DID YOU KNOW?

Happy Birthday to the Church!

Today is a joyous celebration because today we remember how the Holy Spirit came upon the first disciples. They were afraid and huddled in a room praying that God would do something amazing. And God did! God sent the Holy Spirit so that Jesus’ followers could be energized and filled with courage. Renewed by the Holy Spirit, Jesus’ followers were able to come out of that room and begin to proclaim all that they knew about Jesus.
Gospel: John 20: 19-23

The disciples were afraid of the Jewish leaders, and on the evening of that same Sunday they locked themselves in a room. Suddenly, Jesus appeared in the middle of the group. He greeted them and showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they became very happy.

After Jesus had greeted them again, he said, "I am sending you, just as the Father has sent me." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone’s sins, they will be forgiven. But if you don’t forgive their sins, they will not be forgiven."

Gospel Reflection

I wonder what it means to receive the Holy Spirit...

I wonder how the disciples felt when Jesus breathed on them...

I wonder why Jesus said to forgive others when the disciples were scared of the Jewish leaders...

I wonder how the Holy Spirit set the disciples free...
“I’ve Just Seen Jesus” Crossword

ACROSS
1. The color of snow; the opposite of black
3. Messengers from heaven
5. To produce tears; to weep
6. Not dead
7. To have nothing inside

DOWN
2. The day we celebrate Jesus’ resurrection
4. What was used to cover the entrance to Jesus’ tomb
5. A piece of fabric made by weaving cotton, wool, or other fibers

EASTER  CLOTH  CRY  EMPTY
ALIVE  WHITE  STONE  ANGELS

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What is it like to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

If you know what it’s like to love someone, then you know what it’s like to be filled with the Holy Spirit. All the love in the world comes from God. To be filled with the Holy Spirit is to be filled with God’s love. Jesus’ friends showed everyone the love of Jesus and their friends continued to spread the love of God for years and years until the present day. They did so by helping others, by healing people, sharing, and teaching what Jesus taught.

What have you learned about Jesus and how he loved others?

How would you teach others about loving God and loving one another?

Sometimes making good and right choices can be difficult or challenging. Have you ever asked the Holy Spirit to guide you in these things?

What does it mean to be refreshed or renewed by the Holy Spirit?

During your prayers this week, ask the Holy Spirit to guide your actions and decisions. Pray to your family, friends, and the Church to have ears and hearts open to the Holy Spirit’s wisdom and guidance. You can make an intention, meaning pray specifically for someone or some purpose and repeating “Come, Holy Spirit” after each prayer.