

The risen Lord ascended into heaven on the 40th day. Before His ascension Jesus said to His disciples. I send the promise of My Father unto you. Stay in the same city until you are filled with the power from on high. According to the instruction of Jesus, the disciples stayed and prayed with Mary, the mother of Jesus, in the upper room. "And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability" (Acts 2:2-4). When they were filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter, along with other disciples stood up and began to proclaim Jesus publicly. People from different countries heard Peter's speech in their own languages. Hence many people believed in Jesus and received baptism. On the same day around 3000 people received baptism.

Jesus had foretold the disciples about the sending of the Holy Spirit. "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever" (John 14:15-16). Just as the disciples received the Holy Spirit in a special way on the Day of Pentecost, we too receive the Holy Spirit specially in the sacrament of anointing.

The sacrament of anointing is the sacrament that gives us, who are born again in baptism by the power of the Holy Spirit as children of God, a special power and Charism of the Holy Spirit necessary to witness to Jesus and to Proclaim His Gospel.

The sacrament of anointing is administered by a bishop or priest. When we receive this sacrament the bishop or priest places his hand on our heads, anoints us with the Holy Oil and prays for us. 'Myron' is an oil specially blessed by the bishop. When we are anointed by this Holy Oil an unerasable seal of the anointing of the Holy Spirit is imprinted on our soul. Thus we experience the constant presence of God and are filled with grace. The Holy Spirit constantly persuades and empowers us to do good. As the members of the Church, this sacrament enables us to be the soldiers of Christ and bear witness to him. Let us thank God who gives us the Holy Spirit, as we are the members of the Church. According to the inspirations of the Holy Spirit dwelling in us, let us do good and be witnesses to Jesus.

Let us find out the answers

- 1. What does the event of Pentecost remind us?
- 2. In what form did the Holy Spirit descend on the disciples?
- 3. What is the sacrament of anointing?
- 4. How does the Holy Spirit who comes to us through the sacrament of Anointing work in us?

Let us pray

O Holy Spirit, who comes to me in a special way through the Sacrament of Anointing, give me the inspiration and power to walk along the path of goodness.



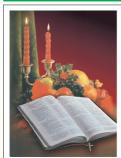
Let us sing

On the day of Pentecost, The Holy Spirit came, As tongues of fire, bringing power, To disciples gathered in prayer.

On our Confirmation day, The Holy Spirit comes, Filling us with grace and power From the heavens above.

Bible reading

John 14:15-24



My favourite Bible sentence

Let us fill in

They saw Like flames of fire descend on each

one of them. They were filled with

..... (Acts 2:3-4)

Let us recall and narrate

Describe the event of the descend of the Holy Spirit on the apostles on the Day of Pentecost.

My decision

Like the apostles who witnessed to Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit, I too will live as a witness to Jesus.