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Online Mass Offering:
tinyurl.com/SFXMassOfferings
UEN: T08CC4033J
Reference: Mass Collection

**Disciples
Making Disciples**

The Lord, the Giver of Life

Pentecost Sunday
24 May 2026

Acts 2:1-11
1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13
Jn 20:19-23

Have you ever encountered the Holy Spirit — felt his movement in your heart during prayer, or witnessed someone being led into a deep conversion? Perhaps we may even have witnessed something more miraculous: a healing or a divine appointment. The imagery of the Holy Spirit as “wind” is apt — we do not see him directly, but we can perceive his effects clearly, just as we can feel the wind as it blows or see the rustling of trees.

One of the most profound effects of the Spirit is unity, even where great diversity exists. The Holy Spirit's descent on Pentecost reveals this. The “men living in Jerusalem from every nation” hear the proclamation of Jesus Christ in their own native language (Acts 2:5-6). This narrative is often contrasted with the event of the Tower of Babel (Gen 11:1-9). There, humanity is divided because of pride. They attempt — but fail — to reach the heavens with a man-made tower. At Pentecost, however, the language barrier between nations is overcome, and people understand the proclamation of the Gospel. And this is no mere human achievement. It recalls the baptism of Christ, where the “heavens were opened” as the Spirit descended like a dove (Mt 3:16) — not by human effort, but by the grace and humble descent of God. What began at the Jordan reaches its fullness at Jerusalem: the same Spirit who

rested upon Christ now rests upon his Body, the Church. The powerful sermon of St Peter on that day humbles the hearts of many toward conversion, as he proclaims the one who humbled himself to the point of death — and whom God has now raised and glorified.

St Paul too speaks about this mystery of unity in his letter to the Corinthians. He discusses the “variety of gifts” given for a diversity of services, but affirms the same Spirit and Lord who works in each of us. The Holy Spirit is not merely a foreign guest of the Church, but her very “soul” (cf. CCC 688). In the same way that our soul guides and directs our bodies — we can, for example, move our hand almost intuitively — it is the same Spirit who guides, animates, and gives life to every activity of the Mystical Body.

This gift of the Spirit is not merely for our personal sanctification; he also gives gifts, often known as charisms, for the building up of the Church. But first, each of us must discern carefully, for, as it is written, “the Spirit is given to each person for a good purpose” (1 Cor 12:7), so that we may fulfil the role appointed to us. St Paul frequently turns to the analogy of the human body in his epistles, and we can

readily understand the necessity of each member fulfilling its role. We know how crippling it can be to our bodily health if any organ begins to fail or function poorly. Similarly, the neglect of our gifts and our call to service can cripple the Body of Christ. The question, then, is not whether we have been given gifts — we have — but whether we are willing to place them at the service of the Whole Church.

It is also important to dwell on the symbol of the Spirit as water — not ordinary water, but the “living water” promised to the Samaritan woman (Jn 4:10). He is the “spring of water” that dwells within each member of the Church, a spring “gushing up to eternal life” (Jn 4:14). The Church therefore hails him as “the Lord, the Giver of Life” (Nicene Creed). None of us should fall prey to the illusion that life, grace, and gifts come from ourselves, for this often leads to burnout in ministry or fear of beginning new works of service because of our own inadequacies. Rather, we need only learn to cooperate with the Holy Spirit and trust that when we are called to service, he will supply in abundance where there is lack.



“None of us should fall prey to the illusion that life, grace and gifts come from ourselves.”

Announcements

For announcements in the bulletin, send your requests to mmm@sfxchurch.sg by the MONDAY before the weekend, 2359hrs



**SCAN QR CODE
FOR MASS HYMNS**
www.sfxchurch.sg/mass

FAULTY CHURCH PEWS?

Spot any faulty or damaged pews in church? Scan the QR code to share with us at tinyurl.com/SFXFacilityReport.



PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE & MASS SCHEDULE

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on **Wed 27 May (Hari Raya Haji)** and **Mon 1 Jun (Day off for Vesak Day)**. Please note that there will only be one Mass at 9am.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

The LiFE Ministry will be serving breakfast this Sunday at JPll Hall. Do drop by for some food and fellowship. Love offerings are welcome!

CATECHISM NOTICE

The last session of Term 2 is on 24 May, followed by the break in June. Sessions will resume from 28 Jun.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

It is available via appointment only. You may contact the Parish Office to make an appointment at the following time slots:

- **Fridays:** 4pm - 6pm
- **Saturdays:** 10am - 12pm



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS 2026/27

Are you or someone you know is curious about the Catholic faith? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is beginning a new journey, and all are warmly invited to join. RCIA is a welcoming process for adults who wish to explore the teachings of the Church, deepen their relationship with God, and prepare to receive the Sacraments of Initiation — Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist. Whether you are curious or simply seeking to learn more, this journey is for you. Registration forms are available on our SFX website and at the Parish Office.

New RCIA Journey (24 years and above)

Start Date: Tue 30 Jun
Time: Every Tuesday, 8pm - 10pm
Venue: JPll Hall (Parsonage, Level 1)
Enquiries: 9626 5960 (Angela) / 9478 6570 (Kathleen)

PIETA

PIETA is a support group for bereaved parents who have united in faith to seek God's comfort, wisdom and hope. A monthly session led by bereaved parents is held for parents to pray, reflect and break open the Word of God. We invite any parent who has lost a child (regardless of age and no matter how recent or long ago) to unite with us in faith.



Date: Tue 26 May
Time: 7.30pm - 9.15pm (Zoom)
Register: If you wish to join us, please email us directly at pieta.singapore@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

MONTFORTIAN EXPERIENCE RETREAT: REST & RECREATION

"Let us calmly enter our hearts to meet God present there" - Montfort Hymn 24:39
If you desire a sacred time and place of refuge, rest or restoration, come enter your heart and rest in the Lord and be refreshed by His life-giving love. Through various creative prayer exercises and recreational activities, be re-created anew and reclaim your identity as His beloved child.

Date: Mon 8 Jun, 7pm - Wed 10 Jun, 2pm
Venue: Montfort Centre
624 Upper Bukit Timah Rd, S678212
Register: montfortcentre.org/events-1/rest-recreation



MONTFORTIAN EXPERIENCE RETREAT: CALLED BY NAME

"I have called you by name, you are mine." - Isaiah 43:1
God calls each of us by a unique name — a deep identity that reveals who we truly are. Come away for a weekend of silence, prayer, and reflection to listen to the voice of God within your life. What you will discover: Where you feel most alive, Your deepest desires, Patterns in your life story, Your personal vocation "name".

Date: Fri 26 Jun, 7pm - Sun 28 Jun, 2pm
Venue: Montfort Centre
624 Upper Bukit Timah Rd, S678212
Register: montfortcentre.org/events-1/called-by-name



Blessed 43rd Sacerdotal Anniversary, Fr Edward!

We thank God for Fr Edward's 43 years of faithful priestly ministry and service to the Church as he celebrates his Sacerdotal Anniversary on 27 May. May the Lord continue to bless him with good health, wisdom, and joy in his ministry. Ad multos annos!

CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP CENTRE: AT THE FEET OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD RETREAT

As leaders and parents, we may be so used to tending to those under our care that we may not look into our own spiritual and emotional well-being. Might we have any childhood trauma or past hurts that continue to affect our behaviour today and result in wounding those we lead? A semi-silent retreat to allow Jesus, our Good Shepherd, to tend to you and heal and restore your soul. Includes inner healing prayers and one-to-one spiritual direction.

Date: Sat 20 Jun, 9am - Sun 21 Jun, 5pm
Venue: Punggol Retreat Centre
Fee: \$380/pax
Register: <https://bit.ly/fgsretreat>



CATHOLIC FOUNDATION: GOD, MONEY & ME (GMM)

God, Money & Me blends practical financial tools with Catholic principles, helping you build healthy habits, make values-based decisions and experience the freedom of faithful stewardship.

Orientation: Sat 5 Sep, 10am - 12pm
Dates: Saturdays (3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 Oct)
Time: 9am - 1pm
Venue: Catholic Centre (55 Waterloo Street, S187954)
Register: catholicfoundation.sg/god-money-and-me



Prepare Your Heart for Pentecost:

9 WAYS TO IGNITE THE FIRE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Pentecost! It's the grand finale of the Easter season, a spiritual explosion that marks the descent of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Catholic Church.

But it's more than just a single Sunday; it's a powerful outpouring of God's grace, a renewed call to mission, and a season for us to live with intentionality and fiery zeal.

As Pope Francis so beautifully reminded us in his 2024 Pentecost homily, *"We are not alone, but empowered by the Holy Spirit."*

The feast, which lands on May 24 this year, isn't just about showing up on Sunday. It's about how to prepare our hearts and live out the Holy Spirit's gifts with intention and passion.

Here are nine fruitful ways to prepare for Pentecost and live with the Holy Spirit's zeal:



1) Novena to the Holy Spirit

The traditional Pentecost Novena involves nine days of prayer leading up to the feast. It mimics the apostles' time in the Upper Room with Mary, praying for the Holy Spirit.

Each day, focus on a specific gift or fruit of the Spirit, inviting Him to transform you. Remember:

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law." (Gal. 5:22-23)

2) Make "Veni Creator Spiritus" Your Morning Go-To

Start your day by inviting the Holy Spirit in! The ancient hymn, *"Veni Creator Spiritus"* ("Come, Creator Spirit"), is a powerful way to do that.

Integrate this beautiful prayer into your morning routine. Its lines, like *"Kindle our sense from above, and make our hearts overflow with love,"* are a perfect daily petition for Pentecostal grace.

3) Pray the Chaplet of the Holy Spirit

The Chaplet of the Holy Spirit centers on the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. It's a fantastic way to ask for these specific graces to empower you and deepen your faith. You can also pray the Litany to the Holy Spirit for a powerful invocation of the Holy Spirit's gifts.

4) Rock Some Red (Liturgically Speaking!)

The color red symbolizes the tongues of fire that descended upon the apostles and the Holy Spirit's transformative power.

Wearing more red in your clothing choices, especially on Pentecost Sunday and throughout its octave, is a simple, visible way to connect with the feast and show your enthusiasm for the Spirit.



5) Read the Acts of the Apostles

Want to see the Holy Spirit in action? The Book of Acts is your go-to. Read the first two chapters of Acts before Pentecost to immerse yourself in the Upper Room narrative.

After Pentecost, keep reading! See how the apostles, empowered by the Spirit, boldly preached the Gospel and built the Church.

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

6) Practice Everyday Discipleship

Pentecost isn't just about what you receive; it's about how you act. Reflect on how you can intentionally live out your Catholic faith in your daily interactions.

This could be a kind word, a moment of forgiveness, lending an ear, or simply radiating Christian joy. Let the Spirit take your ordinary actions and turn them into extraordinary acts of love.

7) Explore Creative Ways to Celebrate

Pentecost can be a truly joyful and vibrant feast!

This includes fun ideas like baking a "Holy Spirit" cake or hosting a spiritual discussion with friends. These creative expressions help bring the significance of the day alive in your home and heart.

8) Learn from Saints with June Feast Days

The upcoming month of June is packed with saints whose lives were profoundly shaped by the Holy Spirit. Take inspiration from:

- **Saint Anthony of Padua (June 13):** A powerful preacher, truly gifted by the Spirit.
- **Saint Aloysius Gonzaga (June 21):** A model of purity and discernment.
- **Saints Peter and Paul (June 29):** Pillars of the Church, transformed by the Spirit from fearful followers into bold apostles.

Their stories show us the endless ways the Holy Spirit empowers believers!

9) Conclude with a Prayer to Mary, Mother of Pentecost

Mary was in the Upper Room, prayerfully awaiting the Holy Spirit with the Apostles. She is truly the Mother of Pentecost!

Turn to her to deepen your own reception of the Spirit, or use a powerful prayer directly to the Holy Spirit:

O Holy Spirit, Soul of my soul, I adore You. Enlighten, guide, strengthen, and console me. Tell me what I ought to do and command me to do it. I promise to submit to everything that You desire of me and to accept all that You permit to happen to me. Let me only know Your Will. (This prayer is often attributed to Cardinal Mercier.)



Pentecost is a re-ignition, not just a remembrance.

By consciously preparing and intentionally living out the presence of the Holy Spirit, we can experience a profound transformation, moving from passive believers to active disciples, truly empowered to live with zeal and bear witness to Christ in the world.

So go ahead, embrace this powerful season! Let your heart be open, your prayers fervent, and your daily life a vibrant testimony to the Spirit alive within you. After all, the fire of God's love isn't just for the apostles – it's for you, here and now, ready to inspire and uplift every moment of your Catholic journey.

Source: www.churchpop.com/prepare-heart-for-pentecost-holy-spirit-fire/

Mass Times

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon - Thu:
6.30pm

Tue - Sat:
6.30am

Fri:
8pm

WEEKEND MASSES

Sat: 5.30pm

Sun: 7am, 9am, 11am, 5.30pm
(There is currently no Confession before Mass)

MASS ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

9am

CONFESSION

Contact Parish Office to make an appointment.

Fri:
4pm - 6pm

Sat:
10am - 12pm

Opening Hours

MAIN GATE

Mon - Sun:
5am - 11pm
Closed on Public Holidays after 9am Mass

BACK GATE

Mon - Sun:
5am - 11pm
Closed on Public Holidays after 9am Mass

PARISH OFFICE

Mon - Sat:
9.30am - 6.30pm
Sun: 8.30am - 1pm
Closed on Public Holidays

ADORATION ROOM

Mon - Sun:
7am - 11pm
Closed on Public Holidays

LIBRARY

Sun:
8am - 1pm,
4pm - 5.30pm

COLUMBARIUM

Mon - Fri:
10am - 7.30pm

Sat - Sun:
8.30am - 7.30pm
Closed on Public Holidays

ANointing of the Sick

The sacrament can be administered to any Catholic awaiting serious surgery, suffering from serious illness or weakened by old age. Anointing may be given before admission for the anticipated medical procedure. Contact the Parish Office to request for a priest. In emergencies, priests of the church nearest to the hospital can be contacted.



Infant Baptism

Spiritual preparation is held on the last Friday of every odd month. Baptism is held on the first/second Sunday of the following month. For registration, please refer to our website.



Funeral

Please check with the Parish Office for priest availability and Mass timing before confirming the timing at the crematorium. For prayers at the wake, please contact the Parish Office.



Marriage

Contact the Parish Office 12 months before your intended date to book the church premises and ensure that your presiding priest is able to make that date.



Mass Offering

Mass offering envelopes are available outside the Parish Office and outside JP II Hall. Submit your envelopes at least two weeks in advance of your intended date. Please write the names clearly, and in block letters.



VOLUNTEER & SHARE YOUR GIFTS!

If you're interested in content curation and design layout, contact mmm@sfxchurch.sg