

"MARY AND PENTECOST"

Mother Adela, SCTJM

Foundress

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Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We have just celebrated Pentecost, a day in which the Church commemorates that unforgettable moment where the Apostles were gathered in prayer with the Blessed Mother, and received the power of the Holy Spirit with many different signs, which manifested the effects that would be carried out by this unction of the Spirit in this apostolic group.

I feel the prevailing need of emphasizing the fact that the Apostles were gathered in prayer with the Blessed Mother, a fundamental element which many times goes unnoticed. However, the presence of the Mother of Christ is meaningful for that unique event in which the Church, born of the side of Christ, received the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit, and at the same time, the power which will qualify her to embark on the evangelizing mission.

In the prayer, which Pope John XXIII made at the beginning of the Second Vatican Council, where he prayed for a new Pentecost for the Church, we see how he pinpoints the necessary elements in order for this new unction to be poured out in the Church of these times:

"Divine Spirit, renew your wonders in this new Era, just as if it was a new Pentecost, and grant that your Church, which is persistently and insistently praying with one heart and mind together with Mary, the Mother of Jesus and guided by Peter, may promote the reign of the Divine Savior, a reign of justice, of love and peace". (Pope John XXIII, *Humanae Salutis*, Papal Bull that summoned the Second Vatican Council, December 25, 1961).

"Together with Mary"! Why is it so important that we pray insistently for a new Pentecost, and that we do it together with Mary? Because the Blessed Mother, has been called by the Church, and in a particular way by Saint Francis of Assisi-, the spouse of the Holy Spirit. The word "spouse" conveys the intimate and close relationship between Mary and the Holy Spirit. This particular and intimate union between Mary and the Holy Spirit begins at the moment of her Immaculate Conception in the womb of her mother, Saint Anne. In and through this mystical union, God preserved Mary free from original sin. He also, filled her with such an abundance of grace that one day would allow her to become the Mother of God.

She is the "Supreme Masterpiece of the Holy Spirit", which not only reveals, but it makes us see more clearly the work which the Holy Spirit wants to accomplish in all creatures. The relationship between Mary and the Holy Spirit is one of **receptive and fruitful love**. Due to Mary's receptivity to the grace and power of the Holy Spirit, who came to her and overshadowed her, at the moment of the **Annunciation**, she became abundantly fruitful, when she conceived in her womb, the Word made Flesh.

The union of the Holy Spirit with the Blessed Mother has Jesus as a blessed fruit; has as a fruit the coming of Christ. This mission is not limited to the moment of the Annunciation. All of the new comings of Christ to the Church and the world require the powerful action of the Holy Spirit and of the full co-operation of the Blessed Mother. These spiritual comings, which mean a resurgence of faith, of prayer, of conversion, of the sacramental life, just as a greater apostolic zeal and a particular unction for the Church, respond with power to the needs and battles of their specific historic moment. And they will always be the fruits of the powerful action of the Holy Spirit with the co-operation of the Blessed Mother. All of the comings are fulfilled in light of the first.

"Oh, Mary, you who are the Mother of the Church, obtain for the Church the gift of the Holy Spirit, so that she may know how to continue with perseverance into the future through the way of renewal, already marked by the Holy Spirit, so that she may be able to take upon such renewal, everything which is truthful and good, regularly discerning between the signs of the times, what works for the coming of the Reign of God"

(His Holiness, Pope John Paul II / Pentecost 1982)

The Virgin Mary is also the "Sanctuary of the Holy Spirit". It is in Her that the Holy Spirit lives and has dwell fully, forming Her Heart to be the new ark of the covenant, in whom God-made-man will dwell. Her Heart is the permanent cenacle where the Holy Spirit pours Himself out in order to form in the hearts of men the image of the Word made Flesh.

"God, Holy Spirit, became fecund in Mary, his Spouse. With Her, in Her, and from Her, He produced his Masterpiece, who is God made man, and continues to do so everyday, until the end of times, in the



Mystical Body of its members, sons of God, similar to the only Son. Therefore, the more the Holy Spirit finds Mary in a soul, His most living and indissoluble spouse, the more powerful and dynamic the Holy Spirit reveals himself, in order to produce Jesus Christ into that particular soul and that soul to Jesus Christ".

(Saint Louis of Montfort True Devotion to The Blessed Mother, Chapter 1.)

I pray that together with the Blessed Mother and her powerful intercession, we may open the doors of our hearts so that the burning wind of the Holy Spirit, will flow powerfully, bringing the gift of a new, but so, much needed, Pentecost.

In the Love of the Pierced Hearts,

Mother Adela, SCTJM

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