



Here is something to pass the time at home as we can't meet in church at the moment – a story and some activities.

### **Story**

After Jesus had gone back into heaven to be with his Father, God, his friends weren't quite sure what they should do next. Jesus had said that he would send the Holy Spirit to be with them, but they didn't know what that would mean.

It was the Feast of Pentecost, the Jewish festival that takes place 50 days after Passover (the Greek word for 50 is PENTACOSTA) and the city of Jerusalem was packed with tourists and pilgrims from all over the Mediterranean world, all speaking different languages and dialects. And Jesus' friends and his mother Mary were there too, still worried about what might happen to them. It was early in the morning and they were all sitting praying together upstairs in the house they had borrowed. Suddenly there was a noisy like a rushing mighty wind and it seemed to them all that there were tongues of flame resting on each of their heads. They were filled with an amazing feeling, a fizzy, marvellous energy that filled them with joy and courage and they ran out into the street, all praying and preaching – and, this is the amazing part – everything they said could be understood by everyone, whatever their language. The good news about Jesus went into everybody's heart. It was a wonderful miracle, and the crowds began to marvel.

Peter spoke to the crowd and told them all about Jesus and the love of God that he had shown to them, and hundreds of people were so moved and excited that they too became followers of Jesus that day and wanted to be baptised.

And from that day on the disciples knew what they must do, and they prayed and preached and looked after the poor and the needy, sharing their possessions and eating and drinking together, just as Jesus had shown them at the Last Supper they had had together.

And that is why this day is often called the Birthday of the Church.



## WORD SEARCH

Can you find the words in the Pentecost story in the word search grid?



BAPTISM  
BIRTHDAY  
COURAGE  
CROWD  
DISCIPLES  
FESTIVAL  
FLAME  
JERUSALEM  
JESUS  
LANGUAGE  
MIRACLE  
PENTECOST  
PETER  
PILGIMS  
PRAYER  
PREACH  
TONGUES  
WIND

## CRAFT ACTIVITY – make a birthday card for the Church

Use the next sheet to make a card – colouring in the cake and the words. There are three candles, one for God the Father, one for Jesus, and one for the Holy Spirit.

Then see if you can find out how to say Happy Birthday in all sorts of languages. You can ask the people in your house, or the people you see on your computer, or your neighbours if you call to them safely.

Or you could see if you can look them up on a computer or phone.

You can write all these different words inside your card.

Here's one to start you off. This is how you say Happy Birthday in Welsh:

### **Penblwydd hapus**

You pronounce it: Penbloith hapiss

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

