



# Religious Studies

## Y7 Summer 1: To the Ends of the Earth

### The Coming of the Holy Spirit

**2** When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. **2** And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. **3** And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested<sup>[a]</sup> on each one of them. **4** And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

**5** Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. **6** And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. **7** And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" **8** And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? **9** Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, **10** Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, **11** both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." **12** And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"

### Key vocabulary

<b>Holy Spirit</b>	The third person of the Trinity, true God, who Christians believe inspires people.
<b>Pentecost</b>	A Christian festival celebrating the time when the Holy Spirit came down to the apostles; also a Jewish festival known as Shavuot, celebrating the harvest and the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai.
<b>ruah</b>	A Hebrew word meaning wind or breath; God's Spirit that was breathed in Adam to bring him to full life.
<b>People of God</b>	One of the names of the Church, emphasising the whole community of believers, united by their belief in God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
<b>Body of Christ</b>	One of the names of the Church, emphasising the community of all those who are members of Christ's body through Baptism, with Jesus as their head, working together like one body.
<b>Temple of the Holy Spirit</b>	One of the names of the Church, emphasising the community of all those who are led by God's spirit in their lives, given to them through the sacraments.
<b>Confirmation</b>	The Sacrament of Initiation that completes Baptism and strengthens a person's faith by being sealed with the Holy Spirit as a mature member of the Church.
<b>fruits of the Spirit</b>	The behaviours and attitudes that are shown by a person who is filled with the Holy Spirit, such as love, joy and kindness.

### Who is the Holy Spirit?

- The Holy Spirit is the **third person of the Trinity**.
- In the Nicene Creed, the Holy Spirit is described as 'the Lord, the giver of life'.
- **Symbols** are used to communicate beliefs about the Holy Spirit. These symbols are often based on **biblical accounts** of the Holy Spirit (e.g. the dove, fire and wind). Some symbols link to **Christian worship and rituals** (e.g. anointing, the hand and water).
- The Holy Spirit gives Christians **seven gifts**, which are freely given through love: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord.
- A person shows the impact of the Holy Spirit in their life by displaying the **twelve fruits**: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, goodness, modesty and chastity.
- **St Luke** is believed to have written Luke's Gospel and Acts of the Apostles. He described the importance of the Holy Spirit in the life of Jesus and in establishing the Church community.
- **Pentecost** is when the Holy Spirit came to the apostles, filling them with confidence and the ability to speak different languages to spread the Good News. This event is considered to be the birthday of the Church.



### The Holy Spirit and Jesus



The Bible shows that the Holy Spirit played an **important role** in Jesus' life and mission:

- Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- When Jesus was baptised, the Holy Spirit appeared as a dove.
- In Luke 4:18, Jesus said that God's Spirit had anointed him to do God's work.
- Jesus promised that he would send God's Spirit to the apostles, who had been given the task of spreading the Good News.



### The Holy Spirit in the life of the Church

The Holy Spirit has **guided the Church** from its earliest moments:

- The Holy Spirit helped the apostles to carry out the mission given to them by Jesus.
- The Holy Spirit remained with the earliest Church communities to give them strength in the face of persecution.
- The Holy Spirit helped to bring more people into the Church community.
- The Church community is described as a community of God's people (the People of God); a community like a body, with Jesus as the head (the Body of Christ); and a community filled with the Holy Spirit (the Temple of the Holy Spirit).

