

Pentecost Sunday

June 5, 2022

On this Feast of Pentecost, the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles is the most dramatic and fulfilling. According to our Lector Workbook, this reading teaches us three theological points:

1. The descent of the Holy Spirit occurs on the Jewish festival of Shavuot, which celebrates the Law given to Moses on Mount Sinai. With the presence of the Spirit, the old Law is now over-ruled with this New Law.
2. Second point is the Tongues of Fire on each of the Apostles. While the listeners were all from different Nations, each understood the message of the resurrection. So, the confusion in Genesis 11:1-9 at the tower of Babel, which brought us to the 12 tribes, what was once the cause of division, is now healed and all are united.
3. At this proclamation, all are united, and each person hears in their native language. All are gathered as one Nation.

The teachings are for us: With the Presence of the Risen Lord, we welcome a new Law, the Kingdom of God. While we too have a variety of tongues and Nations, we must recognize that all are children of God. The infant church of the Upper Room is sent out to the entire Nation, to preach and teach that all are of the ONE origin, ONE family, ONE Body of Christ.

May we be ONE.