

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CHURCH!

Welcome to **CELEBRATE at Home!** This resource is compiled to encourage and support you. We think that this is an opportunity to draw close to Jesus, and also build community together online. This edition focuses on the journey towards our celebration of Pentecost.

THE ROAD TO PENTECOST

We look forward to Christmas during Advent, and Lent leads up to Easter. It can help us to reflect on the upcoming celebration, to prepare our hearts and deepen our understanding of these important dates in the Church's calendar.

Come and join the journey from
Ascension to Pentecost with daily steps
especially during this exceptional time
where lots of us are missing routine and
need support with our regular prayer.
Knowing that Celebrators and many
others across the Church are
participating can help us to be more
united with one another – even when
we cannot meet together.

What's the story?

Catch up on all the action from the early Church by reading 3 chapters from the Book of Acts each day (4 on the last day) starting on May 22nd. Watch the overview on our website for some helpful context.



Baking is a fun way to engage everyone, whether in the making or in the eating! Create your own **campfire cupcakes** and as you do, take the chance to chat about what gifts you've been given by God.

Make **noise!** The Holy Spirit appeared to the disciples in the midst of "a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm" (Acts 2:2 NLT). Join in with the 8pm Clap for Carers on Thursdays to give thanks for all those serving others and being the hands and feet of Jesus. Get noisemakers; bells, whistles, pots and pans – whatever you have around the house and share the noisy Spirit with your neighbours.

Many of us decorated our doors with palms and other greenery to celebrate Palm Sunday. Get creative and make a flame or gather some **fire-coloured foliage** to mark the feast of Pentecost. This is not only a reminder for your household, but also a beautiful sign of faith to others.

WAYS TO CONNECT

Everything in this pack is designed to help you connect with God, your family and others. We have suggested ways to engage with the activities but it's completely up to you to use them however works best for you. All the accompanying links to online resources are found on our website.

Sometimes we have suggested resources that may be more or less appropriate for different age groups. Look out for the **depthometer** to get a gauge on how suitable the activity will be for the members of your family.

You will notice that we have ideas for things you can do as individuals, or with your whole family. You could also connect with other Celebrators and families online, using zoom, to discuss the theme, or something you have watched or read.









PENTECOST

Retreat Online



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Join the Ignatian prayer retreat,
'Waiting for the Spirit' kick starting on May 22nd.



Join people from all around the world in 9 days of prayer for renewal in the Spirit from May 22nd. You can find versions for both adults and children in the linked resources section on our

Novena to the Holy Spirit

website.

Join with these international PRAYER INITIATIVES to the Holy Spirit for renewal and unity

Thy Kingdom Come



CHARIS
Pentecost Vigil

Daily for 11 days



9PM (UK time)

Ascension - Pentecost



30th May

See the links on our website for more info



Refresh your memories of the Pentecost story with this reflective retelling for children. Thank you to one of our CELEBRATE at Home families (Abi, Dominic & Rebecca) for putting it together so beautifully.



Lectio Divina or Divine Reading is a method for prayerfully reflecting on the scriptures. Try it alongside your daily reading of Acts, or spend some time with Acts chapter 2 as the disciples experience the Holy Spirit. For a guide to the steps see the resource pack on our website.

The **Wild Goose Series** has 14 beautiful episodes inviting us to renewal in the Holy Spirit. Why not start with Episode 2: 'The Breath of God' which focuses on Pentecost. You can sign up for free and we recommend downloading the accompanying study guide for some questions and prompts.

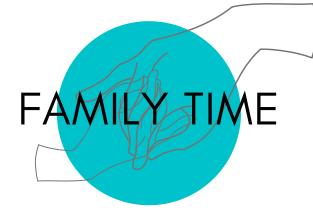
There are additional resource links on the website for videos to **inspire your personal prayer** reflection.



One of the gifts of the Holy Spirit is **prophecy**; sharing truth with "people for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation" as St. Paul writes in his letter to the Corinthians. We can do this at home by calling forth the gifts in our families.

Invite the Holy Spirit, asking him to share with you something about this person's gifts or unique character. Wait until you have a sense of his prompting, maybe through a word, phrase, image, scripture or even song lyrics coming to your mind. Once you have that sense, share it with that person to bless and encourage them, starting with, "I see in you...".

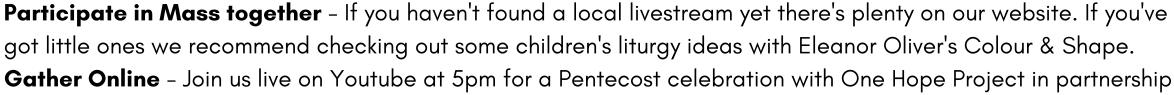
If you'd like a little more guidance, use the blessing cards in the resource pack. Print them out, colour them in and then ask God which fruit of the Spirit he'd like to pour out in a new way in that person's life. Then you can give them the blessing card as a reminder for their own prayer.



How can you celebrate Pentecost at home?

We know that lockdown has meant we've needed to be inventive with marking out special occasions, so we've put together suggestions for celebrating Pentecost Sunday in style. All resource links can be found on the **CELEBRATE website** in the download page for this pack.





with the NSC. There will be worship, a short input and an opportunity to pray for and receive the Holy Spirit. Keep an eye on social media for details.



Birthday Feast – Prepare a delicious dinner to celebrate the birthday of the Church! You may want to add your campfire cupcakes, or maybe even a big birthday cake with candles to symbolise the Holy Spirit's tongues of fire. Let your imagination run wild!



Share with Prayer - The gift of the Holy Spirit changes us, and the disciples found that they could not keep that to themselves. Why not use the prayer prompts in this pack to share words of encouragement with one another? Or maybe you could use some of the storytelling videos to share with people on your social media what Pentecost is all about? Don't forget to check out the message from Kid President about how goodness can be shared with others. **Popcorn** starts out as small, closed and hard corn kernels. The disciples were like those kernels in the upper room; they were afraid. But they were transformed by the heat of the Holy Spirit appearing as tongues of fire. Give your



Film Club - In this edition of CELEBRATE at Home we've selected films on the theme of sharing goodness with others, using our God-given gifts and recognising that it only takes one or a few people to make a big impact - just like the disciples. Set up your movie theatre (or lounge..!) with cushions, pass out the tickets and enjoy!



Sing (U) Available to buy on Amazon



kernels some heat and watch them expand and transform! Now you're ready for...

Good Sam (PG) Netflix



Military Wives (12A)
Read the CCR film review
on their website
Available to buy on Amazon



CELEBRATE runs Catholic Charismatic, faith-filled, fun events for all ages, combining good Christian teaching, inspirational speakers and celebration of the liturgy, all in the power of the Holy Spirit. Young and old alike join together in a vibrant atmosphere to celebrate the love of God.

You can find more information and resources like this on our website

www.celebrateconference.org

We'd love to hear from you! Join the CELEBRATE community on our **Facebook**, or get in touch via email: **info@celebrateconference.org**