



PENTECOST SUNDAY

MAY 11, 2008

THERE APPEARED TO THEM TONGUES AS OF FIRE, WHICH PARTED AND CAME TO REST ON EACH OF THEM.

— Acts 2:3



SEND OUT YOUR SPIRIT

Last week we heard that, following the Ascension, the disciples, Mary, and other followers of the Lord retreated to the upper room in prayer. This week we hear that, while praying in that room, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Jesus' post-Resurrection promise, recounted in today's Gospel, is fulfilled: the power of the Holy Spirit comes upon Jesus' followers. Saint Paul tells us that all of us, in some way, are given gifts of the Holy Spirit, gifts that can be used to spread the Good News. Today is one of the Church's greatest festivals. Let us carry the refrain of the responsorial psalm with us throughout the coming week: "Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth!" (Psalm 104:30).

Philip J. Sandstrom, STD © 2001OCP

BUY ROSES TO HELP OUR COMMUNITY!

Our Society of St. Vincent de Paul is selling roses after all the Masses **TODAY!** The proceeds will be used to continue the Society's work in assisting the poor among us. Buy a few roses to let the special people in your life (don't forget all the women who have given you motherly advice through the years) know how much you love them.

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO ST. MATTHEW'S?

Fr. Bill Stoeger, S.J., brother of Fr. Jack, is a renowned astrophysicist at the Vatican Observatory, and will be speaking on **Monday, June 2nd at 7:00p.m.** His topic, **GOD AND THE UNIVERSE**, will explore the relationship of religion and science and will remind us that God is found not only in scripture but also in nature. We find, experience and come into communion with God through nature and through our acceptance of its beauties, joys, nourishment, sufferings, dyings and rebirths. You are encouraged to invite others to this very informative talk.

...REFLECTIONS...

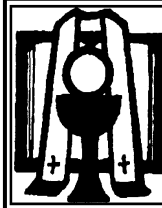
The readings for *The Most Holy Trinity* Sunday are listed below along with a question to prompt you to relate the Word of God to your life.

FIRST READING: Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

GOSPEL: John 3:16-18

1) **Would I describe God the same way as God is described in the first reading? How have I experienced God's kindness and mercy?**



AN EXCITING TIME FOR ST. MATTHEW PARISH!

On May 31, Deacon Angel Castro will receive the Sacrament of Holy Orders thus beginning a life of service to the people of God. The very next day, June first, at 2:30 in the afternoon, Fr. Angel Castro will celebrate his first Mass in our church. All parishioners are welcome to attend. Please be aware that this liturgy will be very crowded.

During the past six months our parish community has had the pleasure and honor of hearing Deacon Angel Castro proclaim the Word of God through scripture and homily at our Sunday liturgies. Let us continue to support Deacon Castro with our prayers and encouragement during his final days of formation.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR ARCHDIOCESAN PRIESTS

Next weekend all parishioners throughout the Archdiocese will be asked to give generously to support the Retirement Fund for Archdiocesan Priest via a special collection.

Currently, the fund provides for 149 priests who are retired. Over the next ten years, the number of priests who will reach retirement age will number 358. These men have committed their lives to serve the spiritual needs of our parish communities. We, in turn, owe it to them to assure that they do not have to worry about their retirement years. Since 2000, the faithful of the Archdiocese have been asked for financial support for this Fund and have responded generously and tremendously in support of this important special collection. A total of \$9,957,090 has been added to the Priests' Pension Plan through this collection. Thank you to those who have been so generous.

ACCW DISTRICT MEETING

MAY 22, 9:30A.M. ST. BERNARD PARISH, BELLFLOWER
For information or reservations please call Donna Santos at 562. 866.3581 or Ruby at 562.866.8580.

ST. ANTHONY'S FIESTA

Our neighbor, St. Anthony Church is hosting its annual Parish Fiesta next weekend with games, food and a raffle! Stop by and enjoy good family fun while supporting their elementary school.