

Daily Bible Readings:

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. Try to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	Acts 2:1-21	Filled with the Holy Spirit
Monday	Joel 2:18-29	God's Spirit poured out
Tuesday	Ezekiel 11:16-20	A new spirit
Wednesday	Acts 8:14-25	Samaritans receive the Holy Spirit
Thursday	1 Corinthians 2:1-13	About the Spirit of God
Friday	Romans 8:1-12	Life through the Spirit
Saturday	Psalms 51:10-17	Grant me a willing spirit
Sunday	John 16:12-15	The Spirit will guide you into truth

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Scripture Verse for the Week:

'God says: In the last days I will pour out my Spirit on all kinds of people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams.'
- Acts 2:17 (NCV)

- Cut out & carry with you.
- Say at each mealtime.
- Read at bedtime.
- Commit to memory.

Prayer for this Week:

Lord God, please send me your Spirit of truth to live in me and be with me. Amen. (John 14:17)

For Throughout the Day:

Lord God, pour out your Spirit on me today, so that I speak of the great things you have done. Amen. (Acts 2:11,17).

A Blessing to Share:

May God pour out his Spirit upon you, so that you live boldly as his child and do great things in his name. Amen.
(Acts 2:17; Romans 8:15; John 14:12)

Mealtime Refrain:

God has given us the Spirit:
We are children of God. (Romans 8:14-17)

Mealtime Prayer:

As we look to you, we are blessed with food. When you send your Spirit, we are renewed. All praise to God! Amen.
(Psalm 104:27,30)

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SCRIPTURE

Faith Talk:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Wind and fire are two of the most powerful forces of nature. What are some of the destructive effects of wind and fire? Positive effects?
- At Pentecost the first Christians received the Holy Spirit with signs of wind and fire (Acts 2:1-4). How is the Spirit like wind and fire?
- How, when and where have you received the Holy Spirit? What does the gift of the Holy Spirit mean to you?

Devotional Practices:

Cut out little doves from a piece of card and on each write one of the following fruits of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23): love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Place the doves in a nice dish and before each meal ask a household member to draw one out. Say together these words: Spirit of...(fruit)..., come and produce your fruit in us. Amen.

At the end of the week use the doves to make a mobile to hang over your meal table during the coming weeks.

Service:

In Acts 2 we read that there were people from "every nation under heaven" in the city of Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost, and that they each heard the first Christians speaking in their native languages. Invite a Christian of a different cultural background or nationality into your home. Use this opportunity to learn about different Christian practices that may have been part of their background.

Rituals and Traditions:

Take time out for a fun Pentecost-related household activity this week that makes use of the wind e.g. kite-flying or bubble blowing. You could also decorate your home with red balloons and red candles this week as a reminder of the "blowing" and "burning" of God's Spirit in your lives.

From Martin Luther's "Small Catechism":

Explanation to the **Third Article of the Apostles' Creed** – I believe that I cannot by my own understanding or effort believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him. But the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, and sanctified and kept me in true faith. In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps in united with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church day after day he fully forgives my sins and the sins of all believers. On the last day he will raise me and all the dead, and give me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true.

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