

Pentecost – Serving

Key Vocabulary

fire	a burning sensation
warmth	enthusiasm, affection, or kindness
wind	the natural movement of the air
energy	the strength and vitality required for sustained physical or mental activity
power	the ability or capacity to do something or act in a particular way
gifts	a thing given willingly to someone without payment
Holy Spirit	the third person of the Trinity; God
Rosary	a form of devotion in which five decades of Hail Marys are repeated, each decade preceded by an Our Father and followed by a Glory Be
Pentecost	the Christian festival celebrating the descent of the Holy Spirit

The coming of the Holy Spirit

When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers were gathered together in one place. Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong and powerful wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched each person there. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to talk in other languages, as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

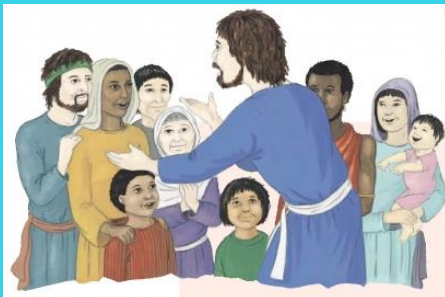
Holy Spirit Energises Us

On Pentecost day, God's Holy Spirit showered gifts upon the friends of Jesus, gifts which were different kinds of energy, gifts which transformed them. To help Christians live as followers of Jesus the Holy Spirit gives them different kinds of gifts so everyone can help one another.

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created and you shall renew the face of the earth.

The Ascension

After Jesus' Resurrection, he told his friends, "You will receive the power of the Holy Spirit. You will be my witnesses here in Jerusalem and all over the world." As he said this, he disappeared from sight. They realised that he had gone back to his Father as Jesus said he would.



Pentecost

Christian holiday which takes place on the 50th day (the seventh Sunday) after Easter Sunday. Celebrates the descent of the Holy Spirit.



Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Wisdom – that is the gift to be sensible and not to jump to conclusions but be thoughtful.

Understanding – enables people to be compassionate and to take time to find out and be able to appreciate what is happening.

Counsel – means using wisdom and understanding to come to a good decision about something.

Fortitude – there are times when everyone needs to be brave in standing up for what they believe to be right and holy.

Knowledge – without knowledge you cannot make right judgements or have an understanding. It takes practice to have true knowledge.

Piety – this is about reverence and respect for God, for one another and for oneself.

Fear of the Lord – this gift enables people to recognise the awe and wonder of God and be amazed by the love and goodness of God.