

After the Heart of Jesus ...

*To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit
is given for some benefit.*

*As a body is one though it has many parts,
and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body,
so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body,
whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons,
and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.*

1 Corinthians 12:7,12-13

Today we rejoice in the celebration of Pentecost, the feast when the Holy Spirit descended on the followers of Christ. The gifts they received enabled those first believers to boldly proclaim the Kingdom of God, making known the Good News from Jerusalem, through Judea, to the ends of the earth.



As the Apostle Paul writes to the Corinthians, “We are all given to drink of one Spirit.” The notion of drinking in the Spirit connotes a personal acceptance of the Spirit into one’s life. Think of what drinking water does to our physical lives. That same effect should be felt in our souls when we drink of the Holy Spirit.

Paul also reminds us that the gifts of the Spirit are always given for the common good and not for the building up of one’s own personal life. We should never boast of the gifts of the Spirit in ways that place us above another. For as all the parts of our body work together as one, so it is with us in Christ. We must work together, each sharing our gifts, fulfilling our call, carrying out our mission. When we do this, guided by the Spirit, the Body of Christ is not only given in Eucharist but is shared throughout our area.

This weekend we celebrate our Life in the Spirit. At the Pentecost Vigil Prayer on Saturday evening, we rejoice in the varied gifts of the Spirit given to those who have entered our Catholic family this past year and those who share in ministry at St. Walter Parish. After prayer, we gather to appreciate those who dedicate their time, talent, and energy to build up the parish community through ministry at St. Walter Parish. THANK YOU, Holy Spirit! And THANK YOU, parishioners, for helping us be the living Body of Christ!

If you are interested in serving on the parish pastoral council, please see the article in this week’s bulletin regarding new openings on the council. We are blessed to have a wonderful group of committed parishioners serve on our pastoral council who are committed to helping our parish extend our mission of bringing Christ to the world around us. The council consists of nine at-large members, each member serving for three years, with one-third of the council rotating off every year. Applications are due by Monday, May 19.



*Mothers hold their children's hands for a short while,
but their hearts forever.*

This Sunday is also Mother’s Day, a special day when we lift our mothers up and say “Thank you, we love you, and we pray for you.” Of course, we should do that everyday. Our Catholics for Life group is passing out flowers to children and spouses to give to our mothers today. May God Bless all those who nurture and foster the lives of little ones today.

Please join us in praying the daily rosary at 6:30 PM by the outdoor statue of Mary. Individuals, families, and groups are invited to sign up the lead the rosary. The sign-up sheet for leading is in the narthex. It is a beautiful family prayer as well. Perhaps you can pray a rosary this week for your mother’s intention.

We still have a ways to go before this year’s budget is balanced. To avoid carrying over an operational debt into the next fiscal year, we need to raise about \$40,000 in the balance the budget campaign. If you have the means to help us, please use the blue envelope in our packets designated for the Balance the Budget fund. An average of one and a half week’s collection from each of us would close the gap. The other way to help for next year’s budget that begins in July is to use electronic contributions. This is especially good in the summer months when we are more likely to be away on some weekends. Thank you for your generous financial support of St. Walter Parish!

On this Solemnity of Pentecost, may we all drink of the one Spirit as we live ...

After the Heart of Jesus!
Father John