

Pentecost 2022



Holy Sacred Spirit

<https://vimeo.com/97628653>

(Words/music by Monica Brown)

Holy Sacred Spirit, breathe your breath on us.

Holy Sacred Spirit, breathe your life in us.

To Live With the Spirit

(Jessica Powers)

To live with the Spirit of God is to be a listener.
It is to keep the vigil of mystery,
earthless and still.
One leans to catch the stirring of the Spirit,
strange as the wind's will.

The soul that walks where the wind of the Spirit blows
turns like a wandering weather-vane toward love.
It may lament like Job or Jeremiah,
echo the wounded hart, the mateless dove.
It may rejoice in spaciousness of meadow
that emulates the freedom of the sky.

Always it walks in waylessness, unknowing;
it has cast down forever from its hand
the compass of the whither and the why.

To live with the Spirit of God is to be a lover.
It is becoming love, and like to God
toward Whom we strain with metaphors of creatures:
fire-sweep and water-rush and the wind's whim.
The soul is all activity, all silence;
and though it surges Godward to its goal,
it holds, as moving earth holds sleeping noonday,
the peace that is the listening of the soul.



(Brief Pause)

Angela and the Spirit

We ponder these words of Angela Merici,
a woman who truly lived with the Spirit as a listener and a lover.

May the strength and true consolation of the Holy Spirit be in you all, so that you can sustain and carry out vigorously and faithfully the charge laid upon you. (Introduction to the Counsels)

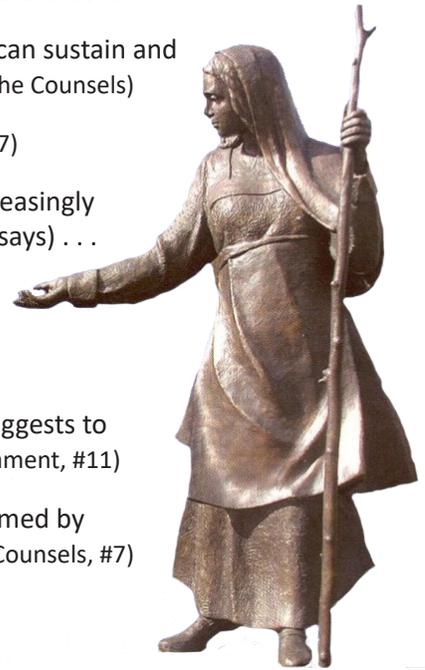
Provide for everything as the Holy Spirit inspires you. (Testament, #7)

And above all, obey the counsels and inspirations which the Holy Spirit unceasingly sends into our hearts . . . For the Holy Spirit is the one who (as Jesus Christ says) . . . teaches us all truth. (Rule, #8)

Decide just among yourselves in the way that charity and the Holy Spirit will enlighten and inspire you. (Testament, #9)

If you faithfully carry out these and other similar things, as the Holy Spirit suggests to you according to time and circumstance, rejoice, go forward willingly. (Testament, #11)

Keep to the ancient way and custom of the Church, established and confirmed by so many Saints under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. And live a new life. (Counsels, #7)



For Reflection and Sharing

What from the poem and/or Angela's words most speaks to me?
How do I experience the movement and guidance of the Spirit in my own life?
What supports and/or hinders my response?

Closing Prayer

(Adapted from *Praying with Angela Merici*)

Holy Spirit . . .
our teacher and our support —
You gentle voice,
speak to my listening heart,
so that I may understand
what You want from me.

You clear light,
light up my questing spirit,
so that I may see
where You guide me.

You spark of God's love,
kindle all my power of love
so that I may burn with longing
for the coming of God's kingdom.

You driving force,
energize me to follow
Your advice and inspirations
so that I may carry out what
You have laid in my hands to do.
Amen.

