



“FROM THE DESK OF FATHER JONATHAN”



MAY 3, 2015

The Holy Spirit and Miracles -- could it happen to us?! We can define "miracle" as the direct intervention from God in our lives, that defies the laws of nature, for the sake of our physical or spiritual wellbeing. Have you ever experienced a miracle? I haven't seen any person rise from the dead, or even a person in a wheelchair get up and walk, but I have seen hundreds of cases where I think God has intervened, defying the laws of nature, to give someone a special blessing. Most of these blessings have been spiritual. I have seen families come back together after insurmountable obstacles. I have seen people overcome addiction rapidly and without much pain. I have seen forgiveness and love overcome hatred when the circumstances would suggest otherwise. Now what I want to see is a parish filled with the love and action of the Holy Spirit!! The one common factor in all of the miracles I have seen is the person's willingness to collaborate with God. Pentecost Sunday--the day we celebrate the Holy Spirit--is just a few weeks away.

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The Holy Spirit has been called the "consoler", the "counselor", the "sweet guest of the soul". It is the presence of God that invites us to collaborate with God who wants to do miracles in our lives! On Pentecost Sunday we will begin several campaigns and ministries at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. We will commission lay ministers of the Eucharist who will be able to visit the sick and the homebound. We will have a kickoff of our youth group for junior high and high school students. And we will begin a "Registration and Communications Campaign". There will be more information about all of this in the coming days. We won't do this alone...we will be trusting the Holy Spirit to work alongside us and to do a miracle of grace within our community. So let's say together, "Come Holy Spirit".