

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Mass During the Day

Year C

There are two options for BOTH the Second Reading and the Gospel

Reading 1

Citation: Acts, Chap. 2, verses 1-11
Acts 2:1-11

The story of the coming of the Holy Spirit. It must have been an awesome thing to experience as an Apostle. You be an Apostle in the room reporting what you hear and see and feel! Then, take a step outside into the street and see and hear the commotion that has been caused. Tell us about it!!

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled,
they were all in one place together.

(short Pause)

And suddenly
there came from the sky
a noise
like a strong driving wind,
and it filled the entire house in which they were.

[surprise!]

(short Pause)

[fearful surprise?]

(drag out “driving” and “wind” [what’s wind sound like?])

(short Pause)

Then
there appeared to them
tongues
as of fire,
which parted
and came to rest on each of them.

[expectant surprise!]

(drag out “fire”?)

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and began to speak in different tongues,
as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.

(parenthetical expression)

Now
there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven
staying in Jerusalem.

(change tone – you’re explaining the circumstances)

At this sound,
they gathered in a large crowd,
but they were confused
because each one heard them
speaking in his own language.

(more surprise!)

[Amazement

[builds!

They were astounded,
and in amazement they asked,
“Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans?
Then how does each of us
hear them in his native language?

[let your voice reflect the amazement]
[and the wonder of it all!] (short Pause)

[Keep the amazement

[in your voice

[

We are Parthian, Medes, and Elamites,

[A long list; vary tone, pace,

Proclamation Format

inhabitants of Mesopotamia,
Judea and Cappadocia,
Pontus and Asia,
Phrygia and Pamphylia,
Egypt
and the districts of Libya near Cyrene,
as well as travelers from Rome,
both Jews and converts to Judaism,
Cretans and Arabs,
yet
we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God.”

[and facial expression
[but keep an element of
[surprise and amazement
[in your voice
[throughout!
[
[
[
[(short Pause)

(strong finish!!)

The Word of the Lord.

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Reading 2
Optional

Citation: 1 Corinthians, Chapter 12, Verses 3b-7; 12-13
1 Corinthians 12: 3b-7, 12-13

St. Paul is attempting to help people understand that the diversity that exists among human beings is a “good” in itself. We must respect, honor and celebrate our differences. It is through these “differences” that the unity with God and Jesus is achieved. This is not an easy concept to get across. Take your time with this reading, giving your listeners time to figure out the meaning of the words for themselves.

A Reading from the First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

(get listener's attention)

No one can say,
“Jesus is Lord,”
except by the Holy Spirit.

[short pause]
(insistent tone)
[short pause]

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts
but the same Spirit;
there are different forms of service
but the same Lord;
there are different workings
but the same God who produces all of them in everyone.

[A LIST!! – vary tone, pitch, pace, etc.]

[short pause]

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

(a positive, assertive statement)
[Pause]

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.

(parenthetical expression)
(parenthetical expression)
[short pause]
(each word separately)

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.

(voice goes up)
(voice goes down)

The Word of the Lord.

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Reading 2
Optional

Citation: Romans, Chap 8, Verses 8-17
Romans 8: 8-17

St Paul is appealing to his community to understand that they are "new creations" in the changed world since Jesus' death and resurrection. The role of the Spirit that Jesus sent to the world is paramount. To sincerely profess faith in Jesus and His Name makes all the difference. Take your time with this proclamation as its concepts may be challenging many of your listeners. Let Paul's argument slowly build and the expression of its intensity be reflected in your approach to your proclamation of it.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

(very short pause)

But you are not in the flesh;

on the contrary,
you are in the spirit,
if only the Spirit of God dwells in you.

(parenthetical)

Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ
does not belong to him.

But

if Christ is in you,
although the body is dead because of sin,
the spirit is alive because of righteousness.

(parenthetical)

(voice down a bit)

If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead
dwells in you,
the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also,
through his Spirit
that dwells in you.

(very short pause)

Consequently, brothers and sisters,
we are not debtors to the flesh,
to live according to the flesh.
For if you live according to the flesh,
you will die,
but if by the Spirit
you put to death the deeds of the body,
you will live.

(parenthetical)

(voice goes up)

(slow each word) (voice goes down)

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.
For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear,
but you received a Spirit of adoption,
through whom we cry, "Abba, Father!"

(almost parenthetical)

(short pause)

Proclamation Format

The Spirit himself bears witness
with our spirit
that we are children of God,
and if children,
then heirs,
heirs of God
and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him
so that we may also be glorified with him.

(almost parenthetical)
(two stresses)

(three stresses)

The Word of the Lord.

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GOSPEL
OPTION 1

Citation: John, Chap. 20, Verses 19-23

John 20: 19-23

Christ appears to the Apostles for the first time. He just suddenly appears (Isn't this amazing? Can we hear that amazement in your voice?). Jesus is calm, firm, yet warmly reaches out to the Apostles. What is the significance of Jesus instructions about forgiving sins (as the result of receiving the Holy Spirit)? Help your listeners understand this order by the way you understand it and demonstrate that understanding in your voice.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

On the evening of that first day of the week,
when the doors were locked, where the disciples were,
for fear of the Jews,
Jesus came
and stood in their midst
and said to them,
"Peace be with you."

(disregard the 1st comma)
(parenthetical)

(very short pause)

(gentle; slow) (short pause)

When he had said this,
he showed them his hands and his side.

(very short pause)

The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

(excited!) (very short pause)

Jesus said to them again,

(calm)

"Peace be with you.

(gentle) (very short pause)

As the Father has sent me,
so I send you."

(voice goes up)

(voice goes down) (very short pause)

And when he had said this,

he breathed on them

and said to them,

"Receive the Holy Spirit.

(gentle but firm)

Whose sins you forgive

(voice goes up a bit)

are forgiven them,

(very short pause)

and whose sins you retain

(voice goes down a bit?)

are retained."

(a bit firm, definite)

The Gospel of the Lord.

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GOSPEL
OPTION 2

Citation: John, Chap. 14, Verses 15-16, 23b-26
John 14: 15-16, 23b-26

John writes to affirm with his community his teaching that despite their troubles (persecution) God and Jesus are standing with them if they truly have faith in Jesus. Be as convinced of this as John was and show that conviction in your intensity of proclamation.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

(short pause)

"If you love me,
you will keep my commandments.

(firm)

And I will ask the Father,
and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always.

"

"

(short pause)

"Whoever loves me will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him.

(slowly, each line)

(assuring)

(very short pause)

Those who do not love me do not keep my words;

(not quite parenthetical)

yet the word you hear is not mine
but that of the Father
who sent me.

(cautionary)

(short pause)

"I have told you this while I am with you.
The Advocate,
the Holy Spirit
whom the Father will send in my name,
will teach you everything
and remind you of all that I told you."

(gentle)

(assuring)

(slower)

(firm)

The Gospel of the Lord.