



Jubilee 2025



Jubilee of Ecclesial Movements, Associations and New Communities

7 – 8 June 2025

This weekend, we celebrate the Jubilee of Ecclesial Movements, Associations, and New Communities. As we recall the outpouring of the Spirit on the apostles at Pentecost, we recognise how the Holy Spirit continues to move powerfully within the Church today. The Ecclesial Movements, born out of the Second Vatican Council, are a fruit of this ongoing outpouring. Pope Benedict XVI described them as “an outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the Church and in contemporary society,” renewing and energising the mission of the Church.

Today we give thanks for the faithful men and women who, inspired by the Holy Spirit, dedicate themselves to these movements. Let us celebrate their vitality, leadership, and witness, and pray that their efforts continue to inspire and renew the Church as they lead others in faith and service.

Prayers

Example prayers of the faithful

Lord, we thank You for the witness of Ecclesial Movements, Associations, and New Communities. As we celebrate Pentecost, may they grow in faith and unity, boldly living out the Gospel. Inspire them to bring hope and love through their ministries, bearing witness to Your love in every corner of society. **E te Ariki...**

Lord, on this Pentecost Sunday, we lift up Ecclesial Movements, Associations, and New Communities. May they be filled with the Holy Spirit to serve Your mission of evangelisation. Grant them wisdom and discernment, uniting a divided world and drawing others to the light of Christ. **E te Ariki...**

Reflection on the Jubilee of Ecclesial Movements, Associations, and New Communities

Read the following reflection out during Mass/within your faith communities over the weekend of 7 – 8 June 2025, or distribute for personal reflection.





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In the Acts of the Apostles, the transformative event of Pentecost is depicted, where the Holy Spirit descends upon the apostles, empowering them to speak in various tongues and proclaim the Gospel to all nations. This significant moment marks the birth of the Church, characterised by a newfound boldness and unity in its mission.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus promises the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, who will teach and remind the disciples of everything He has said. This passage highlights the continuous presence and guidance of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers, ensuring that Christ's teachings remain alive and active within the Church.

St. John Paul II recognised the importance of the Ecclesial Movements, describing them as “a new springtime for the Church” and emphasising their role in the Church’s mission to renew the face of the earth and build the civilisation of love. The Ecclesial Movements provide an opportunity to reflect on the pivotal role of the Holy Spirit in guiding and sustaining the Church. The events of Pentecost, coupled with Jesus’ promise in John’s Gospel, remind us that our mission is not accomplished by our strength alone, but through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit.

Pope Benedict described the emergence of the ‘Movements’ as a primary fruit of the Second Vatican Council. He stated, “The movements and new communities are like an outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the Church and in contemporary society.” He also encouraged collaboration, saying, “Dear friends, I ask you to collaborate even more, much more, in the Pope's universal apostolic ministry, opening doors to Christ.” (Address to participants in the 13th International Conference of the Catholic Fraternity of Charismatic Covenant Communities and Fellowships, October 31, 2008).

As we commemorate this Jubilee, let us renew our commitment to the mission entrusted to us, drawing inspiration and strength from the same Spirit that ignited the early Church. May our efforts in evangelisation and community building be marked by the same fervour and unity as we strive to bring the light of Christ to the world.

Pope Francis gives us a powerful exhortation: “I ask all of you, each of you, that as part of the stream of grace of the Charismatic Renewal, you plan Life in the Spirit Seminars—in your parishes, seminaries and schools... share the Baptism of the Spirit and your catechesis, because it is produced by the work of the Holy Spirit through a personal encounter with Jesus, which changes lives.” (Pope Francis: Third Worldwide Priest’s Retreat – June 2015, Rome).

Vipin Thomas

Animator of Jesus Youth New Zealand





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Suggestions for celebrating this Jubilee in your communities

- **Use the Provided Prayers of the Faithful or Write Your Own**
Craft prayers of the faithful that celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit through the ecclesial movements. Pray for unity, boldness, and collaboration among the movements, asking the Holy Spirit to continue inspiring and guiding their efforts in evangelisation, community building, and the renewal of the Church.
- **Read the Provided Reflection on Pentecost and Ecclesial Movements**
Share the provided reflection during Mass or community gatherings, focusing on the words of Pope Benedict, Pope John Paul II, and Pope Francis about the role of ecclesial movements in the Church. Make the full reflection available for private reflection, helping individuals to understand the importance of these movements in the Church today.
- **Celebrate with Music and Worship**
Host a special evening of worship and praise, inviting members of various communities to lead different parts of the service. The Charismatic Renewal and other movements often incorporate lively music and worship, so create an atmosphere of joy, unity, and reverence that allows the Spirit to move freely among those gathered.
- **Engage in a Day of Service or Evangelisation**
Emulate the boldness of the apostles at Pentecost by organising a day of service or evangelisation. Mobilise different ecclesial movements to serve the community through acts of charity, outreach, or evangelisation. This could include helping those in need, visiting the elderly, or offering free workshops on faith and spirituality in the community.
- **Offer a Panel Discussion or Talk on the Role of Ecclesial Movements**
Invite leaders from various ecclesial movements and new communities to give talks or participate in a panel discussion about their work and how the Holy Spirit has guided their communities. This could be an educational opportunity for the wider community to learn more about the movements' goals, successes, and challenges.
- **Offer Special Blessings for Members of Ecclesial Movements**
Organise a special blessing during Mass or a prayer service for members of ecclesial movements and new communities, asking for the Holy Spirit to continue inspiring and empowering their efforts in service to the Church and the world.

