



IT's PENTECOST SUNDAY!

*Happy Birthday, Church!*

*Happy Birthday to all of us!*

Remember: We Are The Church!

In the past four Sundays we got to know more about The Holy Spirit. We also learned that The Spirit came in different forms – Air or Breath, Whisper, Wind, and it's most known form, The Dove.

But on Pentecost Day, after coming in as a strong, mighty wind, the Holy Spirit landed on the Apostles and Mama Mary in the form of tongues of fire.

Some theologians say that they were engulfed by fire!

They were *On FIRE!* Literally and figuratively. And the Church was born, and spread to the ends of the earth, reaching us to this day and where we are now.

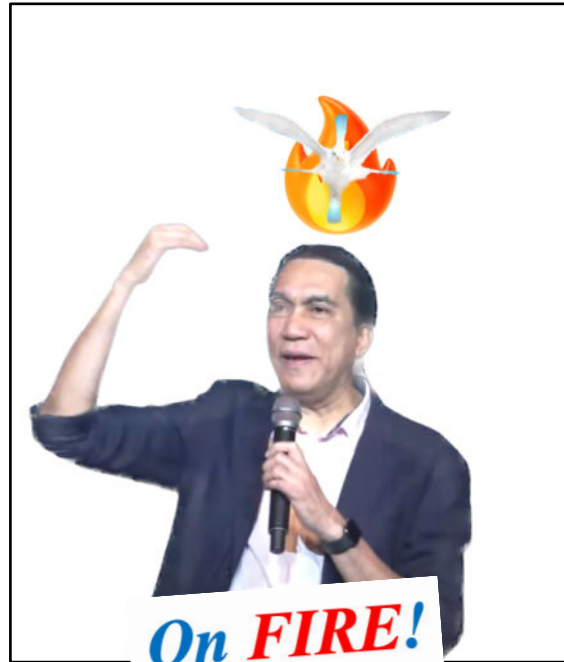
That's how the Church is kept alive: *On FIRE!*

Are you *On FIRE*– with the *FIRE* of The HOLY SPIRIT?

In your home, in your relationships, in your work, in your ministry, and in everything that you do? Do you give your best? Do you give your all?

Today, as we celebrate a most significant event in our faith life – The Descent of The Holy Spirit – let us be *On FIRE!* Like the Apostles, with Mama Mary, we spread God's Word of faith, hope, and love *On FIRE!*

Get ready to be fired up by the power of The Holy Spirit, as we welcome you to The Feast, where *You are loved!*



*Mayroong Magandang Mangyayari Sa 'Yo!*

**Alvin Barcelona**

WE serve a God who moves in powerful, unexpected ways.

Throughout Scripture, we see moments where God breaks in *suddenly*, changing situations, transforming lives, and revealing His glory.

Sometimes it feels like nothing is happening. Prayers seem unanswered, and change feels far away.

But behind the scenes, God is always working, preparing, shaping, and aligning.

And when the time is right,  
He moves **suddenly**.

Suddenly, the prison doors open.

Suddenly, healing flows.

Suddenly, hope is restored.

Suddenly, peace replaces panic.

Whatever season you're in, trust that delay does not mean denial. God is never late. He is preparing a "suddenly" for you. You may be in a quiet season right now where it feels like nothing's changing, and your breakthrough is stuck in traffic.

But we have a *God of Suddenlies*.

What took years to build, He can shift in a single moment.

A door that was shut for decades can fly open in a day.

One divine appointment can reroute your entire destiny.

Don't give up. Trust that God is preparing you in the quiet and preparing a *suddenly* that will bring breakthrough, healing, provision, and direction.

Remember this: *It might take years to prepare, but it only takes God a moment to move.*

Stay faithful.

Keep praying.

Keep showing up.

Your *suddenly* could happen any moment now.

Glory to God,



**Audee Villaraza**





## ***Bountiful Birthday Blessings!***

CONQUERED by the Romans, the Israelites, suffering periods of oppressions from colonizers, yearned for a leader who would deliver them from their enemies and be their king.

So, as it came to pass, Jesus came to be King with no *end*. *Before He ascended unto Heaven, He promised* the Apostles the Holy Spirit would come to bless the Apostles as our first Church, that glorious day we celebrate today as The Pentecost.

In his homily last Feast Sunday, Rev. Fr. Rikki Miranda pointed out that Jesus ascended while blessing the Apostles.

He said, “The blessing didn’t end there. It lingers over the Church. Even now, we have that blessing,” *page 4*.



How well do we appreciate and live by this blessing?

Bro. Bo Sanchez presented the signs discussed in Talk 4, the last of our Feast series, *Do You Hear the Wind?*

And the red balloon is a hint, *page 12*.

Okay, one clear sign is when you are *On FIRE*-- with the Fire of the Holy Spirit. How’s that? Stay on and learn from today’s Special Talk introduced by Bro. Alvin Barcelona, *page 1*.

Listen and listen well lest you miss the lesson-- and the blessings-- because they may come before you know it. Why? Because our God is a *God of ‘Suddenlies’*-- the focus of Bro. Audee Villaraza on the Special Talk this Pentecost Day, *page 1*.

Yes, it’s a marvelous day of celebration, and all praises to God for choosing us as His Church!

Bountiful Birthday Blessings, Everyone!

All for God’s Glory,

**Randy Borromeo**  
Media Ministry  
Executive Director





## Holy Mass



**SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

## Homily

**REV. FR. RIKKI MIRANDA, SVD**  
on the Gospel Luke 24: 46-53

Excerpts:

TODAY, we are celebrating The Ascension of the Lord.

Last week and this week, sadly, we buried two SVD priests. Both died of old age. They were my professors.

Who among you was able to watch *The Last Samurai*? It was a movie starring Tom Cruise. In the story, there was a scene when the head of the clan died.

Nathan Algren, the character played by Tom Cruise, was asked, "How did he die?"

Nathan said, "I will not tell you how he died-- but I will tell you how he lived."

As we celebrate The Ascension, we will not talk about how Jesus died-- but how He lived and how will we live the mission that the Lord gave us.

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**Concelebrant**  
**REV. FR. BOB McCONAGHY**



## First Point: Fulfillment of the Promise

The theme of my reflection is from Luke 24:52: *"And they returned to Jerusalem with great joy."*

Yesterday, when Fr. Lino E. Nicasio was laid to rest, some went home sad, especially his family. Some went home joyful because it was a *mission accomplished* for Fr. Lino. Cardinal Jose Advincula was the Mass presider. Most of the attendees were his former students. We were all happy because the event, somehow, became our reunion.

We discussed how Fr. Lino lived, how he was in the classroom, and how he would throw jokes at us, how he taught us.

When the Apostles were going home to Jerusalem, they went with great joy. The Lord left something that made them happy. After His Resurrection, Jesus returned to the Father in Heaven. At first glance, it seemed like a goodbye, but was not. It was not a moment of departure or distancing Himself.

The Gospel of Luke gives a surprising detail when it says that the Apostles returned to Jerusalem with great joy. Why *joy*? Why celebrate when someone left them?

So, the first point of the Gospel is Fulfillment of the Promise.

Luke 24:46 says: *"Thus it is written. The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day."*



## First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

*1 In the first book, Theophilus, I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught 2 until the day he was taken up, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 3 He presented himself alive to them by many proofs after he had suffered, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. 4 While meeting with them, he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for "the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak; 5 for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." 6 When they had gathered together they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He answered them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, to the ends of the earth." 9 When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. 10 While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. 11 They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven."*

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## Second Point: Blessing That Remains

The Ascension confirmed that everything Jesus said was true. His mission was fulfilled. It was *mission accomplished*. He conquered sin over death, rose again, and He returned to the Father. His return was not a retreat but a victory. He ascended not to abandon us but to reign in glory and to prepare a place for all of us.

He said: *"You will be with me until the end of time."*

The Disciples were joyful because they already saw and understood the bigger picture. Jesus suffered and died but rose again. He went up to Heaven. Everything made sense. The pieces of the puzzle had come together. Now, they knew what their mission was.

If you know what you are doing, you'll feel joyful. This is what we are doing now. We are trying to live by what the Lord told us. We are celebrating not only the Eucharist but *Life* and the *Word*.

The Second Point is Blessing That Remains.

Before Jesus ascended, He blessed the disciples.

The Gospel says: *"Then, he led them out of Bethany and raised his hands and blessed them. As he blessed them, He parted from them and was taken up to heaven."*

Notice that Jesus ascends while blessing them. While they are being blessed, His departure is wrapped with blessing. His final gesture is not one of sorrow but of grace. The blessing didn't end there. It lingers over the church. Even now, we have that blessing.

I told a nun from China: "We just don't know how blessed we are. We just take it for granted. The blessing the Lord gave the Disciples once their mission began is also our mission -- to tell how Jesus lives in our lives."



## Second Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23

<sup>17</sup> asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom<sup>[a]</sup> and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God. <sup>18</sup> I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance.<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>19</sup> I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power <sup>20</sup> that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms. <sup>21</sup> Now he is far above any ruler or

authority or power or leader or anything else—not only in this world but also in the world to come. <sup>22</sup> God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church. <sup>23</sup> And the church is his body; it is made full and complete by Christ, who fills all things everywhere with himself.



## The Ascension: Up and Out

The Ascension is not just about Jesus going up, it's about us going out to share who Jesus is. The Lord went up and we should go out and share the mission. We live in the joy of The Ascension. This is our challenge.

My dear friends, even when life is hard, Jesus is still with us. Even when we are scattered, His love gathers us. Even when we feel broken, He blesses us with His healing love.

May the celebration of The Ascension bring renewed hope, strength, and deep sense of God's Presence especially amidst the daily challenges. A mature faith doesn't come with age, but it comes with seeking and growing with Jesus every day.

Your life is a story. Write it well. Live it well. If necessary, edit it well. Make it a life that is worth sharing with others. In return, they would also share their lives because they saw Jesus in our lives.

## Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9

*R: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets for the Lord.*

*2 All you peoples, clap your hands, shout to God with cries of gladness, 3 for the Lord, the Most High, the awesome, is the great king over all the earth. (R)*

*6 God mounts his throne amid shouts of joy; the Lord, amid trumpet blasts. 7 Sing praise to God, sing praise; sing praise to our king, sing praise. (R)*

*8 For the king of all the earth is God; sing hymns of praise. 9 God reigns over the nations, God sits upon his holy throne. (R)*





# Worship!

**SIS. CHESKA FLORES**

Hallelujah! Thank You, Jesus!

Brothers and Sisters, I invite you to be in the posture of Worship. I don't know what crosses you are carrying right now. No matter what they may be, no matter where you've been, and no matter how the first half of the year looked like to you, I invite you to just *be* and resurrender the source of all that is good and His Name is Jesus.

So, together as one church, as one community, we lay everything down at the foot of His cross.

Come on, as we sing...





## **BRO. AUDEE VILLARAZA:**

The Bible says that God inhabits the praises of His people.

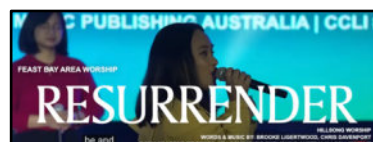
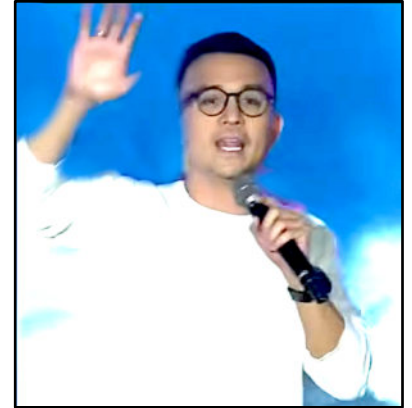
Have you ever heard of that piece of Scripture? That means that when you make a decision to shoot up your hand and lift a praise, and lift a shout and cry unto God, God shows and reveals His Presence unto you, over your situation.

I don't know the kind of situations and storms and battles that you're facing today, but may I invite you to do just that-- to lift your hand in the Presence of God. Hallelujah!

*Lord, look at your children right now. We are here to give You praise, to give You honor, to exalt Your Holy Name. And though we come from different locations and different places, tired from life tired from our work, tired of serving, Father, we are here. Though we may be imperfect, Father, we're bringing our faith, our faith and fears and we are secure in You. And today we make this decision to praise You with our voices, with our song, to lift worship to the Lord God.*

*If You're calling Lord, we're coming, we're coming for You.*

The Spirit of the Lord is upon us right now. So, if you feel it, sing it out Come on, church, sing it out loud!



# NOVENA TO GOD'S LOVE

## DECLARATION OF ABUNDANCE

### **BRO. AUDIE VILLARAZA:**

LAST SUNDAY, I wasn't here.  
I went to Dagupan to preach and serve  
at the 8th Anniversary of Feast Dagupan.  
I drove 6.5 hours back and forth.

When Monday came, I attended  
a Builders Meeting in Makati, where  
the venue usually is. I drove for about 2.5  
hours back and forth. On Tuesday, I had  
a meeting with a client in Valle Verde.  
I drove for about two hours back and forth.  
On Wednesday, I stayed home.

On Thursday, I worked from home.

On Friday, I had another meeting in Valia  
Verde. I drove for two hours again,

back and forth. In the evening, I preached and served in another community.  
I drove for about an hour and a half, back and forth. Yesterday, I was at Camp  
Calye (Youth Ministry event) in Cavite. I drove for 5 hours, back and forth

Do you want to know what I've been doing for the last seven days aside from  
working, serving, and preaching? I have been refueling, refueling, and refueling.  
How many of you feel like that's your life? This is a habit that I've developed.  
I never allow my gas tank to be less than 1/4 level because it's very practical for  
three reasons:

1. The bottom of the fuel tank is the residue and sediment. If you allow your gas  
tank to be only 1/4 full, that dirt can seep into the engine and will ruin the engine  
in the long run.

2. The gasoline acts like a lubricant and coolant for the gas pump. If there's not  
enough gas, there's a chance for that to overheat

3. When you're almost running out of gas and there may be no gas station  
in sight.



## Time To Refuel

Here's the symbolism of what I wanted to tell you. Church is just one of many gas stations in life. Worship is another gas station. Prayer can be a gas station. Fellowship is a gas station. Little acts of love that you do for one another is a gas station. Anything that you can connect yourself to God is a refueling station.

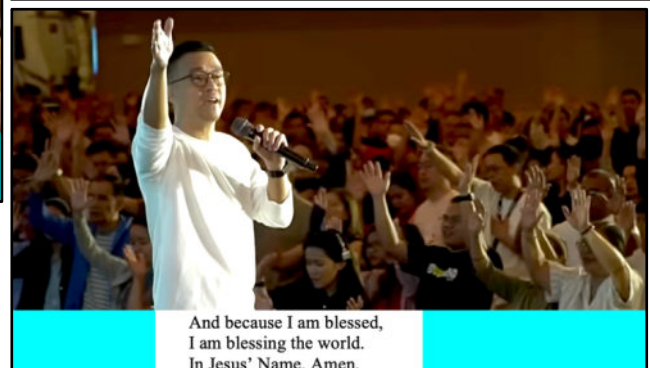
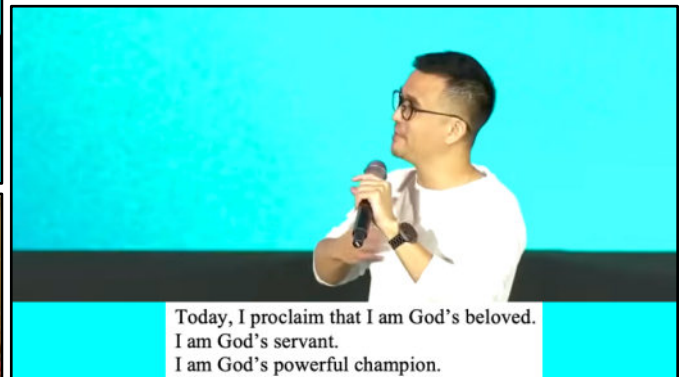
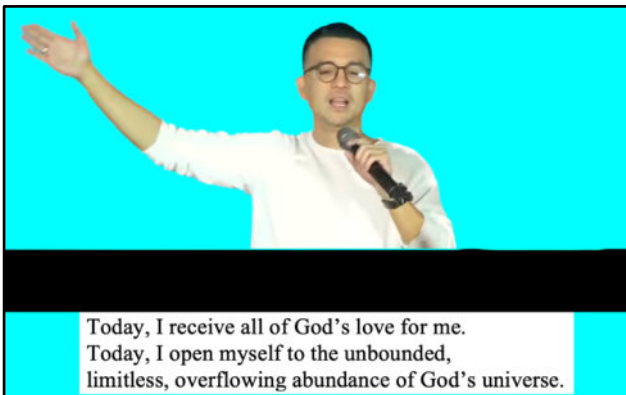
People always wonder why they suffer from burnout. If you're worn out, it must be because you're not refueling enough. It's not enough that you attend The Feast or the Mass on Sunday. You need to connect with God daily. The Lord is refueling you. He's giving you grace. He's giving you a favor. He's allowing the Spirit to move so you never have to run around in life being so anxious and stressed. That's the secret in life.

Today, we're going to do exactly just that. We're going to refuel and we're going to ask the Lord to fill us up with His Spirit.

Say this with me:

*Lord, I'm here. Fill me up. Fill me to overflowing so what You give me may overflow to the people around me. In Jesus' Name. Amen.*

Lift your hands and say our favorite prayer in The Feast:





## Talk



**BRO. BO SANCHEZ:**



Let's say our favorite prayer,  
*Novena To God's Love.*  
Extend your hand towards The Word:

*Thy Word is a Lamp unto my feet  
And a Light unto my path.*

We're in the fourth talk of our series, *Do You Hear The Wind?*  
It's a series on the Holy Spirit.

We're now going to turn to the *Book of Acts*-- about the Holy Spirit.

There are two books about the Holy Spirit written by the same person, the Apostle Luke: *Book of Acts* and *Gospel of Luke*.

St. Luke mentions the Holy Spirit so many times in his two books. In the *Gospel of Luke*, he mentioned the Holy Spirit 17 times. In the *Book of Acts*, he mentioned the Holy Spirit 57 times. A total of 74 times-- more than any other Gospel or book in the entire New Testament. He really majored in the Holy Spirit.

So, if you want to know and understand the Third Person of the Trinity, then you've got to major in *Acts of The Apostles*.

St. Luke did not title his books *Gospel of Luke* and *Book of Acts*. Those titles were used much later on in the Second Century. So, if I were to re-title the books, I would re-title the *Gospel of Luke* as *Acts of the Spirit Through Jesus*. And then I will re-title *Book of Acts* as *Acts of the Spirit Through the Church*."

Luke	Acts
Acts Of The Spirit	Acts Of The Spirit
Through Jesus	Through the Church



To give you a little perspective of the Reading we are about to take up today:  
In Acts 1: 8, the risen Jesus speaks to His apostles before ascending to Heaven...

Acts 1:8 NCB  
"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem, but throughout Judea and Samaria, and indeed to the farthest ends of the earth."

After this, the Apostles prayed for several days, and then Pentecost came. And the Holy Spirit came upon their lives.

Do you want to experience a Pentecost in your life? Do you want to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

I want you to tap somebody beside you and tell that person:  
"You will receive power."

*Heavenly Father, Thank You so much that this day is Your day and our hearts are opening wide because we want You to do something in us. You know what we're facing, you know what we're going through, and so, You know the antidote. You know exactly how to fill our needs. Come, Lord, give us Your spirit. Fill our hearts with Your Spirit. Give us Your power. In Jesus' Name. Amen.*



## A Balloon Story

One day, there was a little boy named Benny. It was his birthday. He was 7 years old.

He woke up in the morning and he asked his father, "Daddy, will my birthday party later on have balloons?"

The father said, "Of course--100 balloons for your birthday party later. I'm going out and I'm buying balloons."



By 3:00 p.m., Benny looked around the house but there were no balloons.

He went to his dad and asked, "Dad, where are the balloons?"

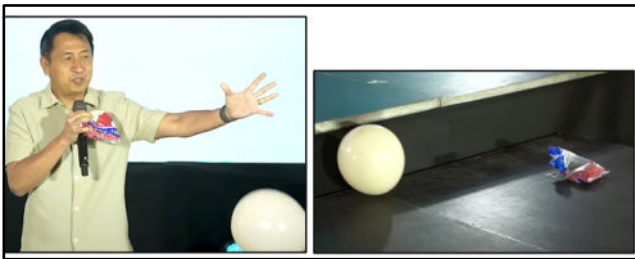
The father then brought out a plastic bag filled with uninflated balloons.

The father said, "You asked for only 100 balloons. You never said balloons with air."

Of course, the father was just trying to make excuses.

So, the father said, "No problem. I'm going to blow air in these balloons."

He blew one and he gave it to Benny.



Benny said, "Dad, I think there's something wrong with the balloon. It doesn't go up. It goes down."

The father said, "Don't be choosy. A balloon is a balloon."

So, the father started blowing and blowing the 99 balloons. Once done, he put

the balloons on the floor. They were beautiful. In today's language, they call it "instagrammable."

Did the children play with the balloons? No, they did not. They kicked it around for a while. After that, they lost interest.

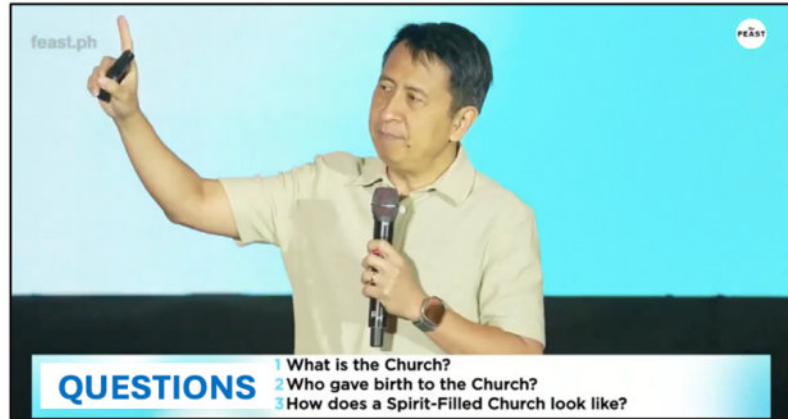
Do you have the right air inside of you? Are you like this balloon that falls to the ground? A balloon is not like that.

A balloon is like this...

When filled with the right air, a balloon will rise.







What kind of air do you have? Are you self-filled or are you Spirit-filled?  
How many of you want to be Spirit-filled?

It is a decision that you have to make. All of us can be self-filled as a church, or we can be Spirit-filled as a Church. That's what we're going to talk about today. I'm going to answer three questions today.

### **Question 1 What is the Church?**

I lead pilgrimages every year. I remember in one of those pilgrimages, I went into an 800-year-old church. It was jaw-dropping. It was breathtaking-- and also heartbreaking. The interiors were magnificent but no one was praying. I was looking for people of faith.

By the way, art has a way of manifesting God's greatness. Art communicates truth and beauty. That's why I love going to those churches.

But was that the original design of God for church? No. No matter how beautiful the church is, it's not a church if there are no Jesus followers inside. It's not a church but a museum, yes. I'm not discouraging you to go there. I love going there. I love praying there. It's amazing. It has a beautiful legacy in history.

A church is supposed to look like this: The Feast. It doesn't look like a church traditionally but this is *Church*. The Church is us. Jesus did not die for a building. He died for you and me.

**The Church Is Us.  
Jesus did not die for a building. He died for you and me.**

## God's Core Plan

**The Church is God's core plan to bring Heaven down on Earth.**

The Church is God's core plan to bring Heaven down on Earth. It is very disturbing-- especially if you've been hurt by your church or if you've read about the scandals of sex and of money by Church leaders.

I remember talking to a young man, around 26-27 years of age.

He told me, "Bro. Bo, never forget this. I love God but I hate church. I pray alone in my house."

I found out that when he was a young kid, he grew up in a Catholic community like The Feast. He loved it. All his friends were there serving God.

But one day, the top leaders fought each other. They were best friends. They became mortal enemies. A huge split from top to bottom happened in their community. Due to that split, families and friends had to choose sides. They could not talk to each other. It was very awkward. This young man was so traumatized that he just dropped out of church.

I want you to know that despite all the craziness of our history, God still believes in Church and in us.

**God still believes in Church.  
He didn't give up on us.**

Because the Church is not an NGO, nor a self-help program.

The Church is the body of Christ. If it were not the body of Christ, I resign. I've been serving in this Church for 45 years now. if it is just a human organization, I can not bear being here. I am here because it is the Body of Christ.

**The Church is the Body of Christ.**

Who said that? St. Paul said that:

1 Cor 12:27 NLT

**"All of you together  
are Christ's body"**



## Question 2 Who gave birth to the Church?

I told that young man: "I understand how you feel and I agree with you that it is much easier to pray alone in your room than go to church. In church, you will see and you'll have to talk with "Mr. Know-It-All." In church, you will have to meet this gossipmonger. In church, you have to deal with that other person who is annoying and that other person who is irritable. It is more difficult to be here. You have to wake up in the morning and go through traffic.

I'm an old guy and I've learned one thing: *Difficult is good*. Why avoid it? It's good for the soul. It will train you. It will stretch you. It will make you better.

I asked him, "Young man, do you belong to Jesus?"

He answered, "Yes,"

I said, "Then, you have to belong to His Body. There's no other choice.

If you belong to Jesus,  
you will belong to His Body.

The Church is not anyone's idea. The Church is God's idea. The Holy Spirit gave birth to the Church.

The Risen Jesus was talking to His apostles, and He said this:

Acts 1:4-5, 8 NCB

"Wait there for the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak.  
For John baptized with water, but within a few days  
**you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit...**

Some of us pray the Novena to the Sacred Heart, some of us pray the Novena to Our Lady of the Perpetual Help. The Apostles prayed for nine days. This prayer was the first-ever Novena.

Why do we know nine days? Even if it wasn't written in the Gospel? We know because of the Jewish feasts.

Jesus died during the Feast of the Passover. The Holy Spirit came during the Jewish Feast of Pentecost. Pentecost was not a Christian feast. Originally, it was a Jewish feast. It was celebrating harvest.

Between Passover and Pentecost, there were 50 days. The Gospel said that the Risen Jesus appeared to His Apostles for 40 days-- 50 minus 40 is equal to 10. Pentecost happened on the 10th day. So, the Apostles prayed in the Upper Room for the Holy Spirit for nine days-- the first Novena.

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## The Pentecost: The Birth of the Church

So, we are so grateful. We are ending the series of the Holy Spirit *now* because on Sunday, we are celebrating, as a Catholic Church all over the world, the Feast of the Pentecost.

*Pente* in *Pentecost* means 50 days from Passover.

Are you getting what I'm saying: How rich our Scripture is and our Liturgy is as well.

Then Jesus said:



Acts 1:4-5, 8 NCB

But you will receive power **when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and then you will be my witnesses** not only in Jerusalem, but throughout Judea and Samaria, and indeed to the farthest ends of the earth."

Pentecost is the birthday of the Church. This is when the Church was born. After the Apostles prayed for 9 days, this is what happened:

Acts 2:1-47-8 NCB

**"When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all assembled together in one place. Suddenly, there came from heaven a sound similar to that of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were sitting.**

Remember that in Hebrew, *ruach* means *breath*, it means *spirit*, but it also means *wind*.

Acts 2:1-47-8 NCB

**Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which separated and came to rest on each one of them.**

All through Scripture, you find the image of *fire* in the Presence of God. Remember the Burning Bush (when God Gave to Moses the Ten Commandments). Remember the Pillar of Fire, when the Israelites, escaping from slavery in Egypt, were walking through the desert. Remember the Prophet Isaiah whose tongue was touched and cleansed by an ember... fire.

All through Scripture, you have *fire* as a symbol of the Presence of God.

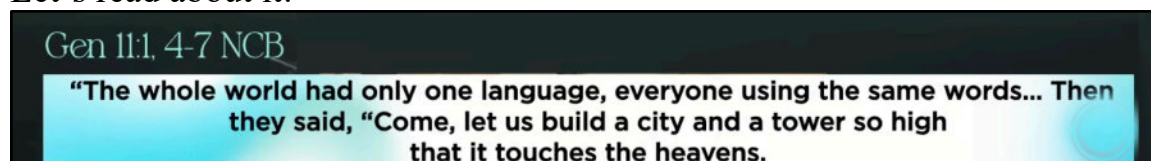


This is New Testament. This is *Acts of the Apostles*.

Question: Is there another story in the Bible about languages?

In the book of *Genesis*, there is the story of the Tower of Babel.

Let's read about it:

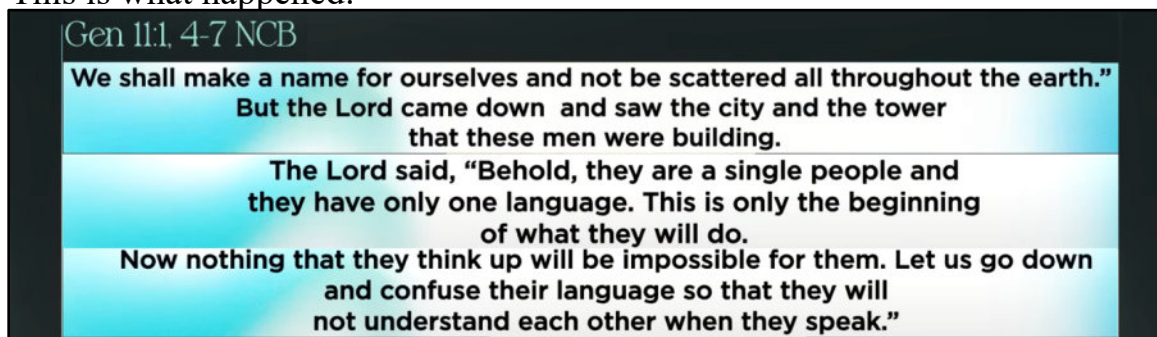


This is not just a skyscraper project. In symbolic biblical language, the people in Babel were saying to God: "We are invading your territory: *heaven*." (Which in Hebrew, *sky*.)

The Babylonians were saying: "We don't need you anymore, God. We're taking over."

It was really a rebellion.

This is what happened:



In writing the *Acts of the Apostles*, St. Luke was making it very clear. He was *contrasting* Babel with Pentecost-- that they are polar opposites.

This is what God is asking you right now. Is your life Babel? Or is your life Pentecost? Are you self-filled or are you Spirit-filled?

Pentecost  
was the complete reversal of Babel.

A church is just composed of people.

So, how does a Spirit-filled person look like?

**FIRST SIGN**  
**You worship God.**



**The Self-Filled Babel  
worship themselves.**

A self-filled person  
is like the white balloon  
that is down and lifeless.



**Question 3 Spirit-filled Church look like?**



**The Spirit-Filled Church  
worships God.**

A Spirit-filled person  
is like the red balloon  
that stands well and full of life.

There was this one person I invited to The Feast. He wasn't aware of The Feast. I told him that he could choose between two sessions: 8:00 a.m. or 10:45 a.m.

He asked, "How long does it last?"

I said, "Two hours."

His reaction was: "Oh my, it's long. Do you have a shorter session?"

Church is not for your convenience. It's for the Lord. Church is not for your entertainment. Church is to worship God. We're so self-filled. We always reference ourselves on what's convenient. Church is not for you. It's for God.

May I brag a little? Do you know what time the Feast servants come? Some of them are here as early as 5:00 a.m. But in our case, we usually come in late.

**20** The FEAST FAMILY June 8, 2025





What does that mean? St. Luke says:

Acts 4:32 NCB

**“The entire community of believers  
was united in heart and soul...”**

Self-filled Babel seeks uniformity but then it leads to disunity.

A Spirit-filled church seeks unity even if we're different from each other.

How many of you love Korean drama? How many of you don't like it?

You think it's a waste of time. But you're together here.

How many of you love milk tea? How many of you don't?

Yet, you're together here.

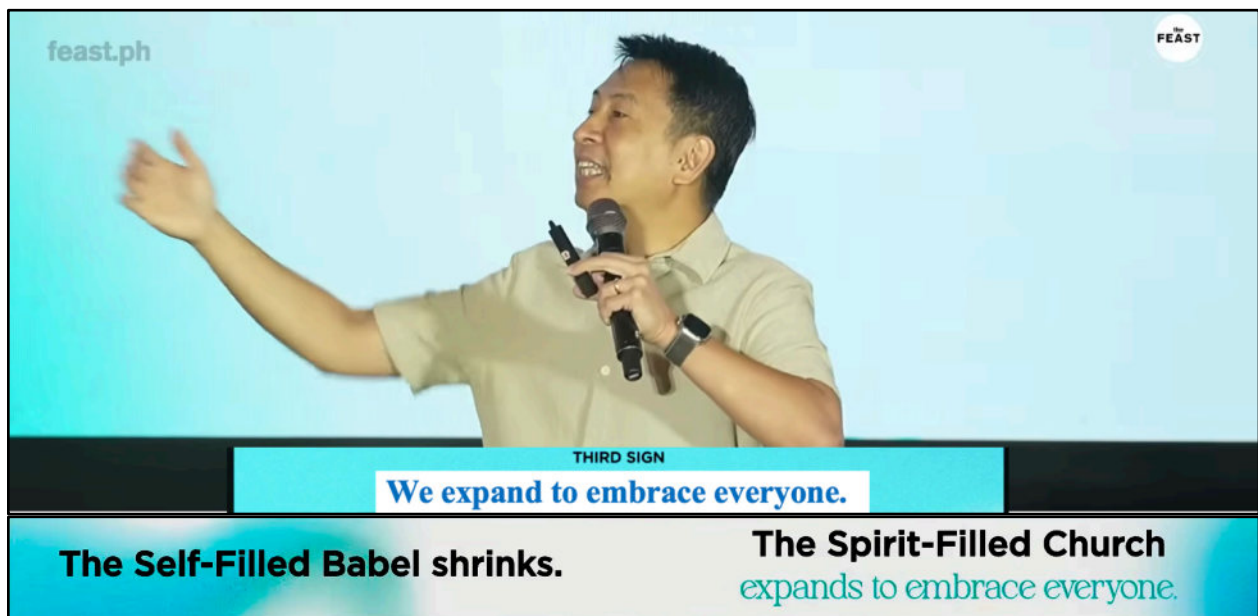
I'll go deeper. In the last national election, did you vote for BBM or for Leni? Yet, you're together because this is what Church is: Even if we're different from each other, we're one.

Pope Leo XIV recently talked to leaders of different churches, even those that are non-Catholics.

He said: "Once and for all, may we just work together?"



Pope Leo XIV's  
official photograph



The Tower of Babel was very exclusive. But the Church expands to embrace everyone. That's why I love The Feast because anyone can come in.

You've not been to church for 50 years? Come in. Something's wrong with your relationship? Come in. We welcome everyone.

Even if you do not believe in God, you're still welcome because you *belong* before you *believe*. You don't agree with certain teachings of the church? That's fine. Come in. We're family. We love you.

The Lord Himself will be the One to change if there's something to change in you.

That's why-- and we go back to our key verse for today--Jesus said to His disciples:

Acts 1:8 NCB

**"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem, but throughout Judea and Samaria, and indeed to the farthest ends of the earth."**

St. Luke uses this as His table of contents for the *Book of Acts*. Number one is Jerusalem. Next is Judea and Samaria. Then, next is farthest ends of the earth.

Acts 1-7 contains all the events that happened in Jerusalem. Acts 9-12 include events that happened in Judea and Samaria. Acts 13-28 cover everything that happened in Greece, Rome, and Asia Minor which are the farthest ends of the Earth from that ancient perspective. This only means that we cannot be exclusive like the Tower of Babel. We need to expand.

## What We Do Right

It is here where I really, really want to brag about how selfless our leaders are. Our Community has many faults, weaknesses, and imperfections. But if there's one thing that we do right is that our leaders and our servants are so selfless.

Zach, a Feast servant, was here as early as 5:00 a.m.

May I share with you a Feast in Ireland. There are four Feasts in Ireland: Dublin, Kilkenny, Cork, and Derry. This is just one of them.

The leader of Ireland's Feast is Lando Patolilic. He's a simple guy. I like talking with him. He's not a bombastic preacher but someone who really loves the Lord.

One freezing January night, Carmen, a Feaster from Spain, called Lando because they have this online intercession thing. Carmen was part of a Feast on a tiny island in Spain which was not part of the main island in Spain.

Carmen told Lando: "Our Feast is disbanding. Nobody wants to lead it. I, myself, don't want to lead it."

Lando was just listening to her. The wife of Lando, Fenny, overheard the conversation.

Fenny then said to Lando: "It's my birthday month. Let's go on a vacation to Spain. Let's help The Feast there."

The very next morning-- I kid you not--Lando and Fenny flew to Spain and went to that island. They spoke with Carmen and 11 other Feasters.

Lando simply said: "Is this the work of God or is this the work of man? If it is the work of God, how can you stop it? Let God work through you."

The people there cried and hugged each other. After one year, The Feast on that little island of Spain is still alive and is still led by Carmen.

Lando, crazy. Fenny, his wife, crazy. Carmen, crazy. The Apostles during Pentecost, the people around them said the Apostles were crazy.

During my time, we would have called them crazy people. "May *tililing*. Lacking screws to put their brain together."

Today, we are more respectful. We just call them, "May *something*." We are no longer specific about what's wrong with them.

My Friends, all The Feast servants here have *something*. They are not logical.

But that's what Church is-- because we're filled with the Spirit.

I'll lead you into a prayer. Lift your hands and say this:

*Lord, fill me with Your Spirit. Help me to be filled with the Spirit.*

*In Jesus' Name. Amen.*



**You will receive power.**



## **Thank You!**

The Feast Family, now organized as the Feast Mercy Ministries, is a spin-off ministry of the Light of Jesus Family founded by Bro. Bo Sanchez.

Earlier named as Kerygma Family, The Feast Family is a unique online, non-physical, borderless, international community of friends who support each other's personal growth.

Partner beneficiaries of the Feast Mercy Ministries flourish because of your generous support.

Thank you for being with us. We pray that you find your daily source of inspiration from the resources that we send to you. We pray too that you may consider giving to The Feast Mercy Ministries. No gift is too small.

Thank you very much in advance for your gift. Our prayer is that God will continue to reward you as you give.

### **FOR EXISTING DONORS:**

Thank you for the Love. Your monthly donation helps us to continue extending support to our Light of Jesus spin-off organizations, including our partner beneficiaries. Your gift will sustain our operations and, we hope, help us reach out to the persons our Lord has called us to make disciples and give them renewed hope.

Be a Feast Family member. Write or call us. Now.

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Website: <https://kerygmfamily.com>



## Our Partner Beneficiaries

**Jeremiah 33 Foundation**  
is a shelter for minor girls  
particularly victims  
of sexual abuse.



**Grace To Be Born**  
is a halfway home  
for pregnant women  
in crisis.



**He Cares Mission**  
provides shelter  
and pastoral care  
for street children.

**Pag-asa ng Pamilya Foundation**  
grants scholarships  
to indigent students.



**Jesus Christ Cares for Cancer**  
provides financial assistance and pastoral care  
for indigent cancer patients.

**The Light of Jesus Pastoral Care Center**  
ministers to those who are emotionally  
and spiritually wounded.



**H.A.I.L. MARY** is acronym for Healthcare Assistance for  
Indigents and Lepers of Mary, adopting the Blessed Mother  
as the patroness of its mission to eradicate leprosy in Abra  
within 8–10 years.



**The Light of Jesus Disaster Recovery Ministry**  
provides evacuation assistance,  
relief goods, financial aid, and other needs of calamity victims.

**The Light of Jesus Prison Ministry**  
brings Jesus to the Correctional Institution for Women  
to give them hope for a new life of dignity.



**Anawim Lay Missions Foundation** provides a home for poor elderly  
who have been abandoned by their family and have nowhere else to go.

## CHOOSE HOW YOU WANT TO GIVE

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2. Pick Up from Your House or Office (Metro Manila Only) Cash or Checks  
Address Checks to Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation Inc. and call Joy at (+632) 725 -9999 loc 112 or text (+63) 922-828-9890 and we'll pick them up from your home or office.

3. Mail 12 Post-Dated Checks to Our Office for US and CANADA: Address Checks to Kerygma Family, 848 Rainbow Blvd # 1937, Las Vegas, NV 89107. For Other Countries/Philippines: Address Check to Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation Inc. and mail (registered mail) to Shepherd's Voice, 60 Chicago St., Cubao, Quezon City, Philippines 1109.

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# **FAMILY ONLINE NEWSMAGAZINE**

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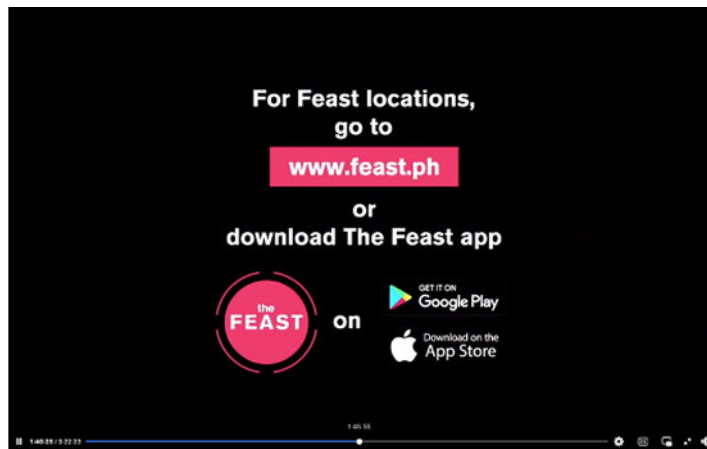
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***Go and make disciples of all men.***  
**— Matthew 28:19**





## ***Bountiful Birthday Blessings!***

CONQUERED by the Romans, the Israelites, suffering periods of oppressions from colonizers, yearned for a leader who would deliver them from their enemies and be their king.

So, as it came to pass, Jesus came to be King with no end. Before He ascended unto Heaven, He promised the Apostles the Holy Spirit would come to bless the Apostles as our first Church, that glorious day we celebrate today as The Pentecost.

In his homily last Feast Sunday, Rev. Fr. Rikki Miranda pointed out that Jesus ascended while blessing the Apostles.

He said, “The blessing didn’t end there. It lingers over the Church. Even now, we have that blessing,” *page*



How well do we appreciate and live by this blessing?

Bro. Bo Sanchez presented the signs discussed in Talk 4, the last of our Feast series, *Do You Hear the Wind?* And the red balloon is a hint, *page*

One clear sign is when you are *On FIRE*-- with the Fire of the Holy Spirit. How’s that? Stay on and learn from today’s Special Talk introduced by Bro. Alvin Barcelona, *page*

Listen and listen well lest you miss the lesson-- and the blessings-- because they may come before you know it. Why? Because our God is a *God of Suddenlies*, the focus of Bro. Audee Villaraza’s Special Talk this Pentecost Day, *page*

Yes, it’s a marvelous day of celebration, and all praises to God for choosing us as His Church!

Bountiful Birthday Blessings, Everyone!

All for God’s Glory,

**Randy Borromeo**  
Media Ministry  
Executive Director







