	† Charlie & Hazel Keutzer

Pentecost – The Birthday Of The Church Founded By Jesus Christ

Today is Pentecost Sunday, which marks the definitive end of the Easter Season. It occupies a very important position in the Church's life and liturgical calendar. This is because Pentecost is the beginning of the Church's missionary endeavor. Known as The Church' Birthday, Pentecost is a day of renewal and empowerment.

Today we celebrate a great feast, when Christ fulfilled His promise to us. As Christ's disciples, every true believer has been empowered by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the mutual love of the Father and the Son. He empowers us to go into our world to bring peace, unity, joy, love and salvation to nations.

In today's second reading, Paul makes a very important statement: "*No one can say Jesus is Lord, except through the Holy Spirit.*" This means that it is God himself who enables us to recognize and accept the lordship of Christ through the Holy Spirit. Due to pride, it is difficult for Satan to acknowledge and accept the lordship of Christ. To say "*Jesus is Lord*" is to humble oneself. It means to accept Christ as the Lord and Savior of one's life. Truly, this is only possible through the spirit of truth, the Holy Spirit.

In the gospel, Jesus breathed the Holy Spirit upon his disciples in order to restore their peace and to free them from the slavery of fear. Christ knew that the Holy Spirit empowers and liberates. So, the Spirit we have received, "is not the spirit of fear and timidity, but the Spirit of power, love, and self-discipline." (2 Tim 1:7)

According to our Catechism, the Holy Spirit empowers us, makes us strong Christians and soldiers of Christ (CCC 1302). This empowerment comes through the different gifts we receive from the Holy Spirit. Through them, we become bold to call God our Father (Rom 8:15), and above all, to proclaim to our world that Jesus Christ is Lord. Also, the Holy Spirit helps us to bear good fruits in Christ (Gal 5, 22). He leads us into the kingdom of righteousness, peace and joy.

Today, we must ask ourselves: "What does the Holy Spirit want me to do? Where is He leading me to?" It is important to reflect on these questions, especially now that our world has become so complex, and many of us seem confused. We must pay attention to Him. We must be docile to him. We must let him lead and show us the best way.

(Excerpted from Fr. Njoku Canice Chukwuemeka, C.S.Sp., frcanicenjoku.com)

Church Announcements

Diocesan 150th Anniversary Book

To celebrate the 150th Anniversary, the diocese has put together a beautiful anniversary book, which contains all the names and gorgeous pictures of all the churches in the diocese. These churches names and pictures undoubtedly will bring back beautiful old time memories to many parishioners. Priced at \$40, it is also a beautiful coffee table book to have for each family. A sample of this book is on the table in the back of the church for people to look at. Parishioners interested in getting one please fill out an order form in the back of the church or call the office.

Heartfelt Thank you

A heartfelt "Thank You" goes to all parishioners who have sent in their cemetery donations to the Cemetery Appeal. This generous donation will go along away in affording our beloved cemetery proper care. Members who still like to contribute to this worthy cause please don't forget to send your donations in.

ADA Update

As our Church has just sent in a payment to the diocese for the previous years ADA shortfall, we like to ask our parishioners to consider contributing to this on going ADA campaign. As of today the pledge is \$9,823.25 and our ADA goal for this year is \$33,541.

Latest Offering's

May 17th Weekend

St. Barbara Parish

Total Collections:

\$2,223.00



Next Confessions

Confession will be

Sat. May 30rd

10:30 am-11:15 am

HT Site

in the confessional

Dear Padre,

I am a senior Catholic woman. All my life, I have waited for the Church to welcome women as priests. I have volunteered with numerous faiths over the years and have worked with pastors and rabbis who are women. Why does the Catholic Church not recognize that women have callings to the priesthood?

My answer will probably not be acceptable to you, and it might even make you a little more frustrated and perhaps even discouraged. The understanding of the Church is that the call to priesthood is not based on merit. If it were based on merit, and that was the single important criterion, your question might be phrased in a different way. I will let you imagine what that might be!

The tradition, practice, and discipline of the Church continues to insist that the call to ordained priesthood requires the respondent to be male. Any explanation beyond this simple statement would be strained and of little use. We are aware of the traditions that are practiced in other Christian denominations. We are probably aware of the Roman Catholic theology of priesthood that is offered in support of the practice. We can probably offer example after example in support or in disagreement of the practice. None of it matters when it comes up against the hard truth of the tradition, practice, and discipline: the priesthood requires a baptized male for validity. ●



CARLO DEBBI / CATHOLIC

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

At Pentecost, the apostles spoke the languages of those they met, and the confusion of Babel was finally resolved by the harmony brought about by the Spirit. Whenever God's "breath" unites our hearts and makes us view others as our brothers and sisters, differences no longer become an occasion for division and conflict.

HOMILY, ROME, JUNE 8, 2025

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday

May 25

The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

Gn 3:9-15, 20 or
Acts 1:12-14
Jn 19:25-34

Tuesday

May 26

St. Philip Neri, Priest
1 Pt 1:10-16
Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday

May 27

Weekday
1 Pt 1:18-25
Mk 10:32-45

Thursday

May 28

Weekday
1 Pt 2:2-5, 9-12
Mk 10:46-52

Friday

May 29

Weekday
1 Pt 4:7-13
Mk 11:11-26

Saturday

May 30

Weekday
Jude 17, 20b-25
Mk 11:27-33

Sunday

May 31

The Most Holy Trinity
Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9
2 Cor 13:11-13
Jn 3:16-18