

Yr 2 Parents' Cheat Sheet

Pentecost, Acts 2:1-11

1. What special Holy day are we celebrating today?

Pentecost. This was a [holy day of Thanksgiving](#) celebrated by the Jews. On the 50th day after Jesus' resurrection the disciples were in a room together observing Pentecost. Suddenly the Holy Spirit came to fill them. We don't know exactly what it was like but the people who wrote the Gospels described it as "a sound like a rush of wind" and something "like tongues of fire." They probably weren't actually wind and fire, but this was a powerful way to describe it. It must have been amazing!

2. What happened when the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit?

They gained courage to talk to all kinds of people. Before this they were kind of afraid. They were also able to talk to all kinds of people in their own language.

This means that because we are Christian, just like the disciples, we can pray to the Holy Spirit to fill us and to help us to be brave, to tell others about Jesus. We can ask the Holy Spirit to give us the right words to say to other people in difficult situations or to help them to know Jesus. The Holy Spirit gives us wisdom to discern things as we go along in life. There are many gifts from the Holy Spirit. The bible tells us of 9 special gifts of the Holy Spirit. See [Gal 5:22-23](#) or read *Christ Our Pascha, Paras: 719-722.*

3. Why do we have green leaves and branches in our church on this Holy Day?

At Pentecost it is our tradition to decorate our church with branches and leaves. The rustling of the leaves on the trees reminds us of the Holy Spirit who came like a rush of wind. We also understand that the Holy Spirit is the "giver of life" and green is symbolic of life. When grass or leaves are green, we know that they are alive!