



YEAR

4

UNIT J

PENTECOST

ABOUT THE UNIT

In this unit the children will study the story of Pentecost and identify the effects that it had upon the disciples. They will learn about the missionary activity of the Apostles and some prayers of the Holy Spirit.

WHERE THE UNIT FITS IN

This unit builds on previous work in Year 3 when the children studied the Story of Pentecost in the Acts of the Apostles.

PRIOR LEARNING

It would be helpful if the children have:

- some knowledge of the Church's celebration of the Feast of Pentecost.

SKILLS

Reading skills, research skills, speaking and listening, empathetic writing, interpreting symbolism, map work.

VOCABULARY

Pentecost, Holy Spirit, Acts of the Apostles, languages, Holy Orders, Oil of Chrism, Baptism, Confirmation.

ASSESSMENT

At the end of this unit:

	A.T.1	A.T.2
Most children will know the story of Pentecost from the Acts of the Apostles. They will understand that the gift of the Holy Spirit transformed the lives of the Apostles and enabled them to proclaim the Good News. They will be able to identify the presence of the Holy Spirit in some of the Sacraments of the Church.	3a 3b 3c	3b 3c
Less able children will know parts of the story of Pentecost and understand that Christians believe that the Holy Spirit works in their lives today.	2a 2b	2b 2c
More able children will know about the presence and activity of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the Apostles and saints of the Church. They will understand why the gift of the Holy Spirit is given in the Sacraments that Christians receive.	3b 3c 4a 4b	3b 3c 4a

PROGRAMME OF STUDY

TEACHING STRATEGIES

R2 Hear, read and explore the Gospel accounts of key events in the life of Jesus: Ascension.

- Read the story of the Ascension into heaven.
- Create pictures of the Apostles with captions expressing their thoughts at the Ascension.
- Explain that the days between the Ascension and Pentecost are days when the Church prepares to celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit.

C4 The Church's celebrations of significant events in the life of Jesus

- Read the story of the Pentecost from the Acts of the Apostles. Use drama and percussion for sound effects.
- Where did all the people come from who heard the apostles speaking about Jesus on Pentecost day? Locate places on the map.
- Create a chat show interview of the Apostles and what happens to them on Pentecost morning.
- The Holy Spirit enabled the Apostles to speak in different languages. Why do you think that the gift of languages was so important to the disciples? What languages were they able to speak in?
- What was the Good News the Apostles had to share?
- Find out about some of the different places the disciples went in order to preach the Good News.

Ch1 The life of the Church in other parts of the world: Universal saints.

- Since the time of the Apostles people have been spreading the Good News throughout the World.
- Research the lives of different saints from different parts of the World. In what ways have they proclaimed the Good News about Christ?
- How has the Holy Spirit inspired and directed their lives?
- Children to create some biographies of the saints they have studied and explain how the Holy Spirit has worked through the lives of these individuals.
- Why do you think the lives of the saints can help those who follow Christ today?
- Create class displays highlighting different parts of the world the saints are from.

C6 Signs and symbols and their significance in liturgy.

- Today in the Sacraments the Church celebrates the presence of the Holy Spirit.
- Explain to the children that in the celebration of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders Christians are anointed with the Oil of Chrism.
- Think about the qualities of oil (e.g. It can beautify and heal, make things work, make food pleasant, strengthen and protect).
- Does the Holy Spirit have some of these qualities? Which are the most important?
- Talk with the children about the anointing with Chrism at Baptism, Confirmation and in Holy Orders as being associated with the giving of the Holy Spirit.

- In the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments we find God's Holy Spirit already present. Children to find the following scripture passages and discuss what they say about the Holy Spirit:
Genesis 1: 1-2
Judges 11
Isaiah 61:1-9
Luke 1: 34-36
Matthew 3: 13-17
Luke 4: 1-2
Luke 4: 18-20

- Learn a small selection of Prayers and songs in different languages.
- Introduce children to the words of the Prayer "Come Holy Spirit". Explore and discuss the meaning of some of the words.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

R2 That God his Father prepared the People of Israel for the coming of Jesus; that Jesus was born a Jew and lived in faithful observance of Jewish tradition; that people's lives were changed by their response to Jesus.

C4 A developing awareness of the customs and traditions of major liturgical feasts and seasons.

- Know and retell the story of Pentecost.
- Understand that the gift of languages enabled the Apostles to spread the Good News all over the world.
- Be able to imagine the Apostles thoughts and reactions on the day of Pentecost.

Ch1 That the Church is world wide and multicultural.

- Know about the lives of some saints from different parts of the world.
- Understand that the Holy Spirit helped them to be followers of Christ.
- Be able to discuss and write about the lives of some saints and why they are important role models for followers of Christ today.

C6 Of the significance and power of signs and symbols for Christians around the world.

- Know that the Oil of Chrism symbolises the giving of the Holy Spirit in the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Ordination

- Know some stories of people in the Old and New Testament who were aware of the presence of the Holy Spirit.

- Know some prayers and religious songs in other languages.
- Understand that this reminds us that the Church is universal and that belief in Christ is expressed in many tongues.
- Explore the meaning of some of the words of the Church's prayer to the Holy Spirit.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

ICT skills and Internet Research and book research on the lives of Saints will be very helpful during this unit.

RELATED SCRIPTURE

Acts 1: 1-4 – The Ascension of Jesus into Heaven

Lk. 16: 19-20

Acts 2: 1-16 – The Story of Pentecost

Other texts are identified in the teaching strategies.

OTHER LINKS

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

- Pray some of the prayers of the Church in different languages as a sign that people throughout the world praise God.
- Create prayers to the Holy Spirit to be used at this time.
- Use the prayer “Come Holy Spirit”.
- Explore the coming of the Holy Spirit through drama and dance in Collective Worship.
- Pray for those to be Confirmed or ordained to the Priesthood with the anointing of the Oil of Chrism.

EVALUATION

What went well?

Which areas of planning need to be developed/adapted next time?

What needs to be revisited/developed in a later unit?