Level: 2
Title: PENTECOST
Strand: CHURCH: 
*Body of Christ, Community of Disciples, Witness to Unity and Justice.*

Suggested Duration: 2 weeks

**Unit Focus**

In this unit students will explore the role of the Spirit in the mission of the Church. They will reflect upon the Pentecost event as a time to celebrate the Church’s beginning. Students will learn how Jesus sent his Holy Spirit to the disciples, just as he had promised to do.

**Level Outcome**

By the end of Level Two the students should be able to:

Describe the Church as a believing, welcoming, serving, caring and celebrating community.

**Unit Outcomes**

By the end of this unit the students should be able to:

1. **Retell the Pentecost Story.**
2. **Discuss and identify how the Holy Spirit is with us today.**
3. **Recognise that Pentecost celebrates the beginning of the Church.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRAND</th>
<th>DOCTRINAL CONCEPTS</th>
<th>CATECHISM REFERENCE</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Jesus Christ</td>
<td>5. Jesus shows us the way God wants us to live.</td>
<td>1716</td>
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<tr>
<td>Church</td>
<td>3. The Church is a community that celebrates and shares God’s love.</td>
<td>752</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4. The Church is a community that listens and responds to the Good News of Jesus.</td>
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<td>Christian Life</td>
<td>4. Jesus shows us how to live.</td>
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**Key Understandings for Students**

- Jesus sent us the Holy Spirit to give us special gifts.
- The Holy Spirit helps us to live like Jesus.

**Curriculum Links - VELS**

**Victorian Essential Learning Standards**

The unit *Pentecost* can be used to assess a range of VELS. The table below gives examples of how Level 2 standards could be assessed.

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<th>Strand</th>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Dimension</th>
<th>Key elements of Standards Students…</th>
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<tr>
<td>Physical, Personal and Social</td>
<td>Interpersonal Development</td>
<td>Building Social</td>
<td>&quot;identify the feelings and needs of other people. Students identify and accept that there are consequences for their actions. They take appropriate steps to resolve simple conflicts.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning</td>
<td></td>
<td>Relationships</td>
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Working in Teams

"work in teams in assigned roles, stay on task and complete structured activities within set timeframes. They share resources fairly. With teacher support, they describe their contribution to the activities of the team."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inter disciplinary Learning</th>
<th>Information and Communications Technology</th>
<th>ICT for Visualising Thinking/ ICT for Creating</th>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;students manipulate text, images and numeric data to create simple information products for specific audiences. They make simple changes to improve the appearance of their information products. With some assistance, students use ICT to locate and retrieve relevant information from a variety of sources.&quot;</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Curriculum Framework Context</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pentecost</td>
<td>Celebrating the Gift of the Spirit</td>
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</table>

Student Context

Level Two students are learning to separate fantasy from reality and to understand the language of symbols. Students are led by natural curiosity to explore their world, expressing themselves through talking, drawing, creating, moving and above all, playing. Students display varying degrees of language competence in different contexts and for different purposes. They learn through play, imitation, exploration, interaction with others and the manipulation of objects. The concept of 'spirit' and 'Holy Spirit' is difficult for students of this age. Many students associate spirit with ghosts. Through participation in school events eg swimming carnivals, students are developing their concepts of team and school spirit.

Theological Background for Teachers

- The Holy Spirit draws people together so that they become the Church. They find themselves thinking, speaking and behaving in ways that are shared. Their unity develops as each individual comes to think, speak and behave more like Jesus. The Holy Spirit stirs people to seek and fulfill their vocations within Jesus' Church as it continues His mission in the contemporary world.

- The presence of the Holy Spirit was experienced in the Old and the New Testaments. The Hebrew people used the word Ruah to describe the Spirit, a word that means spirit and breath. They identified the Spirit as the life-giving breath of God.

- 'On the day of Pentecost when the seven weeks of Easter had come to an end, Christ's Passover is fulfilled in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, manifested, given and communicated as a divine person; of his fullness, Christ, the Lord, pours out the Spirit in abundance.' (CCCn731)

- The experience of the coming of the Holy Spirit is described as being like the mighty wind and as of fire, distributed and resting on each of them. (Acts 2)

- The word Pentecost means the fiftieth day from the Passover, counting the Sundays at each end of seven weeks; it is the fiftieth day from Easter.

- The fruits of the Holy Spirit are love, joy, peace patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

- The gifts of the Holy Spirit are reverence, courage, wonder and awe, wisdom, understanding, knowledge and right judgment.
Scripture

Teacher References (NRSV)

Acts 2:1-13
When the day of Pentecost had come they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like a rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked: Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs; in our own languages we hear them speaking about god’s deeds of power.” All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

Gal 5:20-26
By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another.

Student References (CEV)

Jn 14:15-18 The Holy Spirit Is Promised
Jesus said to his disciples: If you love me, you will do as I command. Then I will ask the Father to send you the Holy Spirit who will help you and always be with you. The Spirit will show you what is true. The people of this world cannot accept the Spirit, because they don't see or know him. But you know the Spirit, who is with you and will keep on living in you. I won't leave you like orphans. I will come back to you.

Acts 2:2-4 The Coming of the Holy Spirit
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.

Suggested Assessment Tasks

Assessment tasks for this unit may include:

Outcome 1 Retell the Pentecost Story.
- Children recount the Pentecost story

Outcome 2 Discuss and interpret how the Holy Spirit is with us today.
- Illustrate situations where the gifts of the Holy Spirit are present, eg. on the playground when children share or the school secretary helping when we are sick. (See appendix 1)

Outcome 3 Recognise that Pentecost celebrates the beginning of the Church.
- Students write or draw about the apostles beginning to spread the teachings of Jesus.

N.B All of the above Outcomes lend themselves to reporting in the dimension of Knowledge and Understanding.
Focusing Activity

Using coloured pieces of paper in red, yellow and orange, students create a collage with their colours.

- The Disciples were in Jerusalem, gathered in an upper room, they were afraid, Jesus was no longer with them and they did not know what to do. The Holy Spirit filled them with courage to spread the good news of Jesus. This is what we celebrate on Pentecost Sunday. Construct a before and after Character Profile on one of the apostles.

- Illustrate or present a Role play of the story of Pentecost.

- Celebrate with a Pentecost Prayer service. Use Pentecost symbols, red material, music, movement etc. Proclaim the Scriptures, use an Echo Mime or Liquid Picture or Chorus Play. “Just Imagine” (Wintour, Rina)

  Discuss with students that the Church began after Pentecost, when the Apostles began spreading Jesus teachings. The Holy Spirit was sent to the Apostles to help them in their work.

- Chorus Play: Pentecost Pandemonium. “Just imagine” (Wintour, Rina)

- Make a chart of the things we know about wind and fire.

- The students make a Pentecost flame headband. Encourage the students to wear their Pentecost headbands outside. Explain to the children that Pentecost is a special celebration, when we remember the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples.

- Have the students illustrate who was present in the room at Pentecost.

- Allow the students the opportunity to role play the story of Pentecost.

- Make a list of all the different languages that either the students or their parents can speak. Encourage the students to talk to the class in a language other than English. Talk about how amazing it must have been for the disciples to start speaking in languages they had never spoken before.

- Make a “Pentecost People Mural” (explain the concept of Pentecost People, by referring to the fruits and gifts) using a combination of photographs, drawings or paintings. Under each person write a special quality that these people demonstrate. Encourage the students to use members from their own family or people they know personally. What can I do?

- Place a few drops of coloured ink or paint onto a sheet of card. Invite the children to blow the ink gently through a straw to create patterns. Cut a flame from this shape.

- Discuss with students the liturgical colour associated with Pentecost. Include reference to this colour in your class prayer time. Use a piece of red fabric to decorate the prayer table.

- Acts 2:2-4 To PREPARE TO HEAR the Word - Students share their collages explaining what they have created, group collages under like headings. Investigate the properties of wind e.g. we can feel it but cannot see it.

- Acts 2:2-4 To ENCOUNTER the Word after reading the text from the Bible, students use Liquid Picture or Pentecost Pandemonium from “Just Imagine”, (Wintour, Rina)

- Acts 2:2-4 To RESPOND to the Word – have the class listen to the imagery used to record/depict Pentecost. (Fire, wind, tongues, noise) Children design and paint their own, (or what they have heard in the text), imagery of the Holy Spirit.

Resources

For resources to support this unit, refer to the online planning tool. For additional resources, refer to the Resource Centre Catalogue: http://www.ceoballarat.catholic.edu.au and follow links to Resource Centre.
FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT  (Gal 5:20-26)
Joy, Love, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Generosity, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self Control.

These are the qualities that we can recognise in people who are filled with the Holy Spirit. eg the Kindness and generosity of those people who have helped the Tsunami victims, the Kindness of the members of the Society of St Vincent de Paul or the Love and Patience of carers who look after elderly people or small children.

GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  (1 Cor 12:4, 7-11)

Wisdom:   The gift helps us see God's plan for the world. Helps us to see things from all sides and avoid a narrow minded approach.

Understanding:  This gift enables us to know about and care for others as well as ourselves.

Knowledge:  The gift that helps us to learn more about ourselves, our faith and our Church. It helps us to see things as they are and not as we might want them to be.

Courage:  The gift that helps us be authentic people who can stand up for what we believe in. This gift empowers us to 'be not afraid'.

Right Judgement:  The gift that enables us to make good decisions, look at alternatives, consider consequences and take responsibility for action.

Reverence:  The gift that helps us respect ourselves and all of creation.

Wonder/Awe:  The gift that allows us to see and appreciate that God is present in everything. This gift enables us to be amazed by life and astonished by and open to God.