



SUNDAY TABLE SERVICE

DAY OF PENTECOST

Let us sit and watch Songs of Praise together on the ABC and then set the table for our Parish meal.



- **Setting our table for our Sunday lunch service.**

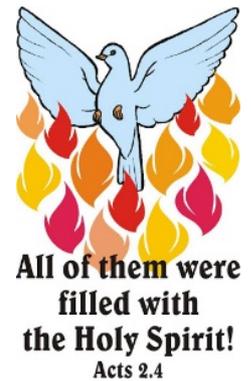
Sometimes we eat, in front of the TV either together or alone; we eat on the run; we eat out in restaurants or even in our car; but today we sit at a table that we have set for our Sunday lunch meal. It is our everyday altar of life-giving food.



As we celebrate the Birthday of the Church and the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples, let us decorate our table to reflect the occasion. Set your table and prepare your meal as a meditation on the importance of the time you are setting aside for worship. If you are celebrating this meal without people physically present, please be aware that **God Is With You.**

The work of the Holy Spirit

If you could have a helper that could make your faith stronger and your love for God deeper, would you take up on that offer? With every thing we have to contend today, Jesus is saying, we are not on our own in this journey of faith. Though Jesus is with the Father, the Holy Spirit will come and testify on Jesus behalf. How does that happen? The first rule is that we do not try to make it happen, except that we constantly pray for the Holy Spirit to be that testimony in our lives. That he leads us into what is true, shows us what sin does, leads us in the things that are righteous and to know we are judged as his obedient ones. It all sounds so farfetched, and this is what the Disciples thought until the Holy spirit came upon them. When He did anything was possible, even an uneducated fisherman preached to the masses.



- **opening prayer — consciously drawing together in our mind our Parish community around our table.**

Be still and silent.
Visualise in your mind,
those whom you invited to share with you.
Pray:



In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Here, and throughout the world,

We adore you O Christ, and we bless you,

because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world. Amen

Bless this food, both physical and spiritual.

Bless all who gather at your table, both seen and unseen, In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

• *Let us read and reflect on our cycle of readings*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 2 beginning at Verse 1



¹ When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. ⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in

Jerusalem. ⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³ But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷ 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. ²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

And it shall come to pass,
that whosoever shall call
on the name of the Lord
shall be saved.
Acts 2:21



[NRSV Acts 2:1-21]

Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God

Psalm 104:26-36

26 Lord, how various are your works:
in wisdom you have made them all,
and the earth is full of your creatures.

27 There is the wide, immeasurable sea:
there move living things without number, great and small;

28 There go the ships, to and fro:
and there is that Leviathan
whom you formed to sport in the deep.

29 These all look to you:
to give them their food in due season.

30 When you give it to them, they gather it:
when you open your hand
they are satisfied with good things.



- 31 When you hide your face, they are troubled:
when you take away their breath,
they die and return to their dust.
- 32 When you send forth your spirit they are created:
and you renew the face of the earth.
- 33 May the glory of the Lord endure for ever:
may the Lord rejoice in his works.
- 34 If he look upon the earth, it shall tremble:
if he but touch the mountains, they shall smoke.
- 35 I will sing to the Lord as long as I live:
I will praise my God while I have any being.
- 36 May my meditation be pleasing to him:
for my joy shall be in the Lord.



A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans,

Chapter 8 beginning at Verse 22



²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the

Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. [NRSV
Romans 8:22-27]

Hear the word of the Lord, ***thanks be to God.***

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John,

Chapter 15 beginning at verse 26

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁶ 'When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷ You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.



^{4b} 'I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵ But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, "Where are you going?" ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷ Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement: ⁹ about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰ about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹ about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

¹² 'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.'¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

[NRSV John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15]

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sentence

'A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you,' says the Lord God; 'I will put my spirit within you and you shall live.'

• eating reflectively and responding to the passage

Let us now engage in some quiet reflection, or conversation and sharing, responding to the Gospel passage. We may like to write down some key thoughts for further reflection.

When you send forth your spirit, they are created.

Likewise, the Spirit helps us in our weakness.

We are often taught that our testimony of Christ in our lives, is something we have to prove to others. This is not the case; this is why Jesus said I will send the Holy Spirit to be your testimony. Our love and obedience towards God opens the door for the Holy Spirit to speak on our behalf. This is not through doing good things, but through our very nature in unity with Jesus, then the presence of God is seen by others. Yes with God's love we are compelled to help others and prepared to share about our faith, but what good is that if our Father in heaven is not seen in the person that we are. This is the driving factor, the inaudible prayer that comes from our souls; come Holy Spirit and form this person to be as God designed me to be.



• spending time together in prayer



Now let us continue to offer our prayers for healing of the world; giving thanks for the planned cease fire between Israel and Palestine, for those affected by coronavirus; remembering especially the peoples of India , and for the continued rollout of the vaccine, for family, members of the parish and wider community, for the life and ministry of the Church, for encouragement in our journey of faith.

We pray alongside those in our parish asking for prayer. Kym, Bob, Colin, Joy, Betty, Izabelle; Peta ; Mariette; Joanne; Peter G, Peter C; Samantha; Fiona; Brenton; Sue; Pat; Brendon; Bill; David H; Diane; Jean; Mitchell and family; Carolyn; Allison; Brenda, Angela; Carol; Shirley; Lucy Ann; Margaret, Lyn; Irene; Linda; Tina; Wendy; Chris; Trevor; Liz; Tristan & Trish S; Carole and family; Peter, Eleni and Nicholas; Jac Bishop, Joanie; Andrew; Kerrie;.Fr Roger Hilton: David Jones; Claire; Jean; Dan Thomas; Peter K; Trish; Claire; Fr John, Fr Graham & Catherine, & Blair *and any others you may wish to remember.*

Let us say the Lord's Prayer Together. Our Father



shutterstock.com · 645875977

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God,
you sent your Holy Spirit
to be the life and light of your Church:
open our hearts to the riches of your grace,
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
in love, joy, and peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Conclude the meal with the following prayer together.

***May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship
of the Holy Spirit, be amongst us and remain with us always.
Amen.***

• intentional connection beyond your home

After our Table Service spend some time reaching out to others, a member of your family, or someone who does not have family, or a friend, someone in your community who may be alone and would welcome a call or message from you. Use the time to catch up with your family and friends who are interstate or overseas, Let God guide you to the person or persons with whom you should connect. Contact them. Start a conversation: 'I was thinking of you.....' Or What did you think of.....

