



## Things to Ponder

- [About the Author](#)
- [Order](#)
- [About the Book](#)
- [Reviews](#)
- [Readers' Comments](#)
- [News & Events](#)
- [A Prayer for the Day](#)
- [Things To Shout Out!](#)
- [Things to Ponder](#)
- [My Favorite Quotes](#)
- [FAQ](#)
- [Contact](#)
- [Home](#)

## Pentecost Sunday – May 24th

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Today the fifty days of Easter come to a glorious end in the celebration of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. When Jesus breathed on the Twelve, he empowered them to be agents of reconciliation for an alienated world. As they handed on the gift of the Holy Spirit to others, more and more people were sent forth as agents of God's healing love. The community of forgiven sinners is what we call Church. Today, then, is our birthday!

As St. Paul reminded the people of Corinth, the Holy Spirit is bestowed upon us for the common good - for the building up of the kingdom of God in our midst. When I pray over people at healing Masses, I too, feel the energy which usually causes people to release the tension and pain that burdens them. I experience, too, the concrete presence of God's love. The most important effect of this gift is the peace that leads people to reconcile with one another.

As we begin Ordinary Time tomorrow, we also celebrate Memorial Day. There are many veterans whose graves we honor and whose memory we hold dear. There are also many who suffer quietly the horrific effect of the trauma of war. Keep them all in prayer; and, if possible, let one know of your appreciation and God's love.

Yours in the Spirit,  
*Rev. Bill Foley*

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