

## Religious Education Task– 6.5.20

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On Monday, we briefly looked into how the Church celebrates Pentecost and we thought about what gifts the Holy Spirit can bring to us. Lots of you had some thoughtful ideas about this.

**Today we are going to focus on the *Church and how it celebrates Pentecost.***

### The Church celebrates Pentecost

The Church itself is part of the Pentecost story. Each year, Christians remember and celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit, the new energy, the new power that he gives to the friends of Jesus. The priest wears red vestments to symbolise fire and energy.

Read the information below about how the Church is part of Pentecost.

#### PENTECOST

At Mass today the priest wears red vestments. Many churches put up special banners and symbols of the Holy Spirit to remind everyone of the gifts of the Spirit. The Church celebrates the fulfilment of Jesus' promise that the Holy Spirit would guide and help his disciples to understand all that he had taught them.

Pentecost is sometimes called the 'birthday' of the Church. In the Acts of the Apostles Luke recounts how the apostles all gathered together with Mary, the mother of Jesus. They felt dejected. Jesus had promised never to leave them and yet he was gone from them. He had said he would send them another friend to help them, but they didn't know quite what he meant. On the day of Pentecost, the feast of the first fruits, they knew Jesus had kept his promise.

They described the coming of the Spirit as being like a mighty wind and tongues of fire. They were filled with the Spirit of Jesus, a spirit of joy, love, happiness and peace. They wanted to share their happiness with everyone. They stopped being afraid and went out into the streets to begin to tell everyone about Jesus and the good news of his life and death and new risen life. They found that they could communicate with people from many different parts of the world who had come to Jerusalem for the feast. That is how the Church began. So Pentecost is the beginning, the birthday of the Church.

Some parishes make this a day to celebrate the richness and diversity of the parish family. Just as the disciples found joy in the gift of different tongues, so today is a good time to remember the different languages people in the parish and neighbourhood speak. It is a time to celebrate the richness of the different cultures of the worldwide Catholic family.



#### The Gifts of the Spirit

Wisdom  
Understanding  
Right Judgement  
Courage  
Knowledge  
Reverence  
Wonder and Awe in God's  
Presence

The fruit of these gifts is seen in communities where there is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

#### Peace Everywhere

Peace  
Pax  
Shalom  
Paix  
Pace

How many languages do you think people speak in your parish?

You might like to reflect on your ideas from Monday's big question about the gifts of the Holy Spirit. These are listed in the reading. Were any of your ideas similar to the ones above?

## **Task 1**

*Answer the questions below on the blog or in your homework book. Use the reading above to help you.*

1. In the reading, what were the Jewish people celebrating at Pentecost?
2. What was the promise Jesus made?
3. Why is Pentecost known as 'the birthday of the Church'?
4. Why does the priest wear red vestments at Pentecost?
5. Why would parishes celebrate richness and diversity especially on Pentecost Day?

## **Task 2**

**Listen to the song 'Holy Spirit' by John Burland**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9cZcJMOQdCU>

*Be careful when listening to videos on YouTube, always ask an adult to help you.*

**Once you have listened to the song, answer the questions below:**

- a) What messages do the words convey?
- b) Describe how you can live these out today.

## **Challenge**

Investigate your own song or hymn about the Holy Spirit. Add your own verse or even write your own hymn!