

Hello everyone! It's Revd Kyla. How are you today? It is such a beautiful day I thought I would send you a message to tell you all about Pentecost.

Today is a very special celebration for Jesus' Church – some call it the Church's birthday! This is because it was the first time that Jesus' friends came together and started to really talk about him to all the people around them, telling them how amazing he is and how much he loves them. A bit like we do at St. Mary's when we are together with you!

Some people put up lots of red balloons to decorate their church at Pentecost. We have put up all your lovely pictures on the railings outside St. Mary's for everyone to see as they are walking past. It looks so pretty!

Some churches sing "Happy Birthday!" to the church (it is very, very, very old, so we couldn't make a cake...it would need too many candles!) Can you sing happy birthday to the church today?

Something else we celebrate is how the Holy Spirit came down from heaven to be with us and is still here helping us to be kind, and teaching to help each other. The Holy Spirit was sent by Jesus to be with us.

Here is the story from the Storyteller Bible. You can listen with me if you like...

<https://youtu.be/rNeG9AMYxvg>

There are lots of things you can do at home for Pentecost. Here are just a couple of ideas:

1. Go on a treasure hunt. You have to find 5 things that are red in your house and put them together and ask an adult to take a photograph and post it to the Storybags or ADventure! Facebook pages.
2. You could make a flame hat – like this one:



Here is a link on how to make a flame hat from a paper plate:

<http://www.drawn2bcreative.com/pentecost-holy-spirit-hats-from-paper-plates/>

3. Of course, you don't have to just craft or paint for Pentecost! We know from the Bible that the power of the Holy Spirit filled Jesus' friends until they were just fit to burst with love for God and for each other. I bet Jesus' friends were so happy they just had to dance! Perhaps you could put on your favourite song and have a little dance to it – as a thank you to Jesus for sending the Holy Spirit to be with us.

Here is a link to Sarah and her family doing a special Pentecost dance!

<https://youtu.be/HLfYupARz8I>

Whatever you do today I hope you are having lots of fun! We miss you at St. Mary's but when the virus is gone we can all meet up again. Until then, stay safe and know that Jesus loves you very very much!

Love from Revd Kyla xxx