PENTECOST SUNDAY

'Receive the holy spirit'



Today is a special feast for the Church. It is called 'Pentecost' because it is celebrated fifty days after the Passover. Pentecost is the birthday of the church. Think of the ways this story reminds you of a 'birthday celebration' as you listen to the readings. Can you hear any mention of gifts or happiness or something that reminds you of birthday candles?

GOSPEL John 20: 19-23

The disciples were afraid of the Jewish leaders, and on the evening of that same Sunday theylocked themselves in a room. Suddenly, Jesus appeared in the middle of the group. He greeted them and showed them his hands and his sides. When the disciples saw the Lord, they became very happy. After Jesus had greeted them again, he said, "I am sending you, just as the Father has sent me." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they will be forgiven. But if you don't forgive their sins, they will not be forgiven.

What did you hear?

1. Write down one word, one phrase and one reflection from the Gospel and fill in the following table.

Word	Phrase	Reflection
		To me, this Gospel means ...

Reflect on the following questions with a buddy

2. What changes in you do you wish the Spirit could blow your way and how can you cooperate with the Spirit?
3. In what ways do you need more courage, knowledge, direction or commitment?
4. When people speak about your school, would they say that it has school spirit? What do they mean by that? How is school spirit like the Holy Spirit?

Create: Write a prayer that begins, 'Come, Holy Spirit …' that seeks the Spirit's help or guidance in an aspect of your life or your community. Present your prayer in an interesting way - voice recording accompanied by images, song, simple google drawing.

Resource: Auckland Catholic

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