

Pentecost

Dear Parent(s),

During the Easter season—a season that lasts seven weeks—we have been focusing on the gift of life in Christ. This week we focus on Pentecost.

This Take-Home Page is filled with activities to reinforce what we're learning and discussing in class. It is divided into three sections: Warm-Up Exercises, Getting Started, and Putting It into Practice. May the activities suggested here provide you with additional tools for nurturing your child's faith.

Warm-Up Exercises...

Gather the family around the Easter candle. Have one family member light the candle, and another read this passage from Scripture.

A reading from Acts 2:1-4

On the day of Pentecost all the Lord's followers were together in one place. Suddenly there was a noise from heaven like the sound of a mighty wind! It filled the house where they were meeting. Then they saw what looked like fiery tongues moving in all directions, and a tongue came and settled on each person there. The Holy Spirit took control of everyone, and they began speaking whatever languages the Spirit let them speak.

After sharing the Scripture reading, discuss how the Spirit was present with Jesus' disciples on the first Pentecost, and how the Spirit is present in your lives today.

Getting Started...

Again, have one family member read this short passage from Scripture.

"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but they all come from the same Spirit. There are different ways to serve the same Lord, and we can each do

different things. Yet the same God works in all of us and helps us in everything we do" (1 Corinthians 12:4-6).

Now ask your family to consider the different "gifts" the Spirit has given to each member. Have everyone take turns looking into a hand-held mirror, while other family members suggest the "gifts" they see in the person looking in the mirror. When everyone has had a turn, thank them for sharing their gifts with each other. Thank God, too, for blessing each of you with these gifts.

Putting It into Practice...

Red is the color for Pentecost. It reminds us of the fiery tongues that descended on Jesus' disciples. Celebrate Pentecost by setting a festive table for dinner; include a bouquet of red flowers and place a small box, gift-wrapped with red tissue paper, in the center of the table to symbolize the "gifts" the Spirit has given each of you.

Have family members decide how they can share their gifts, and start doing so this week!

