



# Vine and Branches

Intercessory Prayer Partnership  
Quarterly Communication, June 2014  
215-587-5630 • [mcokeley@archphila.org](mailto:mcokeley@archphila.org)

---

## A New Pentecost for a New Evangelization



Very soon, we will celebrate the great and glorious feast of Pentecost. During this feast, we fix our gaze on the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity, the Holy Spirit. In God, the eternal outpouring of love between the Father and the Son perpetually bears new life in the person of the Holy Spirit. In God the Holy Spirit, we discover that love, of its nature, gives life. It is very right, then, that we worship the Holy Spirit as “Lord and Giver of *Life*.” He is the wellspring of life in the Godhead and he is the wellspring of life in the Church and in each of our hearts.

It follows, then, that in any circumstance where new life is needed, it is the Holy Spirit whom we invoke. When our relationships are becoming stale, we invoke a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit. When our family life is sagging under the weight of monotony, conflict or sin, we beg the fire of God’s love to purify, heal and restore. When our job seems meaningless or our life seems directionless, we surrender ourselves in a special way to Him who is Giver of new life.

In a special way, we in the Church of Philadelphia experience that we are in need of new life. We have suffered very much in recent years under the scourge of scandal, school and parish closures, and financial crisis. On top of this, we feel the heavy weight of the moral decline of the culture around us. But our faith impels us to believe that “the Spirit who raised Jesus Christ from the dead,” (Rom 8:11) can also raise from death our wounded faith, our wounded Church, our wounded communities and our wounded world. We need only ask the Father for this great Gift, a new outpouring of the Lord and Giver of Life.

On November 1 of this year, we will join with all the saints of the Church and implore God for a new Pentecost upon the Church of Philadelphia. This will be our prayer and focus during the 2014 Catholic Life Congress with the theme “A New Pentecost for a New Evangelization.” At this event, through the celebration of Mass, through dynamic speakers, and through a closing prayer service invoking a new Pentecost, we will not only *talk about* a new Pentecost, but we will actually *ask for* a new Pentecost to happen for us on that day and in the months to follow. I encourage all of you to attend this momentous event, to join with us in a prayer for a new Pentecost for the Church of Philadelphia and to invite others to join you! You can learn all about it by visiting: [www.PhillyCongress.org](http://www.PhillyCongress.org)

Dear Intercessors!

As always, my many thanks to you for your service to the Church through your prayer and sacrifice for evangelization! For the next few months, please keep in your prayers the following events that have the potential to be powerful moments of transformation and conversion for those who attend:

**Sept 26 & 27, 2014**

**Basic Evangelization Training, St. Martin of Tours Parish, Philadelphia**

**November 1, 2014**

**Catholic Life Congress: A New Pentecost for a New Evangelization**

**April 11, 2015**

**Catholic Women's Conference: Transformation in Christ: Healing the Feminine Heart**

**September 22-27, 2015**

**World Meeting of Families, Philadelphia: Love is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive**

Those who are planning these events need your prayers and sacrifice for protection over all of their preparations as well as powerful graces to be bestowed upon those who attend. Thank you so very much for being the furnace of prayer that makes these things happen!

**Here are some other intentions for the next few months:**

- ◆ **The intentions of your parish.**
- ◆ **For those parishes undergoing a merger process, that the Lord may accompany them and bring comfort, healing, peace and new unity among the communities affected.**
- ◆ **That the Lord would grant the Archdiocese of Philadelphia the grace of a new Pentecost.**
- ◆ **For the conversion of hardened sinners, that those seeking the truth would find Him, and that those who do not know the love of Jesus Christ would experience Him.**

A blessed and grace-filled Pentecost to each of you! If you have friends or family who would like to serve as an intercessor, please have them contact me by phone 215-587-5630 or e-mail, [mcokeley@archphila.org](mailto:mcokeley@archphila.org).

Yours in Christ, Meghan Cokeley, Director, Office for the New Evangelization