

The reading for today is from the Acts of the Apostles

Chapter 2, verses 1 to 21 - The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.

<sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.

<sup>3</sup> They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.

<sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

<sup>5</sup> Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven.

<sup>6</sup> When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken.

<sup>7</sup> Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans?"

<sup>8</sup> Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?

<sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,

<sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene, visitors from Rome

<sup>11</sup> (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!"

<sup>12</sup> Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

<sup>13</sup> Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

<sup>14</sup> Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say.

<sup>15</sup> These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning!

<sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup> “In the last days, God says,  
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,  
your young men will see visions,  
your old men will dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup> Even on my servants, both men and women,  
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,  
and they will prophesy.

<sup>19</sup> I will show wonders in the heavens above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood and fire and billows of smoke.

<sup>20</sup> The sun will be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood  
before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> And everyone who calls  
on the name of the Lord will be saved.”