

## Focusing on the Word

The Jews were celebrating Pentecost 3000 years ago. It was originally a harvest feast on which the first fruits were offered in gratitude to God. It later came to be celebrated as the anniversary of the giving of the Law to Moses on Mt. Sinai. The word itself means simply 50<sup>th</sup> - the 50<sup>th</sup> day after Jewish Passover. The Jews were celebrating that feast when the Spirit came on Jesus' followers. And so Pentecost is still celebrated, but we who are Christians celebrate it as the day on which God sent his Holy Spirit upon the Church.

As the first reading tells us, Christ followers were all together in one place. The Spirit gives different gifts to different members of the Church so we can help each other to know and experience God and God's love. **If we want to experience the fullness of the Spirit, we need each other, we need to come together, to worship together, to share gifts with one another.** Without the Spirit we are trying to breathe without air, think without light, love without fire.

As Paul tells us in today's second reading: "No one can say Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit." The Spirit makes the Scriptures alive for us and helps us to be aware of God's presence with us and God's love for us. Amen.

(Shepherds of Christ Publications, 2006)

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Our Saint this week is St. Philip Neri (May 26th)**

**1515- 1595 \* Italy**

Philip was a young man working for his uncle in the family business and plans were for him to take over the business. But God had other plans for him. One day at prayer, Philip had a mystical encounter with God that filled his heart with joy and love. He had to share his joyful love of God with others. He moved to Rome where the pope lives, but the people there were taking their Faith for granted, and had stopped living holy lives. Philip wandered the streets of Rome, and would talk to people to rekindle the Church's heart with the same fire of love that filled his own. Everyone liked talking to him and he often asked, "Well, brothers, when shall we begin to do good?" And then he would take that person to a hospital to serve the sick or inside a church to pray. His message: start serving God right away.

One Pentecost Eve, a globe of fire appeared and the blaze entered his mouth and a love of God was so great it overwhelmed him. Afterward, Philip felt a swelling right over his heart, almost as if his heart had grown larger out of love for Jesus. Soon after this experience, Philip became a priest and founded the congregation of Oratorians. The people of Rome loved their cheerful priest. His joyful love for God renewed their love for God, too. His congregation of Oratorians continue his work to this day with a joyful spirit.

**St. Philip Neri, enflame my heart with love for God!**

## OUR WEEKLY GIVING

<b>Ss. Peter &amp; Paul</b>	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 785.00
Loose	180.00
Total	965.00
Total from May 17, 2020	*355.00*
Building Fund	220.00
<b>St. Stanislaus</b>	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 500.00
Loose	17.00
Total	517.00
Total from May 17, 2020	*297.00*
Building Fund	300.00
<b>St. John</b>	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 1,494.10
Loose	77.00
Total	1,571.10
Total from May 17, 2020	*850.00*
<b>St. Michael</b>	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 165.00
Loose	44.00
Total	209.00
Total from May 17, 2020	*225.00*
Building Fund	50.00
*Churches closed due to pandemic*	
(Totals include only the basic collection)	

*Together in Mission...  
Alive in Hope*

### Catholic Services Appeal 2020-2021

Pope Francis describes the present moment as a time to be open to the Spirit who can "inspire us with a new imagination of what is possible." Realize the Power of a Gift!

	<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Payments &amp; Pledges</b>	<b>Amount Due</b>
Ss. Peter & Paul	\$ 11,438.00	\$ 4,430.00	\$ 7,008.00
St. John	\$ 8,969.00	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 4,269.00
St. Stanislaus	\$ 5,430.00	\$ 3,243.00	\$ 2,187.00
St. Michael	\$ 2,843.00	\$ 2,307.00	\$ 536.00

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### OUR SPONSOR THIS WEEK

#### **SKABROUD'S STORE**

W5541 Main St. - Sheldon, WI 54766

Brian & Jody Oelkers invite you to stop in  
and enjoy great service!  
We look forward to serving you in the future!

(715) 452-5161