

COLLECT - READER Let us bring to mind all we want to pray for. *(Allow silence, 1 minute)*

O God, who by the mystery of today's great feast sanctify your whole Church in every people and nation, pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit across the face of the earth and, with the divine grace that was at work when the Gospel was first proclaimed, fill now once more the hearts of the believers. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **All: Amen.**

First READING: Acts 2:1-11

Allow a time of silence after the reading. (1-2 minutes).

PSALM: 104 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7YtviTuigaM>

Response: Lord send out your Spirit and renew the face of the Earth

Bless the Lord, O my soul	If you take away their breath
O Lord my God, you are great indeed	They perish and return to the dust
How manifold are your works O Lord	When you send forth your spirit they are created
The earth is full of your creatures	And you renew the face of the earth

May the glory of the Lord endure forever
May the Lord be glad in his Pleasing him be my theme
I will be glad in the Lord

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7,12-13 *Allow silence after the reading (1-2 minutes).*

GOSPEL: John 20:19-23 *Allow a time of silence after the reading (1-2 minutes).*

REFLECTION:

READER The following poem is by New Zealand poet, James k Baxter.

Lord, Holy Spirit,
You blow like the wind in a thousand paddocks,
Inside and outside the fences,
You blow where you wish to blow.



Lord, Holy Spirit,
You are the sun who shines on the little plant,
You warm him gently, you give him life,
You raise him up to become a tree with many leaves.



Lord, Holy Spirit,
You are the mother eagle with her young,
Holding them in peace under your feathers.
On the highest mountain you have built your nest,
Above the valley, above the storms of the world,
Where no hunter ever comes Lord,



Holy Spirit,
You are the bright cloud in whom we hide,
In whom we know already that the battle has been won.
You bring us to our Brother Jesus
To rest our heads upon his shoulder.



Lord, Holy Spirit,
You are the kind fire who does not cease to burn,
Consuming us with flames of love and peace,
Driving us out like sparks to set the world on fire.



Lord, Holy Spirit,
In the love of friends you are building a new house,
Heaven is with us when you are with us.
You are singing your songs in the hearts of the poor
Guide us, wound us, heal us. Bring us to the Father.



– James K. Baxter, 'Song to the Holy Spirit', in *Collected Poems* (ed. John Edward Weir; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1979), 572.

READER Let's take a few minutes to discuss; who is the Holy Spirit to us here and now?

ALL: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. **All** Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful:

READER: Let us pray together. As God's people, we are called to pray for the needs of the whole world.
The response to the petitions is, 'and renew the face of the earth.' Lord send out your Spirit, **All** and renew ...

For the Church – that every baptized person welcomes the Holy Spirit, attends to the gifts given and uses these to contribute to the good of the Church and Christ's mission to the world.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord send out your Spirit **All:** And renew the face of the earth.

For all Christian denominations – that they adopt a spirit of humility, look to each other with openness, see in each other the work of Christ, and move forward with a spirit of reconciliation and desire for unity.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord send out your Spirit **All:** And renew the face of the earth.

For national leaders throughout the world – that they act with wisdom, integrity, justice and compassion, ensuring national laws and legal systems protect all people equally.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord send out your Spirit **All:** And renew the face of the earth.

For people facing loss of income because of Coovid-19 – that they will be supported by communities and friends and that they not lose hope but persevere toward a brighter future.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord send out your Spirit **All:** And renew the face of the earth.

For people who stand up against oppressive authorities and regimes – that they be strengthened and supported in their resolve to seek justice for people, especially for people marginalized or oppressed.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord send out your Spirit **All:** And renew the face of the earth.

For social media, radio and television – that people reject what lowers human dignity. That the media become tools for respectful communication and uplifting and inspiring storytelling and entertainment.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord send out your Spirit **All:** And renew the face of the earth.

ALL God, giver of life, we thank You for the gift of Your compassionate love which soothes and strengthens us. We pray that our churches may be always open to receive Your gifts from one another. Grant us a spirit of generosity to all as we journey together in the path of Christian unity. We ask this in the name of Your Son who reigns with You and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER: We pray the prayer Jesus gave us.

COLLECTION: Part of our commitment as Christian is to give to those in need. Think about what you might like to make a donation to, or offer to help in another way. These are some ideas.

- **Your Parish:** your parish and presbytery still have operating costs.
- **The Caring Foundation Covid-19 appeal** to donate, click [here](#)
- **Catholic Social Services Auckland** to donate, click [here](#)
- **The Catholic aid agency Caritas** to support their work, click [here](#)
- **St Vincent de Paul** contact your parish or click [here](#)

READER: Thank you for your participation in today's Liturgy of the Word. Let us remember to invite the Holy Spirit into our lives. Let us seek to be one with Christians of other denominations. Let us be ready to show unusual kindness to friends and strangers. And let us learn to love as Jesus loved. Kia tau te rangimārie ki a koutou – Peace be with you. May God bless you and your and all whom you love.

All: Thanks be to God.

SONG: Let's sing together. Holy Spirit Rock © Michael Mangan <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q4oZhwocJKo>

OR Send us your Spirit O Lord © Dan Schutte <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUL-ey9gQZO>

OR Wairua Tapu © Wiremu Ready & Keith Southern <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gj--BvTkkys>

Week of Prayer for Christian unity – Resources <https://geii.org/index.html>