



Academy of Our Lady of Grace

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Dear Parents,

The Spirit Transforms

How is that we come together and are excited over the eclipse of the sun, but we don't gather together to share our excitement over the beauty and diversity of humanity created in the image and likeness of God?

The disciples are fearful, because they believe that "the Jews" will inflict upon them what they had done to Jesus, hence the locked doors. The resurrected Jesus, however, is not subject to locked doors and he appears in their midst offering the disciples "peace." The disciples must have been terrified, since they believed that the doors could shield them from anything untoward; however, Jesus slipped in.

Jesus' response to the disciples is to show the wounds that he had incurred from his crucifixion. Again, he offers them peace. He, in turn, sends forth the disciples in the Name of the Father as He Himself has been sent. He breathes on them, which calls forth the wind, breath and spirit, representing the semantic range of the power with which he endows the disciples. This power is given so that the disciples may retain and forgive the sins of those to whom they are sent. It's unclear now about where they will be sent but they will be sent, that's for sure.

On this day we celebrate with the hymn of Thomas Aquinas, "Veni, Sancte Spiritus".

Fr. Peter