

# Fr. Simon Sez

## A Mighty Wind: Scott Hahn Reflects on Pentecost Sunday

**Substitute Priest:** Next weekend June 3-4, 2023, we welcome Fr. David Axtmann, senior priest from Highmore for confession and Masses.

### No More Saturday Noon Confessions:

It has been a long standing tradition for confessions to be available on Saturdays at noon in addition to confessions before the Sunday Vigil Saturday evening Mass. A priest should never start a parish tradition that cannot be sustained on a regular basis. There have been many reasons why I had to cancel Saturday noon confessions as notified in the bulletin ahead of time or having to cancel without notice. Having two priests sharing responsibilities in our new pastorate from Pierre to Hoven makes this even more difficult to maintain. Also, for most of this June, we do not have a priest available at Saturday noon. Therefore, I am terminating this tradition starting this Saturday, June 3, 2023.



**Possible Incorrupt Body in Gower, Missouri:** Benedictine sisters were transferring the deceased body of their foundress, Sister Wilhelmina Lancaster and found her body and habit in the state pictured after she has been dead for four years. Her body was not embalmed. The cloth lining in the casket disintegrated but not her cloth habit she was wearing when buried. The simple wood casket was not buried in an outer vessel. See the following:

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/254384/a-miracle-in-missouri-body-of-benedictine-sisters-foundress-thought-to-be-incorrupt>

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/254413/who-was-sister-wilhelmina-lancaster-the-african-american-whose-body-is-potentially-incorrupt?>

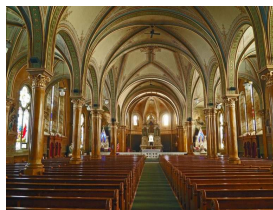


<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/254416/what-is-incorruptibility-here-s-what-you-need-to-know>  
<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/254434/morticians-sister-wilhelmina-lancaster-preserved-body>

Tanya Schultz and her daughter are pictured praying at the body of Sister Wilhelmina Lancaster on May 20, 2023. The photo was provided to Catholic News Agency (CNA) by Joe and Tanya Schultz.

### 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Anthony of Padua Church:

St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Hoven is celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the dedication of their church building “Cathedral of the Prairie.” Bishop DeGrood and priests formerly assigned to that parish will assist their celebration by celebrating Mass at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, June 9, 2023. Come celebrate this regional icon of our faith!



Acts 2:1–11  
Psalm 104:1, 24, 29–31, 34  
1 Corinthians 12:3–7, 12–13  
John 20:19–23

The giving of the Spirit to the new people of God crowns the mighty acts of the Father in salvation history.

The Jewish feast of Pentecost called all devout Jews to Jerusalem to celebrate their birth as God’s chosen people in the covenant Law given to Moses at Sinai (see Leviticus 23:15–21; Deuteronomy 16:9–11).

In today’s First Reading, the mysteries prefigured in that feast are fulfilled in the pouring out of the Spirit on Mary and the Apostles (see Acts 1:14).

The Spirit seals the new law and new covenant brought by Jesus, written not on stone tablets but on the hearts of believers, as the prophets promised (see 2 Corinthians 3:2–8; Romans 8:2).

The Spirit is revealed as the life-giving breath of the Father, the Wisdom by which He made all things, as we sing in today’s Psalm. In the beginning, the Spirit came as a “mighty wind” sweeping over the face of the earth (see Genesis 1:2). And in the new creation of Pentecost, the Spirit again comes as “a strong, driving wind” to renew the face of the earth.

As God fashioned the first man out of dust and filled him with His Spirit (see Genesis 2:7), in today’s Gospel we see the New Adam become a life-giving Spirit, breathing new life into the Apostles (see 1 Corinthians 15:45, 47).

Like a river of living water, for all ages He will pour out His Spirit on His body, the Church, as we hear in today’s Epistle (see also John 7:37–39).

We receive that Spirit in the sacraments, being made a “new creation” in Baptism (see 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 6:15). Drinking of the one Spirit in the Eucharist (see 1 Corinthians 10:4), we are the first fruits of a new humanity—fashioned from out of every nation under heaven, with no distinctions of wealth or language or race, a people born of the Spirit. ([www.stpaulcenter.com](http://www.stpaulcenter.com))

*How bad does SD need priests in comparison? Brazil has about one Catholic priest for every 100,000 Catholic members. The city of Tijuana, Mexico south of San Diego, CA has a total of about six priests for 4 million Catholic members.*