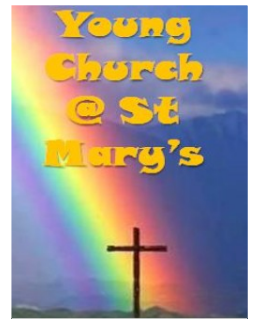


'Pentecost' – Young and Youth Church Sunday 31st May 2020



1) Introduction:

Hi everyone at St Mary's young and youth church, we hope you are all well and happy. It has been over eight weeks since church had to close and we miss seeing your lovely faces. Rest assured you are all in our thoughts and prayers and we hope you find some joy in these weekly online sessions.

Today's 'social distance' young and youth church is all about...Pentecost.

Pentecost was a harvest festival 50 days after Passover. It has come to be recognised as the birth of the Church, and like all births, there is always a period of waiting; preparation; questions and life changing experiences. The disciples' had no idea what was ahead of them and why Jesus had told them not to leave Jerusalem.

In Luke 24:49 Jesus says, "I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

The disciples are being encouraged to wait and prepare. How would we feel at this point, having recently experienced the events of Easter and Jesus' ascension? Some of the disciples would be eager to get on with the job, whilst others were probably a little afraid of what was expected of them and what was going to happen. Whatever their feelings they were there in Jerusalem, waiting for the words of Jesus to be fulfilled.

Today lets show the joy and happiness that a birthday brings. We want you to learn about who the Holy Spirit is and show how the events of Pentecost transformed the lives of the disciples. As Christians, we need the help of the Holy Spirit, so when we ask Jesus into our lives the Holy Spirit becomes part of us so we have God with us all the time.

2) Warm up game 'Feel the wind'.

Equipment needed:

A long table or flat surface.

Plastic disposable cup and a straw.

Stand at one end of a table or flat surface. On the word 'blow' place your cup upside down on the table and, using the straw, blow the cup to the other end of the table without touching the cup with straw.

NB: You can play this as a race if you have someone at home to play with you.

The Point: Just for fun. A link to wind and the power of the flow of its movement.

forgiveness - if you miss the ball, you don't have to stay on one knee forever.

3) Digging in: – 'What a surprise!'

Equipment needed:

-Access to the Internet to play the videos and listen to the audio retelling.

-PDF Day of the Pentecost Script. If using this resource you may want to gather –

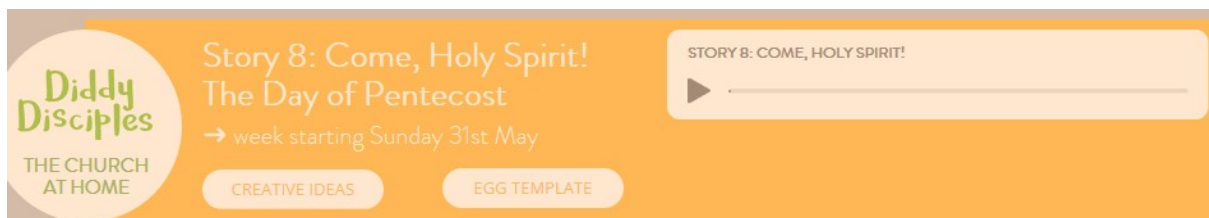
1. A plate to represent the fact that the disciples had been waiting together in the upper room and would have shared a meal together during their stay in Jerusalem; 2. A small battery operated t-light, or torch to represent the flame that appeared to rest above the disciples' heads on the day of Pentecost; 3. A translation dictionary e.g French/English to represent the fact that when the Holy Spirit was given to the disciples they were able to speak in many languages so that many people could hear the good news. 4. A label that says "To all my friends, "Happy Birthday" A box to place the above items in and party poppers

1) First, watch one the video – The Holy Spirit Comes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KwJJJoSGw84>

2) For younger children you may want to join in with some active reading. Here you can listen to the story of the 'Come, Holy Spirit' and join in with actions, phrases and even a singing verse.

<https://www.diddydisciples.org/storytellingforaprilandmay>



3) Now, print the PDF Script or Read from a device the play script linked to Acts 2: 1-6. Follow the information on the document.

(Click Here for the PDF of Day of the Pentecost Script)

3) Take away: 'Happy Birthday Church'

Equipment needed:

A4 sheet of coloured card folded into an A5 size card
Red, yellow and orange tissue cut into flame shapes (optional)
Coloured pens and pencils
Glue.

Craft idea 1 – On the A5 card, write Happy Birthday Church on the front. Decorate it with the flame tissue shapes or draw and colour flames.

Write a message inside:-

- Thank you for telling me about Jesus.
- Thank you for the Holy Spirit, who helps me all the time.
- Thank you that the Holy Spirit is as active today as He was at Pentecost.

Pentecost celebrates the birthday of the whole Christian Church around the world. The church is the people, not necessarily the building that they meet inside.

4) Close prayer and St Mary's key reflections:

- 1) What does this teach us about God/Jesus/Holy Spirit?
- 2) What do we need to do (this week)?



Parachute Prayer:

Equipment:

Parachute; pieces of paper; pencils/pens

On a piece of paper draw or write a prayer to ask for ways that you can share the story of Jesus with their friends. Think about how the Holy Spirit equipped the disciples. Ask yourself this question it might help you.

- How can we tell our friends about Jesus?
- Ask your friends to come to church when we reopen.
- Talk to their friends about the story they had at on line church this week.
- To be kind and show God's love to those you meet.
- Not to hurt or say unkind things to each other, because Jesus wants us to love our friends.

When you have finished get the parachute out and release it saying Amen. The Holy Spirit came to the disciples like a wind, lift the parachute up and feel the breeze.

The Point: to help relate the connection between the Holy Spirit coming and how we can tell others about Jesus

Links to other ways to worship:

<https://www.diddydisciples.org/storytellingforaprilandmay>



Diddy Disciples 'church at home' is a creative and playful worship and Bible storytelling on line resource for babies, toddlers and young children. This is a great resources for all our Young Church children, so we thought we would share.

<https://www.diddydisciples.org/thechurchathome>