

FR.TK.REFLECTIONS PENTECOST-2025:

BIRTHDAY OF THE CHURCH:

Pentecost is the birthday of the church! The apostles were instructed by the Lord not to leave Jerusalem until they get the gift of Paraclete, the helper. It is only after they got this that they were able to go outside Jerusalem and spread the gospel to other parts of the world thus being the birthday of the church.

In today's first reading (Acts 2:1-11) recount how tongue of fire descended on the apostles and they were able to speak in various languages. The Pentecost gift of tongues is different from **charismatic gift of tongues**, this one charismatic **enables people to speak in a language nobody understands while the Pentecost is one of communication.**

On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles **as great wind and tongues of fire signifying power and love..** True to his word, the Lord appeared to them in **his glorified body when the doors were closed and locked** due to fear of the Jews. Note the fact that Jesus glorified body was not subjected to any earthly limitations and restrictions. When he appeared to them, he gave them what they needed that time **peace** and proved to them he is the same person who was crucified by showing them the scars in his body. It is only after providing them with what they needed that he gave them **the mission.*as the father has send me so I send you(Jn20:21)** After this he equipped them with the **instruments of the mission**
receive the holy spirit(Jn22)

Jesus was very much aware that he was establishing his church on human beings not on angels and not in heaven but here on earth. He

knew the **limitations and short comings** of the human being and **challenges** they will encounter hence at the same time he **instituted the sacrament of Reconciliation*for those sins you forgive,they are forgiven and those you retain,they are retained(Jn 23)***They started the mission by reaching out to those who were in Jerusalem at the time.This shows the fact that we start where we are and reach out to others.***are these not Galileans and how comes that we are able to hear then in our own native language(Act 2:2-10)***This shows that the gospel is **beyond limit of language,tribe,race Color,culture.age,status gender or even political affiliation.**The language of the gospel is **love.**

The coming of the Holy spirit changed the apostles and other people listening to them.we are all called to **open our hearts for the Holy Spirit to work with and in us.**The Holy Spirit bring in us change and growth, with **hope and love,to share Gods goodness.**we are the living body of Christ,we have **hands that can care,eyes that can see,ears that hear.tongue that can speak and heart that can love and console thus making change in our society and in the world.** This is the call of Pentecost for us today.The spirit keeps the church as **one,holy and apostolic and universal** it needs you and me to work and deliver the mission Christ left us.

No matter what ever the situation we are in,the challenges,hardship or difficult,our prayer should be ***come Holy Spirit and renew the face of the earthy***May he give us the gifts of **gentleness,self-control,love,joy,peace,patience,generosity and faithfulness.**let's be open to these gifts today.**HAPPY PENTECOST TO ALL.**