

## **ICONOGRAPHIC ARTISTIC MASTER SCHEDULE - DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT UPON THE BLESSED MOTHER AND THE APOSTLES**

I am happy to inform you of the addition of a newly created beautiful stained glass window in the chapel. The work is inspired by a kyrotic approach to capturing the events taking place at the end of Luke's Gospel and the beginning of the Acts of the Apostles. This main window depicts the Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Blessed Mother and the Apostles. The gift of Holy Spirit is depicted by a Dove in the center window being released from the open hands of the Ascending Jesus and overlooked by the Father, creator of heaven and earth. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are represented by the tongues of flame over the heads of Mary and the Apostles, flowing from the eternal love exchanged between the Father and Son. The young person laying on the ground, hands over ears, with eyes peering up, at the feet of Mary may represent the viewer of the window entering into the moment of the Holy Spirit's descent calling forth a response.

The three lower windows, from left to right, depict three early events after the resurrection of Jesus as found in the Gospel of Luke, Chapter 24:

- The women arriving at the tomb early on the morning of the first day of the week, only to find it empty, and two angels announcing that Jesus had been raised up. The women were Mary of Magdala, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James. The two men, dressed in dazzling garments, said to them, "Why do you search for the Living One among the dead?" They leave the tomb to inform the apostles and others.
- While the above encounter is happening, we are introduced to the story of the two disciples who encounter Jesus on road to Emmaus. Jesus recounts to them all that the prophets announced about the Messiah, referring to Himself. Urging, Jesus to stay with them that evening, they recognize him in the breaking of the bread, which is the action performed at the altar each day, as Jesus becomes present in the Eucharist at the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The two disciples return to Jerusalem and recount this event.
- While they are speaking, Jesus himself, in the flesh appears to the Apostles, offering them the gift of peace. He commissions them to go out to all the nations and preach penance for the remission of sins. Jesus asks that they await until they are clothed with power from on high, the gift of the Holy Spirit, taking the viewer to the main window above. In this third window there is a bit of liberty taken with regard to those present, only Peter, James, John and Thomas. Additionally, the moment depicted of this appearance takes its inspiration from John's Gospel, chapter 20, at the moment when Thomas was also present and as he placed his finger in the side of Jesus responding, "My Lord and my God!"

The cost of the entire window was completely covered by a generous couple of the parish. I am deeply grateful for their commitment to our parish and dedication to the Catholic Faith. I am confident that this window will be a source of spiritual inspiration and motivation for all those who gaze upon it.