



AMERICAN NATIONAL
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Presiding Bishop's Letter for Pentecost

The People of God believes that it is led by the Lord's Spirit, Who fills the earth. Motivated by this faith, it labors to decipher authentic signs of God's presence and purpose in the happenings, needs and desires in which this People has a part along with other people (men) of our age. For faith throws a new light on everything, manifests God's design for everyone's (man's) total vocation, and thus directs the mind to solutions which are fully human.

GAUDIUM ET SPES, POPE PAUL VI

+In the name of the Father and of the Son and and of the Holy Spirit.

The clergy and the People of the American National Catholic Church join the entire Church in celebrating, with great joy, this Feast of Pentecost. As a Church dedicated to the Spirit of Vatican Council II, we share in the belief that we are led by the Spirit of the Lord, poured out for us on Pentecost, and renewed in us each day by Christ in the Eucharist. We as Catholics celebrate in the life of the Church, the reality of the fulfillment of Christ's promise to not leave us orphans; he left us himself in the Eucharist, the Spirit of God guiding his Body, the Church, and each other as the constant reminder of God's tremendous call to love as Christ has loved us.

We in the American National Catholic Church, since the beginning of our journey, have held to the conviction that this Holy Spirit has called us into existence to witness to the concrete reality of God's continuing presence among us through the Spirit of God in God's holy Church. Over this past year, we have seen how the Spirit has moved others to join us on this journey. The gentle promptings of the Holy Spirit have led to the establishment of an ANCC parish in St. Louis, another in North Dakota, the stirrings of a new parish in Philadelphia, and the continuing discernment process in Florida. We have had requests for an ANCC presence in eight other States, and we pray that God may send laborers into the harvest to help us in our desire to proclaim the truth of our experience of the extravagant love of God in our world.

At Pentecost, we are given the opportunity to reflect, again on the mystery of God's continual care for us, to give thanks for the Spirit which sustains us, and to continue to look for the authentic signs of God's presence in our midst. We believe that through the love of God the Father and God the Son, the Holy Spirit is poured out on God's Church, and renews us in every generation and inspires in us the faith which directs our minds and hearts

to the belief that we are called to be transformed by this divine indwelling of the Holy Spirit to recreate the face of the earth in the image of God's love.

Join us in praying with St. Augustine for the wisdom to discern the movement of the Spirit in our Church and our lives:

*Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.
Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy.
Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy.
Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy.
Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy.
Amen.*

Given under my signature and Seal
Pentecost 2012

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "George R. Lucey, FCM". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

Most Rev. George R. Lucey, FCM
Presiding Bishop