



Solemnity of Pentecost 2023

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This weekend the Church throughout the world celebrates the Solemnity of Pentecost, and so commemorates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles, the foundation of the Church, and the beginning of her mission to all nations and peoples.

The mystery of Pentecost exhorts us to prayer and commitment to mission. The Holy Spirit inspires faith, hope, and charity in the hearts of the faithful, and ennoble the numerous and varied ways of transmitting the Christian message according to the culture and customs of all times and places. While giving us access to communion with God in prayer, the Holy Spirit also prompts us towards service of our neighbor by encountering him, by reconciliation, by witness, by a desire for justice and peace, by renewal of outlook, by social progress, and missionary commitment.

Almost two years ago, we as an Archdiocese embarked upon a strategic pastoral planning process, *All Things New*. We prayed to the Holy Spirit for guidance, and we committed ourselves to you the faithful of this Archdiocese. An extensive process of listening was undertaken in all the parishes. Thereafter, I consulted the Archdiocesan Presbyteral Council regarding every parish under consideration. I then spent time in further prayer, study, and discernment, after which I reached the following decision regarding the Oratory of Sts. Gregory and Augustine.

The oratory will remain unchanged regarding its present structure, and the Reverend Monsignor C. Eugene Morris, rector, who is currently assigned to provide pastoral care at the oratory will continue to do so. I have appointed the Reverend Michael Rennie, as vice-rector, effective August 1, 2023. Please warmly welcome him.

While there is no change to the structure, in this moment in the Archdiocese, we are all called to rededicate ourselves to the new modes of evangelization and social outreach. I ask that you join me in praying for those among the faithful of the Archdiocese who will be hearing challenging news this weekend regarding their parish.

Please join me in praying that the Holy Spirit will draw us all closer together as we commit ourselves to following the Lord Jesus and spreading His message by the witness of our lives. Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Mitchell T. Rozanski

Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski
Archbishop of St. Louis