

## Flaming June

You may have heard this phrase used often, especially in the month of June, probably when referring to the weather. In the past, June has either been very hot or very wet and as we like to talk about the weather, the term Flaming June is used. However, Flaming June has nothing to do with the weather, so where it actually came from in this context I do not know. Flaming June is actually a painting by Sir Frederic Leighton, who 1895 painted a woman in an orange dress sleeping under a canopy in the summer heat. We do not know what the weather will be for June 2024, heat wave, hot, cold or wet, we will have to wait and find out.

In the Christian Church, during May, we celebrated Pentecost, which is the time when we remember that God sent the power of His Holy Spirit to his disciples. This was promised by Jesus, during his time on earth. In the book of Acts, chapter 2 this event is recorded. When you read this, you will find out that the disciples and those around saw what looked like tongues of fire as well as hearing a loud sound, like the rushing of wind. This is when the Holy Spirit actually came and filled the disciples. The disciples then were able to speak, teach and heal people in the same way that Jesus did. With God sending the Holy Spirit as he did, he gave people something to see, the tongues of fire. The Holy Spirit helped the disciples with strength and wisdom as the early Christian Church started to develop. On the first day 3000 people chose to believe in God and joined the early church.

As you read this, whatever the weather of flaming June is, the power of the Holy Spirit is available to all of us. The Holy Spirit is still at work in this community, this country and the world today. The Holy Spirit helps people to do many different things. Times may have changed, the weather pattern may have changed, but the power of the Holy Spirit is still the same. The Holy Spirit changes lives.

If you would like to know more, you are welcome to ask questions of us at Stanground Baptist Church. We have a service every Sunday from 10:15am. Please see our website for more details [www.stangroundbaptistchurch.org.uk](http://www.stangroundbaptistchurch.org.uk)

A special blessing for all who read this.

