

~ Adult Faith Reflection Exercise ~

15. Pentecost

Environment Suggestions: a red cloth for the prayer table, a Bible, cross, candle and if possible-a white dove. Card stock with the word 'welcome' in many languages would reinforce the spirit of the feast.

Introduction:

We end the 50 days of Easter with the joyous celebration of Pentecost. Let's watch this creative video to remind us of the details of this most holy and joyous occasion in the liturgical calendar.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J5tr4pqWIo4ost>

Opening Prayer:

† In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Holy and loving God, You sent Your spirit to renew the face of the earth and our hearts. Help us to fully embrace the magnitude of Pentecost and our calling to further the spread of the Good News throughout our lives. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Scripture:

(Acts 2: 1-13)

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

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. 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." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

*The Word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God.*

Silence:

Faith Sharing and Guiding Questions:

1. In your own formation as a Catholic Christian, what does the Holy Spirit mean to you as a person of faith?
2. Reflecting on the feast of 'Pentecost', what does this say to your own vocation as a Catholic educator and as a Christian?

Group plenary sharing of thoughts about Pentecost and the Holy Spirit active in our lives and communities.

"Those in whom the Spirit comes to live are God's new Temple. They are, individually and corporately, places where heaven and earth meet."

— N.T. Wright, *Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense*

Closing Prayer:

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful and kindle in them the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. *Amen*

† In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Closing Hymn:

You Have Anointed Me by Gary Daigle, Gather #676