

## EXPLORING THE SUNDAY GOSPEL AT HOME

### WIND

#### EXPLORING NEXT SUNDAY'S THEME

##### *Reflecting on the Gospel*

###### *The Holy Spirit (John 20:19-23)*

It is Luke who provides the foundation account for the Day of Pentecost through his narrative in the Acts of the Apostles. The Holy Spirit came to the apostles with a sound like a mighty rushing wind. John has a somewhat different account of Jesus breathing on the disciples and saying to them 'Receive the Holy Spirit.' The three ideas of wind, breath and Spirit were all very closely linked in Hebrew thought.

Our image to stimulate reflection on this passage is *wind*.

##### *Extracts from the Gospel passage (John 20:21-22)*

Jesus said to them again,  
'Peace be with you.  
As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'  
When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them,  
'Receive the Holy Spirit.'

##### *Gospel prayer*

Lord God,  
you gave the Holy Spirit to your people,  
like a mighty rushing wind.  
Inspire our hearts with the same Spirit,  
that we may love and serve you  
all the days of our lives;  
we make our prayer in Jesus' name.  
Amen.

## DAY OF PENTECOST (YEAR A) SUNDAY 31 MAY 2020

### ENGAGING WITH THE THEME AT HOME

#### *Reflecting and meditating*

Reflect on the encounter of the risen Jesus with the disciples as related in John 20: 19-23:

- what details in the passage catch your attention?
- what big ideas does the passage spark in your mind?
- what most touches your heart in the passage?
- what most stretches your mind and makes you think in the passage?

#### *Thinking and talking*

- what was special about 'evening on that day'?
- what do you make of the repeated greeting, 'Peace be with you'?
- how do you understand the commission, 'As the Father has sent me, so I send you'?
- how do you see the connection between Jesus' action (he breathed on them) and the promised gift (receive the Holy Spirit)?
- what does this narrative say for us today?

#### *Using your Bible*

Explore further in the New Testament the theme of Pentecost:

- Luke 24: 44-50
- Acts 2: 1-13

Explore the idea of breath and wind in the Old Testament:

- Ezekiel 37: 1-10
- Joel 2: 28-29
- Psalm 104: 29-32

#### *Exploring online*

- explore the Hebrew word *ruach* (breath, wind, spirit)
- explore wind toys to make
- explore images of wind farms
- explore famous Pentecost paintings to explore the imagery

#### *Drawing on experience*

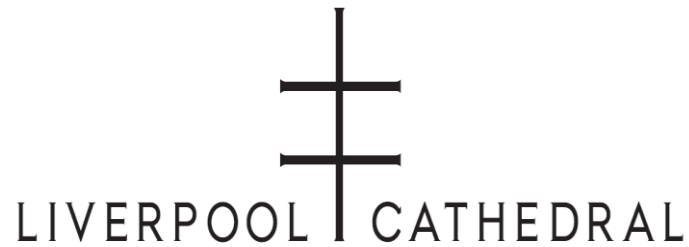
- what is your experience of being out on a windy day?
- what is your experience of the life-giving and life-threatening power of the wind?
- what is your experience of the Holy Spirit blowing in your life?

## DAY OF PENTECOST (YEAR A) SUNDAY 31 MAY 2020

### *Creating and making*

- make a windmill (or other wind toy) to place prominently in your home
- make a poster displaying many images of wind with the title 'We celebrate the Feast of Pentecost'
- draw together images of sailing ships to celebrate the power of the wind
- create a reflection, poem, or prayer on the theme of *ruach*.

DAY OF PENTECOST (YEAR A) SUNDAY 31 MAY 2020



## **EXPLORING THE SUNDAY GOSPEL AT HOME**

Each week we are inviting people in their homes to look forward to those Sunday services that follow the Revised Common Lectionary Gospel readings. We employ the SIFT approach (Sensing, Intuition, Feeling, and Thinking) to encourage reflection on the Sunday Gospel. We are suggesting a variety of ways in which people of all ages, and households working together, may engage with the Gospel reading and celebrate that engagement with shared activities.

Our invitation then is for you to share your reflections, prayers and photos of your creative work with the Cathedral by emailing them to [Nelson.Pike@liverpoolcathedral.org.uk](mailto:Nelson.Pike@liverpoolcathedral.org.uk)

These materials have been developed by the Canon Theologian of Liverpool Cathedral working in collaboration with the staff team here at the Cathedral, and with sponsorship and support from the St Mary's Centre in Wales and the St Christopher's College Trust.



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