



THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022

(LEC. 270)

THURSDAY OF SECOND WEEK OF EASTER
(OPT. MEM. SAINT PETER CHANEL, PRIEST
AND MARTYR; SAINT LOUIS GRIGNON DE
MONTFORT, PRIEST)

1. ACTS 5:27-33

2. JOHN 3:31-36

GOSPEL RELATED: CCC 161, 504, 690, 1286

FOCUS: GOD HAS GIVEN THE HOLY SPIRIT
TO THOSE WHO OBEY HIM.

Hearing today's Scripture passage from the Acts of the Apostles, we may wonder how tired, frustrated, or overwhelmed Peter and the Apostles must have felt. We may be in awe of how Peter and the Apostles were so brave, steadfast, and powerful in their testimony. However, before we place them on *too* high a pedestal to make it impossible to relate to this story, it helps to remember that these were men who only recently had hidden and lied in the midst of their Lord's persecution. What changed?

Simply put, the Holy Spirit had been poured out on them.

As we gather here today, many of us may also feel tired, frustrated, overwhelmed, or deeply saddened. We may even have run away or denied Christ in some way.

Whatever burdens or sins we carry into this Mass, however, we are called to attend to the words of Peter and the Apostles and remember that God has given the Holy Spirit to those who obey him.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that God does not ration his gift of the Spirit. The Spirit of God is not offered to us in meager quantities. No, God pours his gifts out lavishly, offering us everything we need to confront the challenges or opposition we face in our lives. Our generous Lord will give us the words we need for the difficult conversations, the energy to respond patiently to our family when we feel we can give no more, the wisdom to shine his light in our places of work, the love to be his hands and feet in our world. The Father who loves us through his Son has also given everything over to us!

As we receive this lavish love in the Eucharist today, may we be empowered, like the Apostles, to boldly proclaim Christ to those whom God places in our lives this day.

Saint Peter Chanel (1803–1841) — Peter was born in France and worked as a shepherd when he was a child. He began Catholic education in 1814, and eventually joined the Society of Mary (Marist Fathers). In 1836, he became head of a small missionary group that traveled to the island of Futuna in the Pacific to teach the faith. When many converted, the king became jealous, fearing for his own power, and ordered Peter beaten to death. Most islanders eventually converted to Catholicism.

faith
CATHOLIC

FAITH Catholic offers *Daily Homilies* as a subscription service for priests and deacons. Complete homilies for Sunday and weekday Masses can be preached as written or used as inspiration for your original homilies. To learn more or subscribe to *Daily Homilies*, visit store.faithcatholic.com. We are thankful for your vocation!