



Christians believe that the spirit of God is active in each person and in a special way in the community of believers which is the Church.

The Feast of Pentecost is the celebration both of the gift of God's Holy Spirit and the trust God places in people to be witnesses in the world.

'When the work which the Father gave the Son to do on earth was accomplished, the Holy Spirit was sent on the day of Pentecost in order that he might continually sanctify the church.' Then the church was openly displayed to the crowds and the spread of the gospel among the nations, through preaching, was begun.



WITNESSES

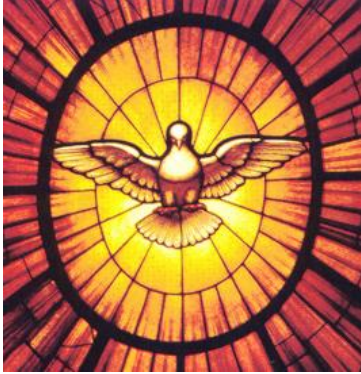
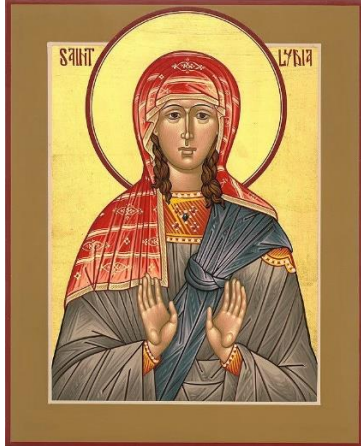

Year 6 Topic 7


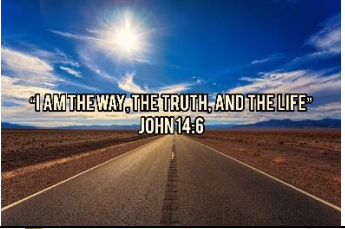



OUR BIG QUESTION
Do you need courage to be a witness?

REFLECTION
Father, pour out your Spirit upon your people, and grant us a new vision of your glory, a new faithfulness to your Word and a new consecration to your service, that your love may grow among us, and your kingdom come: through Christ our Lord. Amen.

KEY VOCABULARY
Holy Spirit Witnesses
martyrs courage
truth inspiration Good News

SCRIPTURE
Jesus appears to His disciples- Luke 24: 44-49
The Ascension of Jesus -Matthew 28: 16-20
Jesus prepares the disciples for their mission- Acts 1: 6-14
"He has created us for a life of good deeds, which He has already prepared for us to do" - Ephesians 2: 10

<u>Definitions</u>	<u>Explanation & Links</u>	<u>Related images</u>
<p>Holy Spirit</p>	<p>The Holy Spirit is the power of God at work on the Earth. In the scriptures, it is often depicted as wind, fire or in the form of a dove. It is through the power and workings of the Holy Spirit that God is known today and how Catholics can know what God wants them to do.</p> <p>The gifts of the Holy Spirit are: wisdom, knowledge, counsel, fortitude, understanding, piety and fear of the Lord.</p> <p>The fruits of the spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.</p> <p>To bare witness to God, people are filled with the Holy Spirit which provides them with the strength and courage to fulfil their mission as followers of Jesus. In the Pentecost story, the Holy Spirit enabled the disciples to go out and speak in tongues, spreading the Word of the Lord to all those around them.</p>	
<p>Witnesses</p>	<p>As followers of the Lord Jesus, we are called to serve as ‘witnesses’ to our faith. To be a witness to Christ is to demonstrate by our words, actions and attitude the sacred mystery that we have ‘seen’, heard and believe in our hearts about the Lord who has forgiven our sins and offered us eternal life.</p> <p>The disciples were some of the first witnesses, along with St. Lydia. They dedicated their lives to following Jesus and educating others about him, even though it put them at risk.</p> <p>A modern-day witness is someone who dedicates their lives to serving as the Lord’s ambassador in the world today. It is someone who renders testimony to what we have ‘seen’ in their hearts, and not necessarily with their physical eyes. Mrs Mericho and Fr. Balashowry are two examples of modern-day witnesses who have testified to their faith through their actions.</p>	
<p>Martyrs</p>	<p>A martyr is a person who is killed because of their belief in Jesus Christ. St. Stephen is proclaimed as the first martyr of Christianity who angered members of various synagogues by his teachings.</p>	

<p>Courage</p>	<p>The quality of mind or spirit that enables a person to face difficulty, danger and pain without fear.</p>	
<p>Truth</p>	<p>Truth is a verified or indisputable fact. We believe as Christians the truth is laid out in the Bible. We believe every answer to life and the truth on any topic is laid out in there.</p> <p>Jesus told us an indisputable fact when he said, “I am the Son of God. I am the way, the truth and the life.” (John 14:6)</p>	
<p>Inspiration</p>	<p>A special influence of a divinity on the minds of human beings. When Christians refer to the Bible as being inspired by God, they are referring to the belief that it contains the word of God. The word ‘inspired’ can be translated to ‘God breathed’, and so the Bible is special and unique because it is God’s word.</p>	
<p>Good News</p>	<p>The word ‘Gospel’ can be translated to ‘Good News’. The term implies and includes salvation – literally meaning the message that saves us.</p>	
<p>The Ascension</p>	<p>The belief that Jesus ascended into heaven on the 40th day after his resurrection (Easter Sunday). Jesus left the Earth by being taken up, body and soul, to re-join God the Father. It was witnessed by Jesus’ eleven remaining apostles.</p>	
<p>Pentecost</p>	<p>Pentecost is celebrated by Christians on the 50th day from Easter Sunday. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ whilst they were in Jerusalem. The power of the Spirit enabled them to talk in foreign languages they had never known so that they could share the Gospel with people from “every nation under heaven” (Acts 2:21).</p>	