

Pentecost Sunday

8th June 2025



The coming of the Spirit with Power

Main Point:

Pentecost marks the powerful arrival of the Holy Spirit, transforming fearful disciples into bold witnesses and birthing the Church through divine gifts that guide and sustain believers. These gifts—wisdom, courage, love, and more—equip us to navigate life's challenges, serve others, and deepen our relationship with God, reminding us we are never alone on the journey.

Prayer

Lord of heaven and earth, we gather this morning to hear your message. Thank you for your word that enables us to know you and understand what you require of us. We thank you for your Son, the living word who reveals you to us.

We thank you for the Holy Spirit, who works powerfully through us. We pray that you will give us wisdom and understanding, apply this message to our hearts and strengthen us for the weeks ahead as we live out our lives in love and unity with the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We celebrate so many amazing events in the life of our Lord, it's hard to decide which is the most significant. Christmas....Easter Day.....the season of Lent and Advent, the list goes on and on.

I guess Pentecost is pretty significant as it commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, marking the beginning of the Church and the birth of the Christian faith. Pentecost is celebrated fifty days after Easter Sunday and signifies the Holy Spirit's power and presence within the Church.

As I was reflecting on the day of Pentecost, I tried to imagine how the disciples might have felt on that day. They were still afraid that the Roman and Jewish Leaders might come after them and they too would be persecuted. They were so afraid that they seldom went out during the day. They were apprehensive and not sure of their future following the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, where was this story of Jesus Christ the Messiah going for them, what would happen next ?

I would like you to imagine with me.....make yourself comfortable.....relax and clear your head.....take some slow deep breaths. Visualise the disciples sitting together, perhaps praying, quietly sharing their concerns and their future, talking about Jesus and the time they shared together, nothing was the same for them now, all their dreams had been shattered at the crucifixion.

The house would have been closed up as they were still afraid of the authorities. Therefore the house would have been warm, cosy and smelling of rich fragrant cooking spices from the night before.

When suddenly.... there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.

And there appeared to them, tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them in the upper room, the Apostles together with the women and Mary. This event marked the birth of the Church and it is from there that the Apostles went forth with boldness sharing the Good News.

The Disciples were filled with the fruits or gifts of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost and were also blessed with the gift of tongues as they preached the Gospel throughout the land.

The fruits of the Holy Spirit include the gift of wisdom, this gift allows for a deeper understanding of God's plan and purpose for us, enabling us as individuals and collectively to discern the best course of action in all circumstances.

The gift of understanding enables us to comprehend the truths of our faith and the deeper meaning of God's revelation to us, and therefore developing a deeper relationship with him.

The gift of right judgement or counsel provides us with the ability to give wise advice and make good decisions, especially in difficult situations.

The gift of fortitude or courage gives us the strength and courage to persevere in the face of adversity, enabling individuals to stand firm in their faith and live out their Christian calling. The gift of knowledge helps us to understand God's will for us in our daily lives, fostering a deeper appreciation for his presence and guidance.

The gift of reverence for God and a love for him that inspires devotion and a desire to please him in all that we do.

And finally the gift of wonder or awe, so often called fear of the Lord. However it really means a profound awe and respect for God, leading to humility and a commitment to holiness.

In Paul's letter to the Galatians he also mentions the fruits of the Holy Spirit as the virtues of, love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.

As you will notice all of these gifts are linked and intertwined, they certainly assist us to respond to the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives, to make good choices and to Serve God and others, and to deepen our relationship with God. These gifts enable us to transcend the limitations of human reason and human nature and to participate in the very life of our God as Christ promised us.

These spiritual gifts are divine abilities given by God to equip believers for service and the building up of our Church. They are supernatural graces that empower us as individuals and collectively, to fulfill God's mission here on earth.

How blessed are we as we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit, we are provided with a blue print for life. We as Christians are not given an easy passage as we fumble along on our Christian journey, through deep dark valleys and amazing mountain top experiences, falling down and getting up again often through very rocky terrain.

The one thing we have through all of our life experiences are these amazing gifts that enable us to overcome whatever comes our way in this life. We have a constant companion in our Lord, who travel these paths with us, he knows and understands every step of the way and will never desert us in times of trouble or ever, and he celebrates with us in times of joy.

Hold firmly to this amazing gift and you will not be disappointed, the Lord also sends his many helpers, His earthly hands and feet to be our companions on the way, look out for them they appear in all sorts of guises.

So let us give thanks that we can come together as a holy family and continue to reflect on how we use these gifts of the Holy Spirit to support each other and spread the Good News as we are called to do in Jesus name. Come Holy Spirit come. Amen

Closing Prayer:

Come, Holy Spirit, fill our hearts and renew our strength.
Thank You for the precious gifts You pour into our lives—gifts that guide, comfort, and empower us to live with purpose and love.
As we go from this place, help us to walk boldly in faith, to serve with joy, and to shine Your light in the world around us.
Remind us daily that we are never alone, for You are our constant companion—our Helper, our Guide, and our Friend. May we use the gifts You've given us to build up Your Church, support one another, and proclaim the Good News of Jesus wherever we go. Come, Holy Spirit, come. Amen.

Reflection Questions

Here are five personal reflection questions to help deepen engagement with the message of Pentecost and the gifts of the Holy Spirit:

1. Which gift of the Holy Spirit do I most recognise in my life right now, and how is it helping me in my faith journey?
2. Are there any areas of fear or uncertainty in my life where I need to invite the Holy Spirit's strength and guidance?
3. How have I seen the fruits of the Spirit—like love, patience, or kindness—at work in my relationships with others?
4. In what ways am I using the gifts God has given me to serve others and build up the Church?
5. How can I become more aware of the Holy Spirit's presence and prompting in my daily life?

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Hold firmly to this amazing gift and you will not be disappointed, the Lord also sends his many helpers, His earthly hands and feet to be our companions on the way, look out for them they appear in all sorts of guises.

So let us give thanks that we can come together as a holy family and continue to reflect on how we use these gifts of the Holy Spirit to support each other and spread the Good News as we are called to do in Jesus name. Come Holy Spirit come. Amen

Closing Prayer:

Come, Holy Spirit, fill our hearts and renew our strength.
Thank You for the precious gifts You pour into our lives—gifts that guide, comfort, and empower us to live with purpose and love.
As we go from this place, help us to walk boldly in faith, to serve with joy, and to shine Your light in the world around us.
Remind us daily that we are never alone, for You are our constant companion—our Helper, our Guide, and our Friend. May we use the gifts You've given us to build up Your Church, support one another, and proclaim the Good News of Jesus wherever we go. Come, Holy Spirit, come. Amen.

Reflection Questions

Here are five personal reflection questions to help deepen engagement with the message of Pentecost and the gifts of the Holy Spirit:

1. Which gift of the Holy Spirit do I most recognise in my life right now, and how is it helping me in my faith journey?
2. Are there any areas of fear or uncertainty in my life where I need to invite the Holy Spirit's strength and guidance?
3. How have I seen the fruits of the Spirit—like love, patience, or kindness—at work in my relationships with others?
4. In what ways am I using the gifts God has given me to serve others and build up the Church?
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Pentecost Sunday

8th June 2025



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Prayer

Lord of heaven and earth, we gather this morning to hear your message. Thank you for your word that enables us to know you and understand what you require of us. We thank you for your Son, the living word who reveals you to us.

We thank you for the Holy Spirit, who works powerfully through us. We pray that you will give us wisdom and understanding, apply this message to our hearts and strengthen us for the weeks ahead as we live out our lives in love and unity with the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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As I was reflecting on the day of Pentecost, I tried to imagine how the disciples might have felt on that day. They were still afraid that the Roman and Jewish Leaders might come after them and they too would be persecuted. They were so afraid that they seldom went out during the day. They were apprehensive and not sure of their future following the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, where was this story of Jesus Christ the Messiah going for them, what would happen next ?

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The house would have been closed up as they were still afraid of the authorities. Therefore the house would have been warm, cosy and smelling of rich fragrant cooking spices from the night before.

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The Disciples were filled with the fruits or gifts of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost and were also blessed with the gift of tongues as they preached the Gospel throughout the land.

The fruits of the Holy Spirit include the gift of wisdom, this gift allows for a deeper understanding of God's plan and purpose for us, enabling us as individuals and collectively to discern the best course of action in all circumstances.

The gift of understanding enables us to comprehend the truths of our faith and the deeper meaning of God's revelation to us, and therefore developing a deeper relationship with him.

The gift of right judgement or counsel provides us with the ability to give wise advice and make good decisions, especially in difficult situations.

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The gift of reverence for God and a love for him that inspires devotion and a desire to please him in all that we do.

And finally the gift of wonder or awe, so often called fear of the Lord. However it really means a profound awe and respect for God, leading to humility and a commitment to holiness.

In Paul's letter to the Galatians he also mentions the fruits of the Holy Spirit as the virtues of, love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.

As you will notice all of these gifts are linked and intertwined, they certainly assist us to respond to the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives, to make good choices and to Serve God and others, and to deepen our relationship with God. These gifts enable us to transcend the limitations of human reason and human nature and to participate in the very life of our God as Christ promised us.

These spiritual gifts are divine abilities given by God to equip believers for service and the building up of our Church. They are supernatural graces that empower us as individuals and collectively, to fulfill God's mission here on earth.

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The Disciples were filled with the fruits or gifts of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost and were also blessed with the gift of tongues as they preached the Gospel throughout the land.

The fruits of the Holy Spirit include the gift of wisdom, this gift allows for a deeper understanding of God's plan and purpose for us, enabling us as individuals and collectively to discern the best course of action in all circumstances.

The gift of understanding enables us to comprehend the truths of our faith and the deeper meaning of God's revelation to us, and therefore developing a deeper relationship with him.

The gift of right judgement or counsel provides us with the ability to give wise advice and make good decisions, especially in difficult situations.

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And finally the gift of wonder or awe, so often called fear of the Lord. However it really means a profound awe and respect for God, leading to humility and a commitment to holiness.

In Paul's letter to the Galatians he also mentions the fruits of the Holy Spirit as the virtues of, love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.

As you will notice all of these gifts are linked and intertwined, they certainly assist us to respond to the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives, to make good choices and to Serve God and others, and to deepen our relationship with God. These gifts enable us to transcend the limitations of human reason and human nature and to participate in the very life of our God as Christ promised us.

These spiritual gifts are divine abilities given by God to equip believers for service and the building up of our Church. They are supernatural graces that empower us as individuals and collectively, to fulfill God's mission here on earth.

How blessed are we as we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit, we are provided with a blue print for life. We as Christians are not given an easy passage as we fumble along on our Christian journey, through deep dark valleys and amazing mountain top experiences, falling down and getting up again often through very rocky terrain.

The one thing we have through all of our life experiences are these amazing gifts that enable us to overcome whatever comes our way in this life. We have a constant companion in our Lord, who travel these paths with us, he knows and understands every step of the way and will never desert us in times of trouble or ever, and he celebrates with us in times of joy.

Hold firmly to this amazing gift and you will not be disappointed, the Lord also sends his many helpers, His earthly hands and feet to be our companions on the way, look out for them they appear in all sorts of guises.

So let us give thanks that we can come together as a holy family and continue to reflect on how we use these gifts of the Holy Spirit to support each other and spread the Good News as we are called to do in Jesus name. Come Holy Spirit come. Amen

Closing Prayer:

Come, Holy Spirit, fill our hearts and renew our strength.
Thank You for the precious gifts You pour into our lives—gifts that guide, comfort, and empower us to live with purpose and love.
As we go from this place, help us to walk boldly in faith, to serve with joy, and to shine Your light in the world around us.
Remind us daily that we are never alone, for You are our constant companion—our Helper, our Guide, and our Friend. May we use the gifts You've given us to build up Your Church, support one another, and proclaim the Good News of Jesus wherever we go. Come, Holy Spirit, come. Amen.

Reflection Questions

Here are five personal reflection questions to help deepen engagement with the message of Pentecost and the gifts of the Holy Spirit:

1. Which gift of the Holy Spirit do I most recognise in my life right now, and how is it helping me in my faith journey?
2. Are there any areas of fear or uncertainty in my life where I need to invite the Holy Spirit's strength and guidance?
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Pentecost Sunday

8th June 2025



The coming of the Spirit with Power

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Prayer

Lord of heaven and earth, we gather this morning to hear your message. Thank you for your word that enables us to know you and understand what you require of us. We thank you for your Son, the living word who reveals you to us.

We thank you for the Holy Spirit, who works powerfully through us. We pray that you will give us wisdom and understanding, apply this message to our hearts and strengthen us for the weeks ahead as we live out our lives in love and unity with the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We celebrate so many amazing events in the life of our Lord, it's hard to decide which is the most significant. Christmas....Easter Day.....the season of Lent and Advent, the list goes on and on.

I guess Pentecost is pretty significant as it commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, marking the beginning of the Church and the birth of the Christian faith. Pentecost is celebrated fifty days after Easter Sunday and signifies the Holy Spirit's power and presence within the Church.

As I was reflecting on the day of Pentecost, I tried to imagine how the disciples might have felt on that day. They were still afraid that the Roman and Jewish Leaders might come after them and they too would be persecuted. They were so afraid that they seldom went out during the day. They were apprehensive and not sure of their future following the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, where was this story of Jesus Christ the Messiah going for them, what would happen next ?

I would like you to imagine with me.....make yourself comfortable.....relax and clear your head.....take some slow deep breaths. Visualise the disciples sitting together, perhaps praying, quietly sharing their concerns and their future, talking about Jesus and the time they shared together, nothing was the same for them now, all their dreams had been shattered at the crucifixion.

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