

Pentecost

Why is it called the day of Pentecost? The term Pentecost comes from the Greek (Pentekoste) meaning “fiftieth” (50th). It refers to the festival celebrated on the fiftieth day after Passover, also known as the “Feast of Weeks” in the Septuagint and the “Feast of 50 days” in rabbinic tradition.

How long does Pentecost last? The day of Pentecost is seven weeks after Easter Sunday: that is to say, the fiftieth day after Easter inclusive of Easter Sunday. Pentecost may also refer to the 50 days from Easter to Pentecost Sunday inclusive of both. Because Easter itself has no fixed date, this makes Pentecost a moveable feast.

Pentecost is the festival when Christians celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. It is regarded as the birthday of the Christian church.

What is the meaning of Pentecost in the Catholic Church? The Christian holiday of Pentecost, which is celebrated on the seventh Sunday (49 days) after Easter, commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks, as described in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 2:1-31)

Pentecostalism is a form of Christianity that emphasizes the work of the Holy Spirit and the direct experience of the presence of God by the believer. Pentecostals believe that faith must be powerfully experiential, and not something found merely through ritual or thinking. Pentecostalism is energetic and dynamic.

Pentecost definition– In the New Testament, the day that the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples of Jesus. Pentecost is the Greek name for Shavuot, the spring harvest festival of the Israelites, which was going on when the Holy Spirit came.



Pentecost Sunday

“I have much more to tell you, but you cannot bear it now. But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth. He will not speak on his own, but he will speak what he hears, and will declare to you the things that are coming. He will glorify me.” - Jn 16:12-14a

Why is Pentecost important?

During Pentecost the Holy Spirit came down upon the apostles giving them the gifts to go and evangelize people in the name of the Lord. **Evangelization**– the proclamation of the Gospel, especially to those people who have never heard it; concretely, according to Pope Paul VI in his letter on evangelization, “Evangelizing means to bring the good news into all the strata of humanity, and through its influence transforming humanity from within and making it new.

Ways to evangelize in your community-

At church– become a catechist and teach children and/or adults

At home– share our faith within your home. Say grace before meals, prayers before bed, have a prayer table/corner where you display statues, icons, crucifix, or other religious sacramental.

In your community– welcome people with questions about our faith and be proud to share it with them. One example would be on Ash Wednesday, people always want to know why we get ashes and what it means to us.

Here is a website that you can utilize with your children:

<https://www.pbgrace.com/eight-things-to-do-with-your-kids-on-pentecost/>

It includes eight things you can do with your children and has videos you can watch.

Some of the activities they share with you are: Pray a novena for the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, teach your kids a prayer to the Holy Spirit, fly a kite, make a windsock, play with balloons, wear red (or white), light thirteen candles and decorate with doves, talk about the Holy Spirit, and more. We have attached a novena to this packet that you can use or your family could make one using ours as a guide. Get involved, get your kids involved, and before you know it, the Holy Spirit will be working through you! One of the best experiences is reliving your faith through the eyes of your children, make it fun, make it memorable, and show our youth that what makes us Catholic isn't just what we do on Sundays, but how we live our faith Monday through Saturday too.

Pentecost Word Search

G N I R E F F O
F I L L E D J B
R E W O P Z V Z
D N I W F I R E

FILLED
FIRE
OFFERING
POWER
WIND



PENTECOST
Receive the Holy Spirit

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