

Our Lady of Prompt Succor Nursing Home
C'est la Vie Apartments
Newsletter ~ May 2021
A Ministry of the Marianites of Holy Cross

Mother's Day – May 9th, 2021

It was in the United States over 100 years ago, that Mother's Day was nationally recognized as a holiday in 1914. Anna Jarvis, the daughter of Ann Maria Reeves Jarvis, held a memorial service to her mother on May 12, 1907. She then embarked upon a campaign to make "Mother's Day" a nationally recognized holiday. She succeeded in 1914 and trademarked the phrases "Second Sunday in May" and "Mother's Day."

Anna Jarvis never envisioned the commercialization of the holiday. She was intent on a simple and deeply heartfelt remembrance of all mothers and we are very grateful for her efforts. To all mothers, we entrust the words of Jill Churchill: "There's no way to be a perfect mother and a million ways to be a good one."

Each day let us offer our mothers the most precious gift of all – the gift of prayer.

For mothers who are still living:

Lord, I pray for my mom that she be daily guarded and guided by your holy wisdom. May she know the peace that comes from trusting wholly in You whose plans for her are only good. Open her eyes to see the many blessings all around her and keep discouragement far from her doorstep. Heal all the wrongs and hurts she has experienced and help her to embrace the unique role You have entrusted to her. Please whisper to her daily of my love and gratitude. Amen.

For mothers who are now deceased:

Lord, I know my mother's love for me endures as I continue my journey here on earth. I ask that You listen to her fervent prayers for our family. Help us to grow into a new and deeper relationship with her now that we are freed from all that may have hindered our relationships on earth. Please tell her often of our love and gratitude. Assure her of our desire to be with her when we will all be united in your eternal embrace. Amen.

☞ Celebrating Birthdays in May ☞

Sr. J. Bodin	5/21	Sr. S. Guidry	5/17
Sr. B. Comeaux	5/07	E. Guillory	5/17
M. A. Davenport	5/10	Sr. M. Murray	5/30
L. Doucet	5/10	Sr. M. E. Noel	5/09
M. Fray	5/21		

† Resident Recently Deceased †

Marie Langlois 4/25/2021

May she rest in the peace and joy of the Lord!



Feast of Pentecost – May 23, 2021

Isaiah foretold that the Holy Spirit would rest upon the promised Messiah, Emmanuel, and that he would possess wisdom and understanding, counsel and fortitude, knowledge, fear of the Lord (Isaiah 11:2), and piety. As Jesus was blessed with these gifts by his Father, every believer is blessed with the same gifts by the Holy Spirit.

After Easter Sunday, Christmas is the second-greatest feast in the Christian liturgical calendar, and Pentecost Sunday is not far behind. The word Pentecost is Greek and it means "50th day." Fifty days after Easter Sunday, we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and their followers, and the beginning of their earthly ministry to make disciples of all nations – the birth of the church!

Pentecost Sunday is one of the most ancient feasts of the Church, celebrated early enough to be mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles (20:16) and Saint Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (16:8). Between Ascension Thursday and Pentecost Sunday, the Apostles and the Blessed Mother Mary spent nine days in prayer, waiting for the fulfillment of Christ's promise to send His Spirit. This was the origin of the *novena*, or *nine-day prayer*, that has become one of the most popular forms of Christian intercessory prayer or asking God for a specific favor or grace.

At Pentecost, the Apostles and their followers were gathered in a room. Jews from all over were gathered with Peter, the leader of the Apostles and the Eleven. At this time, a great wind blew and a flame appeared as a tongue of fire, which split itself into many individual flames above the heads of all those present. The Holy Spirit came upon them and each began to speak in tongues. Despite the fact many had no common language, they were perfectly able to understand one another.

On Pentecost Sunday, when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles, they were granted the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Those gifts helped them to fulfill their mission to preach the Gospel to all nations. For us, too, these gifts are indispensable to our fully living a Christian life.

According to Pope Francis, the gifts of the Holy Spirit enable us to live our lives conformed to God's unique plan for each of us. *Wisdom* enables us to see all of life with the eyes of God. *Understanding* grants us to comprehend a situation in its deepest meaning as God understands it. *Knowledge* leads us to grasp, through all of creation, the greatness and love of God and his profound relationship with every creature. *Counsel* acts within us to enlighten and guide us as we make decisions and take action. *Fortitude* liberates the soil of our hearts freeing us from uncertainty and fears. *Piety* ensures our belonging to God in a sacred bond that gives meaning to our lives and keeps us in communion with the Lord even in the most painful moments. *Fear of the Lord* leads us to wonder and awe as we abandon ourselves to God's providential love and care for us and all creation.

(Pope Francis, *Papal Audiences*, 2014)

When the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles, the Spirit appeared as tongues of fire. Living as Christians means letting that fire burn within us every day, and for that, we need the constant intercession of the Holy Spirit. There are many prayers to the Holy Spirit that are appropriate both for Pentecost and for all year long. We are encouraged to pray often for these gifts as we strive to deepen our commitment to be people of Resurrection faith, hope, and love. Let us pray for an outpouring of these gifts:

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created and You shall renew the face of the earth. O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

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