

**What should I already know?**

- Christians believe that Jesus started the ‘Kingdom of God’.
- Christians believe Jesus is still alive, and rules in their hearts and lives by the Holy Spirit, if they let him.
- Christians believe that after Jesus returned to be with God, he sent the Holy Spirit at Pentecost to help the church to make Jesus’ invisible Kingdom visible by living lives that reflect the love of God.
- Christians celebrate Pentecost as the beginning of the church.

**Key Vocabulary and Definitions**

<b>Pentecost</b>	The Christian festival celebrating the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples of Jesus, 50 days after the resurrection and on the 7th Sunday after Easter.
<b>Resurrection</b>	Bringing something or someone back from the dead. Christians believe Jesus was resurrected.
<b>Ascension</b>	The ascent of Jesus to heaven on the 40th day after the resurrection.
<b>Disciples</b>	Jesus’ close friends and followers.
<b>Holy Spirit</b>	The 3rd person of the Trinity. A part of God.
<b>Tongues</b>	languages



**Key questions**

- ♦ Who or what do Christians think the Holy Spirit is?
- ♦ Why is the spirit like the wind? Like a flame?
- ♦ Why do the disciples appear drunk?
- ♦ Why did the people who listened come from 15 different countries?
- ♦ Why is the Holy Spirit important now?
- ♦ What links can you make between the description of the day of Pentecost in Acts 2, the Holy Spirit and the Kingdom of God, and how Christians live their whole lives in their church communities?

## PENTECOST – BIRTHDAY OF THE CHURCH

The Christian holy day of Pentecost, which is celebrated fifty days after Easter Sunday, 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.

### **Pentecost Symbols**

The symbols of Pentecost are those of the Holy Spirit and include flames, wind, the breath of God and a dove.



### The 12 disciples

Thomas, Simon the Zealot, Philip, Simon Peter, Matthias, Matthew, Jude, Judas Iscariot, John, James, Son of Alphaeus, James, Son of Zebedee, Bartholomew, and Andrew.

### Celebrating Pentecost

Pentecost is a happy festival. Ministers in church often wear robes with red in the design as a symbol of the flames in which the Holy Spirit came to earth.

