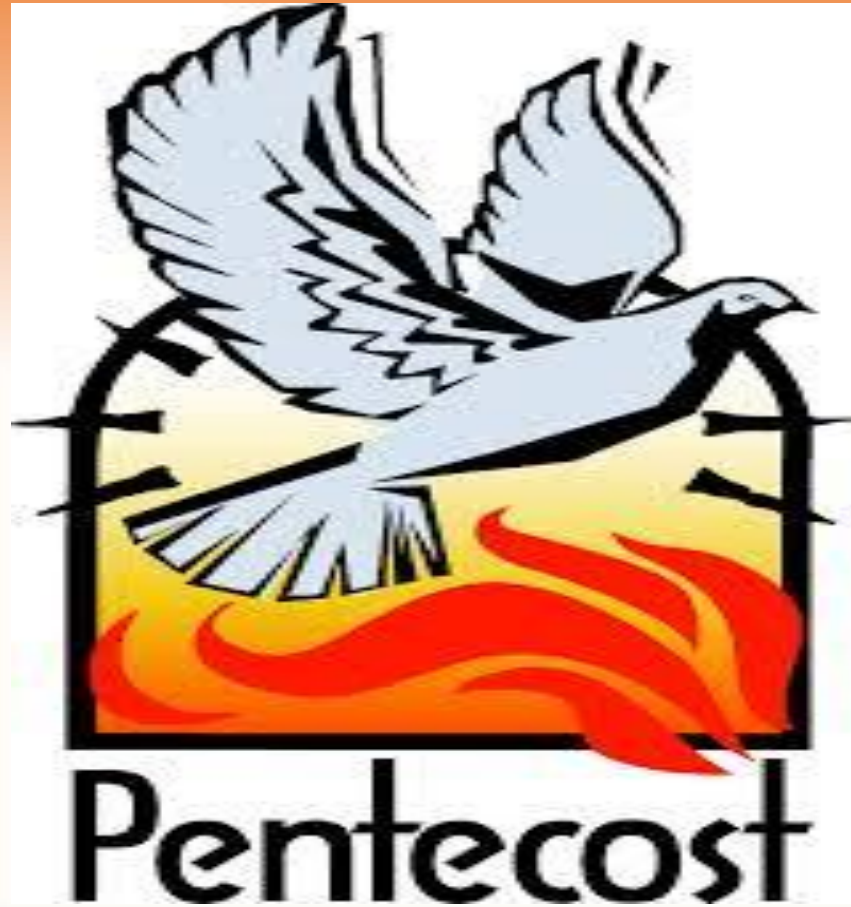


# Getting Ready for Sunday!





*The Feast of Pentecost*

## Signs and symbols of Pentecost :

The Paschal Candle is beside the Baptism Font now as a sign that we receive the Holy Spirit in Baptism and Confirmation.



The celebrant will be wearing red today representing the flames which came down on the heads of the disciples as they waited in fear for Jesus to fulfil His promise to send the Spirit.



**This Sunday we celebrate Feast of Pentecost.**

**This is the last day of the Easter Season!**

**This is the day on which the disciples received the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, one of which was courage, so that they could go out and proclaim the message of Jesus without being overcome by fear.**

We too, as Baptised members of Christ's Body have been given the same gifts to tell others of Jesus and to live as He did in the Gospels.

When we use the Gifts of the Holy Spirit we then produce the fruits of love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

**As today is a very special day in our church calendar, the first reading and the Gospel story are in this presentation.**

**The first reading is from the Acts of the Apostles and tells us about the coming of the Holy Spirit on the disciples.**

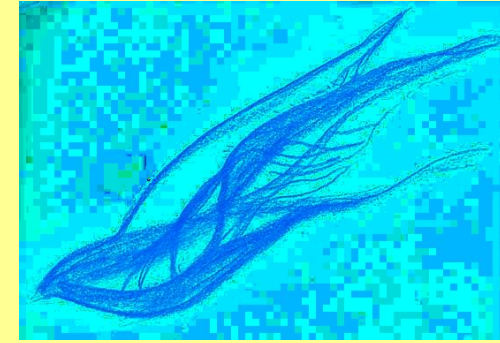
**The Gospel gives an account of Jesus' telling the disciples that He would give them the power of the Holy Spirit so that they could continue His mission of healing and sharing the Good News.**

**The Acts of the Apostles were written by St Luke and may be found in the Bible just after the Gospels.**

# Acts 2:1-11



**When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.**



**They were  
afraid and  
lonely  
without  
Jesus!**

Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.



Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked:

*Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?*



**And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.**



**Have you ever been surprised to discover that someone you know could do something you hadn't realised before?**



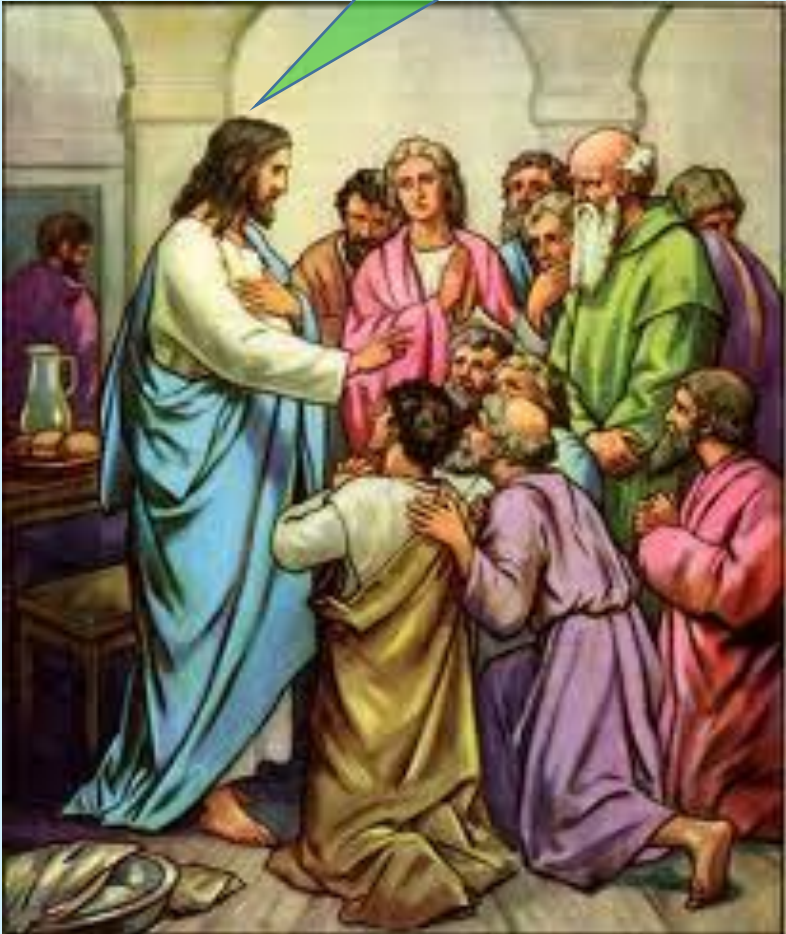
**John 20:19-23**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews,



Jesus came and stood among them and said:

**Peace be with you**



**After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side.**

Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again:

**Peace be with you**

**They thought that  
God had  
abandoned them!  
Have you ever felt  
like that?**



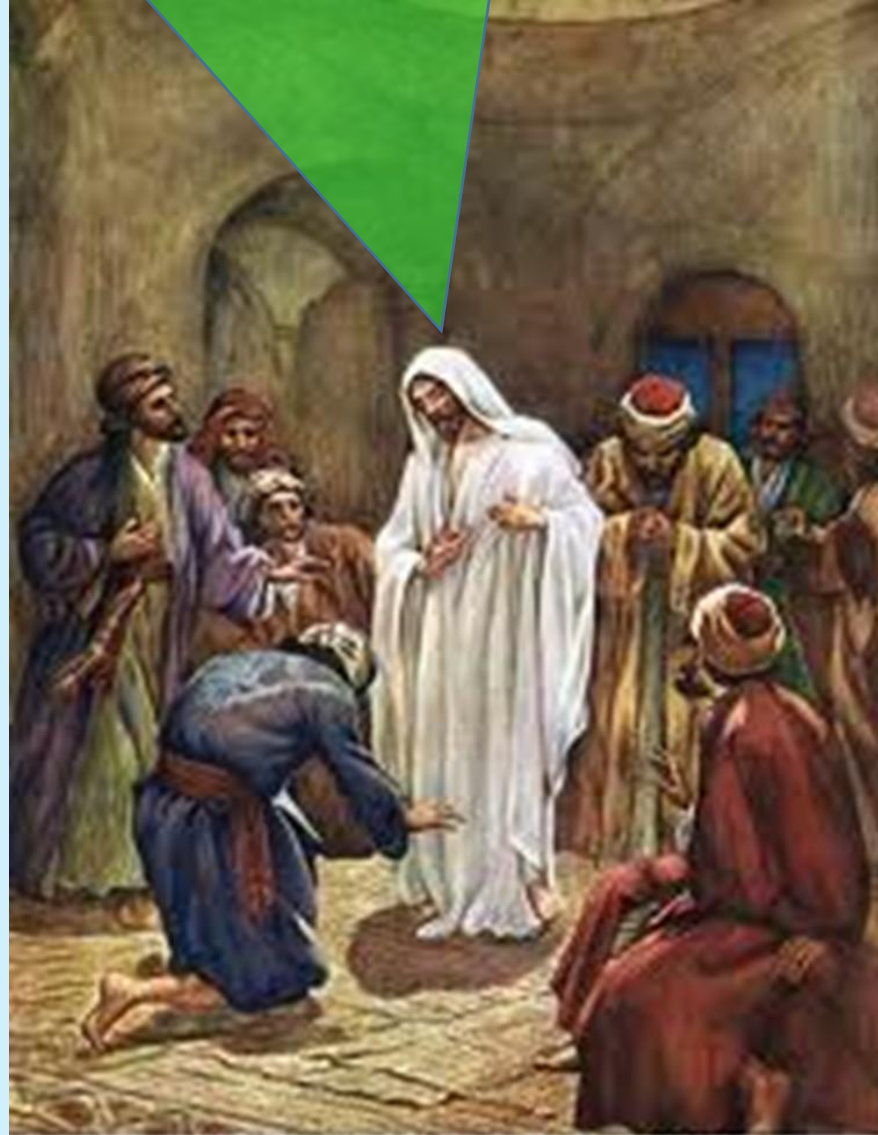
Jesus appears to the disciples by William Holme

**As the Father has sent me, so I send you.**

**Jesus didn't just come  
among us to make us  
feel good!**

**He came to show us  
the way to build  
God's kingdom of  
love!**

**What is God sending  
you to do today?**



Jesus appears to the disciples by William Hole

When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them:

**Receive the Holy Spirit.**



**If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.**

**When we forgive others, we are sharing God's forgiveness and building the connections of love between people and God. We also do so in the Sacrament of Reconciliation when we own our sin and ask for forgiveness.**



# Bible Search

Read **Acts 2:1-11** and **John 20:19-23** in your family Bible-  
these are the First Reading and  
the Gospel reading at Mass this Sunday.



# Activity

- Write down what you feel and think as you read or hear the story.



- Draw a picture to show the message that you got from today's Gospel!



# Consider



When has the Holy Spirit given you all that you needed at a time when you thought you couldn't manage?  
What gifts has the Holy Spirit given you recently?

# Praying to Jesus



**Pray for the grace to accept the gifts of the Holy Spirit.**

**Ask God to help you to bear the fruits of the Holy Spirit.**

