

Family Liturgy – Pentecost Sunday (Year A)

Sunday 31 May 2020

Preparing the prayer space

Place a red cloth on the table or floor (red – the colour for Pentecost)
Place a cross, bible and candle on it. Some holy water if you have some or a bowl with water as a reminder of our baptism; add a symbol of the Holy Spirit for Pentecost (picture of dove). Light the candle or use a battery-operated candle for safety. Add any other symbols relevant to your family.

Prepare materials

You tube as listed on sheet: Scripture story and song
Suggested activities: your choice or other related activity on sheet
Print out sheet if required

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver: Today, fifty days after Easter, we come together to celebrate Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came to the disciples who were together in one place. We thank God for the gift of the Holy Spirit to them and to us. We remember God's loving actions in our lives through the Holy Spirit. We reflect today on how we can live as followers of Jesus who are filled with the Holy Spirit.

We remember all people in our Church and world who are praying from their homes at this time.

Last Monday, the new Archbishop for Adelaide was installed and began his work with us as the Archbishop. We pray today for Archbishop Patrick O'Regan that the Holy Spirit will be with him always. It is today, remembering the first Pentecost, which we call the birthday of our Church. Let us pray for all of us as we begin our journey together as a Church with a new Archbishop.

Opening prayer: God of love, we thank you today for the gift of the Holy Spirit given to each of us. We ask you to be with us as we listen to your Holy Spirit in our hearts and to act in ways that are kind and loving and that will bring new life to ourselves, to our family and to all those we have contact.

We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Reading: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (2:1-11)

On the day of Pentecost, all the Lord's followers were together in one place.
Suddenly, there was a noise from heaven like the sound of a mighty wind!
It filled the house where they were meeting.

Then they saw what looked like fiery tongues (of fire) moving in all directions and a tongue (of fire) came and settled on each person there.
The Holy Spirit took control of everyone and they began speaking whatever languages the Spirit let them speak.

Many religious Jews from every country in the world were living in Jerusalem.
When they heard the noise, a crowd gathered.
But they were surprised because they were hearing everything in their own languages.

They were excited and amazed and said,
'Don't all these who are speaking from Galilee?'
Then, why do we each hear them speaking our very own languages?
Yet we hear them using our own languages to tell the wonderful things God has done.'

The word of the Lord. **All:** Thanks be to God

(Reading text © Lectionary for Masses with Children (1993) Catholic Book Publishing Co. New York)



<https://pixy.org/src/427/4273290.gif> - free image

Parent/Caregiver: Let us prayerfully watch the story of the first time that Holy Spirit came upon the first disciples who were together in one place. From this time, these disciples became known as the apostles. We join ourselves to God and listen to what he is asking of us today.

The Holy Spirit Comes https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lqG_lvZhU-A&t=69s (3 mins)

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder how the disciples felt when they heard the loud wind?

I wonder how the disciples felt when they saw the flames of fire appear over everyone's head in the room?

I wonder what the disciples thought when they heard everyone speaking in different languages?

I wonder what the people saw and heard the disciples doing when they went over to them?

I wonder what the people thought when they saw and heard the disciples praising God and understanding this in their own language?

I wonder what effect the coming of the Holy Spirit had on the actions of the disciples?

I wonder what the Holy Spirit led the disciples to do?

I wonder how the Holy Spirit has moved me to loving actions?

I wonder what the message of this story is for me and my family?

I wonder what the message of this story is for our Church and world?

Intercessions: Let us now spend some time in prayer asking God to listen to our needs.

(We respond to the prayers by saying the words 'Come, Holy Spirit come!')

1 We pray for our Church and world leaders; we pray especially for our new Archbishop, Patrick O'Regan: that the Holy Spirit will move Archbishop Pat and all leaders to lead all people in loving and caring ways. Lord, hear us. **All:** Come, Holy Spirit come!

2 We pray for all people in our parishes who are not able to meet together at this special time: that they will receive the gift of love and peace of the Holy Spirit as we unite with each in our hearts Lord, hear us. **All:** Come, Holy Spirit come!

3 We pray for all Christians: that Mary, Our Lady Help of Christians whose feast day it was last Monday, will inspire all Christians to live deeply the life of the Spirit and listen to the Spirit's call to them in their lives. Lord, hear us. **All:** Come, Holy Spirit come!

4 We pray for people in our world who are suffering in any way at this time: that they may feel the comfort and peace that the Holy Spirit brings to each of us. Lord, hear us. **All:** Come, Holy Spirit come!

5 We pray for all people who have died recently and especially for people we know and love: that they will now share in the gift of new life with Jesus in heaven. Lord, hear us. **All:** Come, Holy Spirit come!

Closing prayer: God who brings us together, we believe in your love - you are the Creator of the world. We believe in your love – you sent Jesus to live with us on earth and to send us the Holy Spirit. We believe in your love – because of the Holy Spirit who breathes life through us. Amen.

Closing song: *The Holy Spirit* by John Burland

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9cZcJMOQdCU> (3 mins)

Follow up activity suggestions after the time of prayer has come to a close.

- Write a prayer in your prayer journal (special note book).
Ask the children to write a prayer thanking God for the gift of the Holy Spirit and to ask the Spirit to come into our lives each day. Add to this prayer journal each day.
- Act out the story of the first Pentecost or use the following to make a cut-out puppet to help you <https://sundayschoolzone.com/activity/jesus-began-the-church-puppet-craft/view/>
- Watch the video: *What is Pentecost?* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xtokHQOmFu0> (2mins)
What did you learn from this today? Share with your family, draw or write.
- Watch the video: *Who is the Holy Spirit?* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=quwKsFoXfSE>
What did you learn from this today? Share with your family, draw or write.
- Word search: <https://sundayschoolzone.com/activity/jesus-began-the-church-word-search/view/>
- Research about the work and life of an Archbishop and the story of Archbishop Patrick O'Regan.