



May 2023

Circular Letter #13  
Subject: Pentecost

***“When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind...”  
Acts 2:1-2***

Dear Sisters and Associates,

This weekend our country celebrates Memorial Day which most of us consider the official beginning of summer. Also, this weekend our Church celebrates the Solemnity of Pentecost which we consider the birthday of the Church.

As the quotation from Acts describes, the event was accompanied by a “strong, driving wind”. I have often wondered what that experience was like. What were the characteristics of the wind? How did those present in Jerusalem respond to the wind? There are many levels of wind—a light almost silent breeze, a gentle draft, a steady presence, a gale force, and a Category 5 hurricane. If the Spirit is present in all these manifestations within each of us, do we recognize them?

Consider for yourself. Do I respond to a gentle urging within myself and take some action to do or not to do something? When I notice a persistent idea coming to mind over and over, do I take time in prayer to examine it? If several people suggest something to me that I am not expecting, can I prayerfully discern what it may mean for my future? When I feel almost overwhelmed by a situation, do I ask for the guidance of the Spirit in addressing it?

My prayer for each of you this Pentecost is that you may experience the presence of the Spirit within you deeply and in a variety of surprising ways.

United in the Spirit,

*Sister Maureen O'Connor, O.S.F.*

Sister Maureen O'Connor, OSF  
Provincial Superior