



My Dear Parishioners,

Praised be Jesus Christ and Happy Pentecost Sunday! On this day when we celebrate the Descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and Mary, we call to mind the Birthday of the Church. What began in the Heart of the Father, took shape in the people of Israel and fulfilled in the Incarnation of Jesus, finally comes forth for all peoples, times and nations: The One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.

When asked by a journalist, "What's wrong with the world?" The English writer Chesterton, said "I am". In our own day with all the wrongs, even in the Church, we might do well to respond the same. "What's wrong with (*fill in the blank*)? I am". But in saying that, how wonderful it is to call to mind the **Great "I AM", Almighty God** who called us, willed us to live in these times and missions us out as His Body, the Church, to live in this world. Wow! That's what's right in this world, that's where our hope lies! And there is no greater adventure, no greater call, than to live the Call of the "I AM"! To Be Church.

I share now a Homily given by Deacon Greg Kandra, given on Easter of 2009. It applies to us as we celebrate Pentecost of 2021. May the Great Fire of the Holy Spirit continue to work within us!

Peace,

Fr. Rogers

"Describing the Catholic Church, James Joyce once said, 'Here comes everybody.' Yes. That says it.

Here comes Peter, the denier and Thomas the doubter, and the converted pagan Augustine. Here comes the soldier Ignatius, and the scholar Aquinas, and the tentmaker Paul. Here comes Catherine of Sienna and Therese of Lisieux. Here comes Francis, preaching to the birds.

We are all that and more. We are monks who copied scripture onto parchment, and preserved God's word. We are priests and nuns who could barely speak the language, but came to an unruly place called America and created the most extensive parochial school system on earth, passing on what they knew, and what they believed. We are laborers from Italy and Poland and Germany who arrived in Brooklyn with nothing, and left behind towering temples of stone and glass in what we call a City of Churches. We are Chesterton and Merton and Hopkins. We are Bob Hope and Newt Gingrich, John Wayne and Oscar Wilde, Tony Blair and Fulton Sheen. We are Oscar Romero and Bobby Kennedy and Caesar Chavez and Mother Angelica. We are the soldier in Iraq praying the rosary, and the immigrant in the barrio with Our Lady of Guadalupe tattooed on his back. We are Fr. [Mike Dalton](#), in a jeep in Germany, hearing one last confession. We are Rosa and Richard, about to be baptized here tonight. We are Amanda and Lydia and Ana and Justine and Carmen, about to be confirmed. We are saints. We are sinners. We are everybody.

We are the Body of Christ. Bruised. Broken. But resurrected and given new life, new hope. Changed forever... We are people who live in the resurrection. We are men and women and children who hold the light. This Easter, keep the flame burning. Remember all who came before us, and all who are joining us today – by one count, [some 150-thousand](#) in the United States alone. 150-thousand more people to hold the candle, and to spread the light, and to proclaim not just the good news – but the greatest news in all human history: '*He has been raised.*' Alleluia!"

WELCOME DEACON ANDREW AULETTA!

As of this writing, Deacon Andrew Auletta is scheduled to visit us next Sunday, May 30! He will preach at the 10:30 and Noon Mass. Join us to welcome him back for this brief visit. Deacon Andrew has been assigned to serve St. Eleanor Parish in Collegeville, PA.



LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY

Let us all unite to pray the rosary as the family of St. Patrick Church. Please join us in this virtual connection on Sunday nights at 7:00PM and let us be united in mind and heart while meditating on the mysteries of our salvation in Christ. Join by clicking the link found below or you may call in:

Webinar ID: 819088101952/Passcode: 664136

312-626-6799 or 301-715-8592

236