

Pentecost Sunday

23rd May 2021

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. Light the candle or use a battery-operated candle for safety. Add any other symbols relevant to your family.



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Prepare materials

- YouTube 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, we hear that Jesus sends his disciples forward to receive the Holy Spirit.

Opening prayer: Lord God, fill us with your Holy Spirit that we may go out and share Jesus' love and light with others like the disciples did.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to John (20:19-23)

All: Glory to you O, Lord.

The disciples were afraid of the Jewish leaders, and on the evening of that same Sunday they locked themselves in a room. Suddenly, Jesus appeared in the middle of the group. He greeted them and showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they became very happy.

After Jesus had greeted them again, he said, "I am sending you, just as the Father has sent me." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they will be forgiven. But if you do not forgive their sins, they will not be forgiven."

The gospel of the Lord. **All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Prayerfully watch the video together

God Sends the Holy Spirit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OMQKy1Mx49M> (3:29 mins)

Pentecost <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KwJJJoSGw84> (5:17 mins)

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder why the disciples were afraid...

I wonder what room the disciples were hiding in...

I wonder how Jesus appeared in the middle of the group...

I wonder why Jesus showed the disciples his hands and his side...

I wonder what the disciples were thinking when they saw Jesus...

I wonder how the disciples changed after Jesus breathed on them with the Holy Spirit...

Let us sing together our beliefs as Christians:

I Believe - John Burland ft. Genevieve Bryant <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvYbfojVkJQ> (4 mins)

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 'Lord, hear our prayer'*)

1 We pray for Pope Francis, Archbishop Patrick O'Regan, all Church and world leaders: that they will be filled with the Holy Spirit to do great and wondrous works.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

2 We pray for the children and families who are preparing for their Sacraments of Initiation, especially those preparing for or have had their First Reconciliation; may they feel God's deep love for them.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

3 We pray that members of our Church will be filled with the Holy Spirit like the disciples were at Pentecost to go out with confidence and do works because of their love for God.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

4 We pause for a moment and pray in our hearts or aloud for any intentions or people we would like to pray for at this time (*pause*)

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

6 We pray for all people who have died recently and or, are suffering at this time. May they find their resting place with God.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

Closing prayer: Loving God, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to his disciples and to us. May we go out with joy and conviction, to share the Good News of the gospel with all those we meet.

Amen.

Closing song: *O Breathe on Me O Breath of God* – Reawaken Hymns (1.57 mins)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-2AOw1ZgW0>

Follow up activity suggestions after the time of prayer has end.

- **Prayer journal**

Write a prayer to Jesus in your prayer journal (special notebook).

- **Pentecost Pinwheel**

On the day of Pentecost, in the Acts of the Apostles (2:1-11) we heard that the Holy Spirit came down from heaven like a mighty wind. Create your own windmill to remind us of the symbols of Pentecost. <https://www.catholicinspired.site/pentecost.html>

Family Connection

Pentecost reminds us that the Church teaches the importance of forgiveness. Talk together with your family about why this is important and why the peace Jesus gives, is a gift to us.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/pentecost-sunday-cycle-b-sunday-connection/>

You may like to take time to pray together as a family, the prayer of the Holy Spirit.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/prayer/traditional-catholic-prayers/prayers-every-catholic-should-know/prayer-to-the-holy-spirit/>