

INTRODUCTION

We are now in the week before Pentecost and we are invited to be like the disciples and with Mama Mary, to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Holy Spirit. As a community of witnesses to the Resurrection of the Lord, we are to help and prepare each other in order to receive gladly the gift of the Holy Spirit. Preparing to live our daily life led and guided by the Holy Spirit. It is a life in the Spirit.

God has given us the Family in order to live our daily life in the Spirit. We are a Family of the Spirit. And He provides us with all the tools and means necessary to live this kind of life. God gave to us especially the gift of the Holy Spirit as our permanent friend and companion.

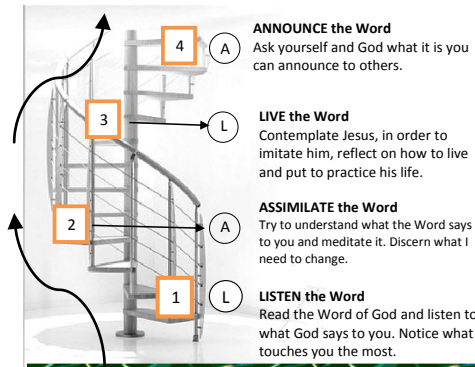
Let us pray as a Family preparing ourselves for the Coming of the Holy Spirit.

PRAYING WITH THE WORD

- "For ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ." **St. Jerome**
- And let them remember that prayer should accompany the reading of Sacred Scripture, so that God and man may talk together; for "we speak to Him when we pray; we hear Him when we read the divine saying." **St. Ambrose**
(Dei Verbum #25 Vatican II document)



DYNAMISM OF THE WORD



MONDAY

You will receive power and be my witnesses.

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning² until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven.³ He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God.⁴ While at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is', he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about:⁵ John baptised with water but, not many days from now, you are going to be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'⁶ Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come for you to restore the kingdom to Israel?'⁷ He replied, 'It is not for you to know

times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority,⁸ but you will receive the power of the Holy Spirit which will come on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to earth's remotest end.'⁹ As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight.¹⁰ They were still staring into the sky as he went, when suddenly two men in white were standing beside them,¹¹ and they said, 'Why are you Galileans standing here looking into the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will come back in the same way as you have seen him go to heaven.'^(Acts 1:1-11)

TUESDAY

The Savior is lifted up.

¹⁷ May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him.¹⁸ May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, how rich is the glory of the heritage he offers among his holy people,¹⁹ and how extraordinarily great is the power that he has exercised for us believers; this accords with the strength of his power²⁰ at work in Christ, the power which he exercised in raising him from the dead and enthroning him at

his right hand, in heaven,²¹ far above every principality, ruling force, power or sovereignty, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age but also in the age to come.

(Ephesians 1:17-21)

WEDNESDAY

I will give you a friend to help you.

¹⁶ I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Paraclete to be with you for ever,¹⁷ the Spirit of truth whom the world can never accept since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you. ***(John 14:16-17)***

²⁵ I have said these things to you while still with you;²⁶ but the Paraclete, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.

(John 14:25-26)



THURSDAY

The Holy Spirit came upon them.

It happened that while Apollos was in Corinth, Paul made his way overland

as far as Ephesus, where he found a number of disciples. ² When he asked, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' they answered, 'No, we were never even told there was such a thing as a Holy Spirit.' ³ He asked, 'Then how were you baptised?' They replied, 'With John's baptism.' ⁴ Paul said, 'John's baptism was a baptism of repentance; but he insisted that the people should believe in the one who was to come after him -- namely Jesus.' ⁵ When they heard this, they were baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus, ⁶ and the moment Paul had laid hands on them the Holy Spirit came down on them, and they began to speak with tongues and to prophesy. ⁷ There were about twelve of these men in all. ⁸ He began by going to the synagogue, where he spoke out fearlessly and argued persuasively about the kingdom of God. He did this for three months,

(Acts 19:1-8)

FRIDAY

In every city, the Holy Spirit has warned me.

¹⁷ From Miletus he sent for the elders of the church of Ephesus. ¹⁸ When they arrived he addressed these words to them: 'You know what my way of life has been ever since the first day I set foot among you in Asia, ¹⁹ how I have served the Lord in all humility, with all the sorrows and trials that came to me through the

plots of the Jews. ²⁰ I have not hesitated to do anything that would be helpful to you; I have preached to you and instructed you both in public and in your homes, ²¹ urging both Jews and Greeks to turn to God and to believe in our Lord Jesus. ²² 'And now you see me on my way to Jerusalem in captivity to the Spirit; I have no idea what will happen to me there, ²³ except that the Holy Spirit, in town after town, has made it clear to me that imprisonment and persecution await me. ²⁴ But I do not place any value on my own life, provided that I complete the mission the Lord Jesus gave me -- to bear witness to the good news of God's grace. **(Acts 20:17-24)**

SATURDAY

Keep watch over the flock the Holy Spirit gave you.

²⁵ 'I now feel sure that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will ever see my face again. ²⁶ And so on this very day I swear that my conscience is clear as far as all of you are concerned, ²⁷ for I have without faltering put before you the whole of God's purpose. ²⁸ 'Be on your guard for yourselves and for all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you the guardians, to feed the Church of God which he bought with the blood of his own Son. ²⁹ 'I know quite well that when I have gone fierce wolves will invade you and will have no

mercy on the flock. ³⁰ Even from your own ranks there will be men coming forward with a travesty of the truth on their lips to induce the disciples to follow them. ³¹ So be on your guard, remembering how night and day for three years I never slackened in counselling each one of you with tears. ³² And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace that has power to build you up and to give you your inheritance among all the sanctified. **(Acts 20:25-32)**

PENTECOST SUNDAY READINGS

1st Reading: Acts 2:1-11

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 104

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13

Gospel: John 20:19-23



Verbum Dei

GUIDELINES FOR PRAYER

"I will ask the Father and he will give you another Helper, who will stay with you forever."

(John 14:16)

May 18-24, 2015

General Theme: "He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the end" (Philippians 1:6)

General Objective:

To contemplate Jesus' availability to God's Plan during his public life and how He has come to understand along the way the **strategy** to reach it. Strategy with the greatest apostolic efficacy: to make disciples who in turn make other disciples.

Objective of the week:

To prepare and to capacitate each one to live the daily life.
To give them tools and a faithful friend that will lead and guide them – the Holy Spirit.