

We Celebrate Pentecost

Unit 5
Chapter
18

Grade 1

Background: Pentecost

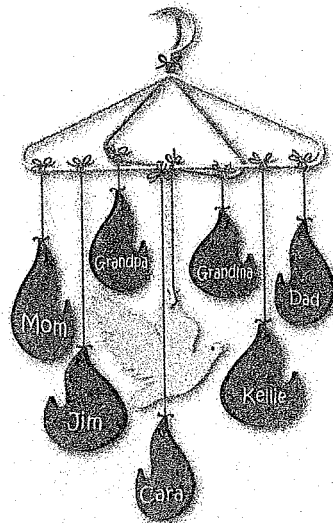
In the Jewish tradition, Pentecost is a harvest festival celebrated in thanks to God for the blessing of fruit and crops. It is appropriate that the Holy Spirit came to the Apostles on Pentecost and inspired them to preach the Good News about Jesus. The Church they founded is truly the harvest that Jesus planted. The Apostles are the laborers sent by God to bring in the harvest.

The Holy Spirit transformed them into passionate proclaimers of God's Word. They were fearless in preaching to people wherever they went. They welcomed people of all races, languages, and abilities to be part of the Church.

The Holy Spirit continues to be with the Church today. Filled with this Spirit, we can be truly *catholic*. We too can reach out to people of all races, languages, and abilities. We can accept all people as our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Getting Ready

1. Before introducing Chapter 18 to your child, read the Take Home pages 203 and 204 of your child's book. Gather the family at a convenient time during the week to participate in the Activity on page 203.
2. With your child, read about Saint Francis Xavier, the Saint of the Week. Learn more about him at SaintsResource.com.
3. Invite your child to look at the illustration in the Scripture Background section on page 204. Explain that the flame is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. Later, take personal time to read the Scripture Background section and the suggested Scripture passage.
4. Read aloud or summarize for your child the Our Catholic Tradition information on how Pentecost is celebrated throughout the world. Talk about how your parish celebrates Pentecost Sunday.



Focus

The Church welcomes people of all races, languages, and abilities. We try to live in peace with everyone.

The Church Prays

For, bringing your Paschal Mystery to completion, you bestowed the Holy Spirit today on those you made your adopted children by uniting them to your Only Begotten Son. This same Spirit, as the Church came to birth, opened to all peoples the knowledge of God and brought together the many languages of the earth in profession of the one faith. Therefore, overcome with paschal joy, every land, every people exults in your praise . . .

Preface, Pentecost Sunday
Roman Missal

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 will renew the face of the earth.
Amen.

Exploring the Chapter

Share

1. Light the candle. Pray aloud the Scripture verse at the top of page 205. Sing a refrain of praise to the Holy Spirit or an Alleluia.
2. Read aloud the Share section. Invite your child to write in the month and day of his or her birthday.
3. Read aloud the directions to the first part of the Activity. Give your child time to circle his or her choices. Then read the second part of the directions and give your child time to create his or her drawing.

Hear and Believe

4. Look together at the illustration on pages 206 and 207. It shows Jesus' mother, Mary, and his followers gathered in a house in Jerusalem. Help your child locate Jerusalem on the map on page 20 of his or her book.
5. Read aloud *The Church's Birthday*. Invite your child to describe the sights and sounds mentioned in the story. Ask your child what happened when the Apostles began to tell everyone about Jesus. *(Even though they spoke different languages, the people understood the Apostles.)*
6. Read aloud Pentecost Sunday and the We Believe statement at the top of page 207. Recall what the Holy Spirit helped Jesus' followers do and invite your child to talk about what the Holy Spirit helps us do today.
7. Review with your child the Faith Word, **Pentecost Sunday**, and invite your child to write the word in the Write-in Glossary in the back of his or her book.
8. Read aloud *Our Church Teaches*.

Respond

9. Take a few moments to look at the illustration on page 208. The priest is wearing red vestments because red is the color of Pentecost Sunday. The priest and the children are carrying flags from many countries. Then read aloud *The Special Sunday*. Discuss the question at the end of the story.
10. Read aloud the directions to Activity 1 at the top of page 209 and give your child time to complete the activity.
11. Read aloud the directions to Activity 2. Work with your child to complete the activity and discuss your choices.
12. Explain that today's prayer is a prayer of quiet meditation. Invite your child to close his or her eyes and to be still. Then lead *A Quiet Prayer* on page 210.
13. Have your child complete the Chapter Review. See page 48 of this guide for the answer key.
14. Work with your child to complete *Faith in Action* on page 212. It highlights the Catholic Social Teaching of **Life in Community (Call to Family, Community, and Participation)**.

We really liked . . .

We want to learn more about . . .