

# Pentecost

- Pentecost is a Christian celebration 50 days after Good Friday.
- It is said to be the beginning of the Christian Church.

## How Pentecost Came About

After Jesus had risen from the dead, He met with the disciples quite often.

After 40 days, it was time for Jesus to join his Father in Heaven. Before he left, he was on a mountainside, talking to his disciples. He told them that they had the job of telling people all over the world, that God loved them. Jesus said it would be a hard job, but He would send a gift to help them to do it.

Then, Jesus was taken up to Heaven.



## The Gift of the Holy Spirit

One day, the disciples were together when there was a sudden sound of a mighty wind in the room. Then, flames landed on each of their heads, but no one was burned. The disciples were amazed.

Then, they started talking in different languages! The disciples had been filled with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit was the gift from God!



People nearby heard the disciples talking in different languages.  
Peter, the disciple, came to speak to the crowd, and said,



“Fellow Jews and people here in Jerusalem. We have received the Holy Spirit from God. You too can receive the Holy Spirit. You must be baptised. Then, you too can receive this wonderful gift!”

That day, 3,000 people were baptised.  
The disciples started to travel the world, telling people about God’s message of love. This was the first day of the Christian Church.



### Did You Know...?

- At Pentecost, the colour red is a symbol of the flames that appeared on the disciples’ heads.
- A dove is a sign of the Holy Spirit because when Jesus was baptised, a dove appeared, bringing the Holy Spirit to Jesus.

# Questions

1. How many days after Good Friday is Pentecost celebrated?

- 40
- 50
- 60
- 70

2. Which group of religious people celebrate Pentecost?

- Muslim
- Christian
- Buddhist
- Jewish

3. Name **two** things that Jesus told the disciples on the mountainside.

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4. What happened when the Holy Spirit arrived? Tick **two** answers.

- The windows rattled.
- There was a huge wind.
- Flames leapt in the middle of the circle.
- Flames landed on the disciples' heads.

5. Which word has been used to describe how the disciples felt when the Holy Spirit arrived?

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6. Fill in this missing word in this sentence.

The Holy Spirit was the \_\_\_\_\_ from God!

7. Put these statements in the right order by numbering them from 1 to 4. Number the first statement with the number 1.

- The disciples started speaking in different languages.
- Flames landed on the heads of the disciples.
- Jesus was taken into Heaven.
- Peter told a crowd that they could receive the Holy Spirit by being baptised.

8. What happened which meant the Christian Church had begun?

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# Answers

1. How many days after Good Friday is Pentecost celebrated?  
**50**
2. Which group of religious people celebrate Pentecost?  
**Christian**
3. Name **two** things that Jesus told the disciples on the mountainside.  
**Any two of the following: Jesus told His disciples that they had the job of telling people all over the world that God loved them/it would be a hard job/He would send a gift to help them to do the job.**
4. What happened when the Holy Spirit arrived? Tick **two** answers.  
**There was a huge wind.**  
**Flames landed on the disciples' heads.**
5. Which word has been used to describe how the disciples felt when the Holy Spirit arrived?  
**amazed**
6. Fill in this missing word in this sentence.  
The Holy Spirit was the **gift** from God!
7. Put these statements in the right order by numbering them from 1 to 4. Number the first statement with the number 1.  
**3      The disciples started speaking in different languages.**  
**2      Flames landed on the heads of the disciples.**  
**1      Jesus was taken into Heaven.**  
**4      Peter told a crowd that they could receive the Holy Spirit by being baptised.**
8. What happened which meant the Christian Church had begun?  
**3,000 were baptised that day and the disciples started to travel the world, telling people about God's message of love.**

# Pentecost

Pentecost is a Christian celebration that occurs 50 days after Good Friday, when Christians believe Jesus was crucified. It is said to be the beginning of the Christian Church.

## How Pentecost Came About

Jesus was crucified on Good Friday. Then, on Easter Sunday, He rose from the dead. For the next 40 days, He met with the disciples, taught people about God's message of love and encouraged people to reflect on their behaviour so they would enter the kingdom of Heaven when they died.

After 40 days, Jesus was on a mountainside talking to his disciples. He told them that they would have an important job to do, spreading God's message of love throughout the world. He told them that they would need strength to do this difficult job, and that they would receive a gift to give them that strength to carry it out.

Then, clouds came down over the mountain and Jesus ascended into Heaven, leaving the disciples bewildered by his words. They did not know what Jesus had meant.



## The Gift of the Holy Spirit

For the next ten days, the disciples would gather together in private rooms to pray and talk about what Jesus might have meant. On the tenth day, they were together and there was a sudden sound of a mighty wind entering the room and filling the house they were in.

Tongues of fire appeared! They separated and then, a flame came to rest above each of the disciples' heads, but no one was burned! The disciples were amazed. They began to speak and found they were all talking in different languages! The disciples had been filled with the Holy Spirit and suddenly, they understood what the gift sent by God was!



Their excited voices travelled down to the streets below, where there were travellers from different countries passing through Jerusalem. The travellers realised they could understand the disciples in their own languages. They were astounded!

Peter, the disciple, came to speak to the crowd and said,



“Fellow Jews and people here in Jerusalem. Jesus was crucified and rose from the dead, so listen here. We have received the Holy Spirit, the gift from God. You too can receive the Holy Spirit. You must regret your sins, become baptised and ask for forgiveness. Then, you too can receive this wonderful gift!”

That day, 3,000 people were baptised. The disciples began to travel the world, spreading God’s message of love. The Christian Church had begun and the message of God’s love began to spread throughout the world!

### Did You Know...?

During the Pentecost:

- the colour red is used in many Christian churches as a symbol of the flames that appeared on the disciples’ heads;
- a dove represents the Holy Spirit, because when Jesus was baptised, a dove appeared, bringing the Holy Spirit to Jesus.

# Questions

1. How could someone work out when Pentecost would be celebrated each year?

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2. What marks the beginning of the Christian Church?

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3. Why did Jesus encourage people to reflect on the way they lived?

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4. Name **two** things that Jesus told the disciples about the job that they were going to do.

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5. Choose another word that closely matches the meaning of 'bewildered' in the fourth paragraph.

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6. Identify **two** unusual things that happened when the Holy Spirit arrived.

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

7. What could the disciples do after the Holy Spirit had arrived?

talk to a crowd of people

talk in one language

talk in different languages

never talk again



8. Who spoke to the crowd of travellers?

- Jesus
- Peter
- the Holy Spirit
- the Jewish people

9. Identify and explain one symbol of Pentecost.

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10. Tick the correct box for each statement in the table.

If a statement is false, rewrite it as a correct statement.

	True	False
Jesus spoke to his disciples on a mountainside, fifty days after his resurrection.		
Jesus told his disciples that they would need help to complete the job they were going to do.		
The disciples understood what the gift from God would be. They were excited.		
When the Holy Spirit arrived, the whole building was filled with a strong wind.		
The disciples could all speak in the same language after they were filled with the Holy Spirit.		

For the statements that are false, write them correctly below.

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# Answers

1. How could someone work out when Pentecost would be celebrated each year?  
**Someone could work out when Pentecost would be celebrated each year, as it comes fifty days after Easter Sunday.**
2. What marks the beginning of the Christian Church?  
**Pentecost marks the beginning of the Christian Church.**
3. Why did Jesus encourage people to reflect on the way they lived?  
**Jesus encouraged people to reflect on the way they lived so they would enter the kingdom of Heaven when they died.**
4. Name **two** things that Jesus told the disciples about the job that they were going to do.  
**Accept any two: they had an important job spreading God's message of love throughout the world/that they would need strength to do this difficult job/they would receive a gift to give them that strength to carry out the job.**
5. Choose another word that closely matches the meaning of 'bewildered' in the fourth paragraph.  
**Possible word choices: puzzled, perplexed, bemused, clueless, stumped, confused, unsure.**
6. Identify two unusual things that happened when the Holy Spirit arrived.  
**a) There was a mighty wind that filled the room/house.  
b) The flames on the disciples' heads did not burn them.**
7. What could the disciples do after the Holy Spirit had arrived?  
**talk in different languages**
8. Who spoke to the crowd of travellers?  
**Peter**
9. Identify and explain one symbol of Pentecost.  
**Accept one:  
Red is a symbol of the flames that appeared on the disciples' heads;  
A dove represents the Holy Spirit because when Jesus was baptised, a dove appeared, bringing the Holy Spirit to Jesus.**

10. Tick the correct box for each statement in the table.

If a statement is false, rewrite it as a correct statement.

	True	False
Jesus spoke to his disciples on a mountainside, fifty days after his resurrection.		✓
Jesus told his disciples that they would need help to complete the job they were going to do.	✓	
The disciples understood what the gift from God would be. They were excited.		✓
When the Holy Spirit arrived, the whole building was filled with a strong wind.	✓	
The disciples could all speak in the same language after they were filled with the Holy Spirit.		✓

For the statements that are false, write them correctly below.

**Jesus spoke to his disciples on a mountainside, forty days after his resurrection.**

**The disciples did not know what the gift from God would be. They were bewildered.**

**The disciples all spoke different languages after they were filled with the Holy Spirit.**

# Pentecost

Pentecost is a Christian celebration, recognised 50 days after Good Friday, when Christians believe Jesus was crucified. It is considered to be the time of the birthday, or beginning, of the Christian Church.

## How Pentecost Came About

Jesus was crucified on Good Friday, and then, on Sunday, He was resurrected from the dead. He walked among the people on Earth for the next 40 days. He conversed with the disciples, taught people about God's message of love and encouraged people to reflect on their behaviour in order to enter the kingdom of Heaven.

After 40 days, Jesus was on a mountainside talking to his disciples. He told them that He was soon to leave them and they would have an important job to do, spreading the word of God to everyone. He told them that they would need strength to do this difficult job and said that they would receive a gift to give them that strength and assist them with their job.

The clouds descended over the mountain and Jesus ascended into Heaven, leaving the disciples bewildered by his words. What gift was he talking about? When would it arrive? How would they know what it was? Their minds were full of unanswered questions.



## The Gift of the Holy Spirit

For the next ten days, the disciples would gather together in private rooms, discuss their fears, worries and future and also pray. On the tenth day, they were together in a room. Suddenly, there was an almighty sound of a violent wind entering the room and filling the house they were in. What was going on?



Tongues of fire appeared, separated, and then a flame came to rest above each of the disciples' heads, but no one was burned!

The disciples were thoroughly astonished and in bewilderment, they looked from one to another. Then, they began to speak and realised that they were all talking in different languages! The disciples had been filled with the Holy Spirit and suddenly, they understood what the gift sent by God was!

Their excited voices travelled down to the streets below, where there were many travellers from different countries passing through Jerusalem. The travellers realised they could understand the voices in their own languages. They were astounded!

“These people from Galilee are speaking our language. How can this be?” they asked each other.

Peter, one of the disciples, came to speak to the now growing crowd, and said,



“Fellow Jews and people here in Jerusalem. You who had Jesus crucified, and who heard of his resurrection, listen here. We have received the Holy Spirit, the gift from God. You too can receive the Holy Spirit. You must repent of your sins, become baptised and ask for forgiveness. Then, you too can receive this wonderful gift!”

That day, 3,000 people repented and were baptised. The Christian Church had begun and the disciples began to travel, spreading the message of God’s love throughout the world!



### Did You Know...?

During Pentecost, the colour red is used in many Christian churches as a symbol of the flames that appeared on the disciples’ heads. A dove is representative of the Holy Spirit. When Jesus was baptised by his cousin John, a dove appeared, bringing the Holy Spirit to Jesus.

# Questions

1. Name **two** things Jesus did after his resurrection.

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2. What were the disciples going to do after Jesus had left them?

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3. Find and copy one word which means 'help'.

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4. Look at the paragraph beginning "The clouds descended..."

What impression do you get about how the disciples were feeling?

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5. The disciples met to discuss their fears. Why do you think they had fears?

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6. Tick the correct box for each statement in the table.

	True	False
Flames of fire settled on the top of each of the disciples' heads.		
The disciples realised they could speak the same language.		
The gift of the Holy Spirit arrived quietly and calmly.		

The arrival of the Holy Spirit left the disciples shocked and amazed.		
The people on the streets understood what the disciples were saying, even though they were from Galilee.		

For those statements that are false, write them correctly.

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7. Why did Peter speak to the travellers in the streets?

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8. Why would the arrival of the gift of the Holy Spirit help the disciples to do their job?  
Explain in detail.

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9. Why is Pentecost recognised as the time of birth of the Christian Church?

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10. Write **three** things you have learned about Pentecost.

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# Answers

1. Name **two** things Jesus did after his resurrection.

**Accept two:**

**After his resurrection, Jesus conversed with the disciples, taught people about God's message of love, encouraged people to reflect on their behaviour in order to enter the kingdom of Heaven.**

2. What were the disciples going to do after Jesus had left them?

**After Jesus had left them, the disciples would have had the important job of travelling around, spreading the word of God to everyone.**

3. Find and copy one word which means 'help'.

**assist**

4. Look at the paragraph beginning "The clouds descended ..."

What impression do you get about how the disciples were feeling?

**Answers will vary, but based on the disciples having unanswered questions and feeling bewildered.**

5. The disciples met to discuss their fears. Why do you think they had fears?

**Answers will vary, but should be based on: Jesus had left them/they didn't understand what he meant regarding the gift from God/they were afraid of the job they were expected to do.**

6. Tick the correct box for each statement in the table.

	True	False
Flames of fire settled on the top of each of the disciples' heads.	✓	
The disciples realised they could speak the same language.		✓
The gift of the Holy Spirit arrived quietly and calmly.		✓
The arrival of the Holy Spirit left the disciples shocked and amazed.	✓	
The people on the streets understood what the disciples were saying, even though they were from Galilee.	✓	

**The disciples realised they were all speaking different languages.**

**The gift of the Holy Spirit arrived with a violent wind which filled the building they were in.**



7. Why did Peter speak to the travellers in the streets?  
**Peter spoke to the travellers in the streets to encourage them to repent their sins, ask for forgiveness and get baptised. He tried to tell them that they too could receive the Holy Spirit.**
8. Why would the arrival of the gift of the Holy Spirit help the disciples to do their job? Explain in detail.  
**The arrival of the gift of the Holy Spirit helped the disciples to do their job because they needed to travel to other countries and spread the word of God. This would have been very difficult if they could not speak the language of the countries they went to. They needed to tell people in their own language.**
9. Why is Pentecost recognised as the time of birth of the Christian Church?  
**Pentecost is recognised as the time of birth of the Christian Church because so many people were baptised that day and it was the day the disciples began spreading the word of God around the world.**
10. Write **three** things you have learned about Pentecost.  
**Pupil's own responses.**