



Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace

Cathedral of the Honolulu Diocese • Founded 1843 • National Historic Register

Pentecost Sunday

May 17, 2026

Beloved Disciples of Christ,

Greetings of peace, love, joy, and hope!

“Living as Temples of the Holy Spirit in Today’s World”

The Easter Season comes to its joyful conclusion as we celebrate the Solemnity of Pentecost. Over these weeks since Easter Sunday, the Church has invited us to walk closely with the Risen Lord, to listen to His words, to witness His love, and to open our hearts to the truth of His Resurrection. If we have allowed these mysteries to touch us, our lives can be renewed. We can grow closer to God, follow Jesus more faithfully, and recognize that we are called to be living temples of the Holy Spirit.

Throughout this season, we were reminded of the depth of God’s love, a love so great that He sent His Beloved Son, Jesus Christ, who suffered, died, and rose again to redeem us and lead us to His Kingdom. This is not simply a story from the past; it is the foundation of our hope today.

At Pentecost, we remember the moment when Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.” What a precious gift they received, and what a precious gift we continue to receive through the Sacrament of Confirmation. This Sacrament is not just a milestone; it is a mission. Through the grace of the Holy Spirit, we are strengthened to continue the work of Jesus, to share God’s goodness, to bring light into places of darkness, and to help the world know that Jesus is truly the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

But our faith cannot remain something passive or private. The Apostles did not stay behind closed doors. Once the Holy Spirit filled them, they went out into the world, into homes, marketplaces, villages, and cities, to proclaim the Good News. Because of their courage and sacrifice, the Gospel reached every corner of the earth. Now the mission is handed to us.

Today, we are called to be witnesses of Christ in our homes, workplaces, schools, communities, and in the world we share. And we know how much this witness is needed. We look around and see division within families, conflict among nations, and a growing sense of fear and uncertainty. Many people feel overwhelmed by loneliness, stress, and the pressures of modern life. The poor continue to suffer, while many chase after comfort, success, or pleasure in ways that leave them empty. Gospel values are often overshadowed by anger, selfishness, and the pursuit of personal gain.

It can feel as though darkness is spreading and that there is no end to this cycle. Yet Pentecost reminds us of a powerful truth, the Holy Spirit is still at work.

When we act in the name of Jesus, when we choose compassion over indifference, forgiveness over resentment, generosity over greed, and truth over convenience, the Holy Spirit works through us. Even small acts of love can change the direction of a life, a family, or a community. The world does not change all at once. It changes heart by heart.

Pentecost calls us to believe that renewal is possible, in our own lives, in our families, in our parish, and in our society. The same Spirit who transformed the Apostles can transform us. The same Spirit who brought unity to people of different languages and cultures can bring healing to the divisions of our time.

If we allow the Holy Spirit to guide us, we can help build a world marked by peace, love, and joy, the very fruits of the Spirit.

May this Pentecost fill our hearts with courage, hope, and a renewed desire to be Christ’s witnesses in the world today.

Your Friend in Jesus,

Fr. Pascual