



AMERICAN NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Office of the Presiding Bishop

SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST - 2011

Let us pray...

Father of light, from whom every good gift comes, send your Spirit into our lives with the power of a mighty wind, and by the flame of your wisdom open the horizons of our minds. Loosen our tongues to sing your praise in words beyond the power of speech, for without your Spirit we could never raise our voice in words of peace or announce the truth that Jesus is Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

-Opening Prayer for the Solemnity of Pentecost

Pentecost Continues

Our Gifts, God's Glory // by Bishop George Lucey

To the Clergy, Religious and Faithful of the American National Catholic Church: Grace and Peace in the Holy Spirit on this Solemnity of Pentecost!

It is with great joy that I greet you on this solemn feast. The American National Catholic Church shares the joy of all Christians on this day when the Church received the great gift of Christ's ascent into heaven.

Christ promised to not leave us orphans, and to send us One who would remain with us until His return. Today, we in the American National Catholic Church celebrate this solemnity with special fervor, as we see in the Feast the same revivifying energy the Apostles received and which empowered them to witness to the love of Christ and compelled them to spread the Gospel.

This same Holy Spirit continues in calling the

Pentecost

Continued // Bishop George R. Lucey, FCM

Church to be a visible means of Christ's inclusive love in our world today.

This same Holy Spirit has moved us in the American National Catholic Church to reclaim our ancient Catholic Traditions and proclaim boldly that all are welcome to share in God's abundant and gratuitous love for God's people. This Spirit of Wisdom has led the American National Catholic Church to humbly say to the People of God that the Church of Christ and her sacraments have always belonged to the Christ's people, and they are like springs of living water intended by Christ to comfort and nourish us in all the moments of our lives.

We have persevered in constant prayer asking for the knowledge to follow where this Spirit may lead and we have fortified ourselves for what lies ahead. We have been buffeted by the less than Christian remarks and attempts to silence us by larger and more powerful institutions who claim the exclusivity of our Traditions, and by the grace of God have withstood and been strengthened by these attempts instead of weakened by them. Indeed in these first two years of our existence God has blessed us with untold graces: new members within our parishes, new parishes, new clergy, new opportunities for ministry, and a growing acceptance by others that we are a viable and credible alternative to Vatican directed Catholicism. We give thanks to God for this renewing Spirit and ask that we may continue to walk humbly in His service.

Given under Our Signature and Seal on this Feast of Pentecost 2011,

+ *George*

Most Rev. George R. Lucey, FCM
Presiding Bishop
The American National Catholic Church



THE AMERICAN NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

The ANCC is a Catholic community outside the institutional church, dedicated to making the world a more compassionate place. Guided by its own bishop we celebrate the same sacraments and follow the spirit of reform initiated in Vatican Council II.

www.theANCC.org