

The Ascension of Jesus

We celebrate The Ascension of Our Lord on 21st May 2020



For an animated version of the story of The Ascension:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UcFw8pLBSIo>

When Jesus was ready to return to heaven, he took his disciples aside to make sure that they understood everything that had happened to him. He explained why it was important for him to be crucified and to be raised from the dead to fulfil what the Scriptures had said about him. He also told them that he was going to return to his Father in heaven, and that the Holy Spirit would come to be with them.

At first, the disciples were sad that Jesus would be leaving them, but then the Bible tells us that Jesus opened their minds so they would understand. Then, an amazing thing happened. The Bible tells us that Jesus lifted his hands and blessed his disciples. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. The disciples stood and watched as Jesus ascended higher and higher until he disappeared from view. What an amazing sight that must have been!

I wonder

which part of the Ascension Gospel you like the best?



- What the friends of Jesus felt?
- Where Jesus went?
- When you feel close to Jesus?

Word Search

B	T	Q	O	M	D	Q	S	U	F	F	E	R	U	F
F	N	C	Q	W	O	P	S	A	L	M	S	T	S	A
G	X	N	Q	O	F	S	M	Z	Z	H	N	U	C	O
B	B	Y	C	R	O	T	E	C	M	E	T	N	R	J
R	A	P	R	S	R	S	P	S	P	F	E	C	I	A
N	I	G	Y	H	G	U	P	E	G	K	D	L	P	S
Z	F	S	F	I	I	M	R	N	A	N	W	D	T	P
B	J	Z	E	P	V	F	S	T	A	Y	E	E	U	O
X	L	K	R	E	E	G	J	T	Q	L	H	J	R	H
E	T	E	U	D	N	X	S	Y	L	P	D	U	E	T
E	S	X	S	E	K	R	K	I	O	E	A	M	M	P
J	S	X	V	S	E	W	F	R	N	D	X	I	C	H
A	X	A	B	D	I	L	P	E	U	V	V	N	O	R
D	E	C	N	K	U	N	P	L	F	J	S	D	Q	S
H	R	U	I	F	H	O	G	G	V	Y	K	S	L	C

RISE	REPENT	PROPHETS
SUFFER	PSALMS	OPENED
HEAVEN	SCRIPTURE	FULFILLED
WORSHIP	BLESSING	UNDERSTAND
TAKEN	FORGIVE	MOSES

Happy Birthday Church!

Pentecost is celebrated on 31st May 2020

For an animated version of the first Pentecost:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IqG_lvZhU-A



Pentecost is the birthday of members of the Church because Christians believe that people are the Church. It is a day of celebration in the Church. Pentecost is a Greek word for 50th day. It is 50 days after Easter Sunday.

We remember the coming of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles and the start of their work to spread the Good News. The Priest will wear red vestments (garments worn over clothes at special ceremonies by a clergy member). Maybe you could wear red too on this special birthday?

There are plenty of activities online relating to Ascension and Pentecost. Here are a few suggestions you may want to try:

Ascension window decoration



Your own interpretation of the Ascension of Jesus (chalk, watercolours, pencil crayons - whatever you have at home really)



A Pentecost balloon



See dove/flame activity on next page. You could also write a prayer on this template and perhaps display it in your window.

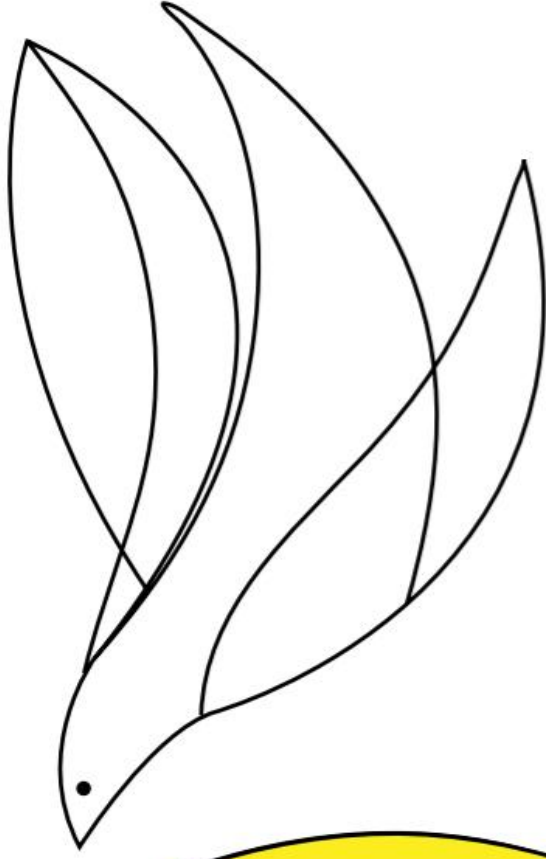
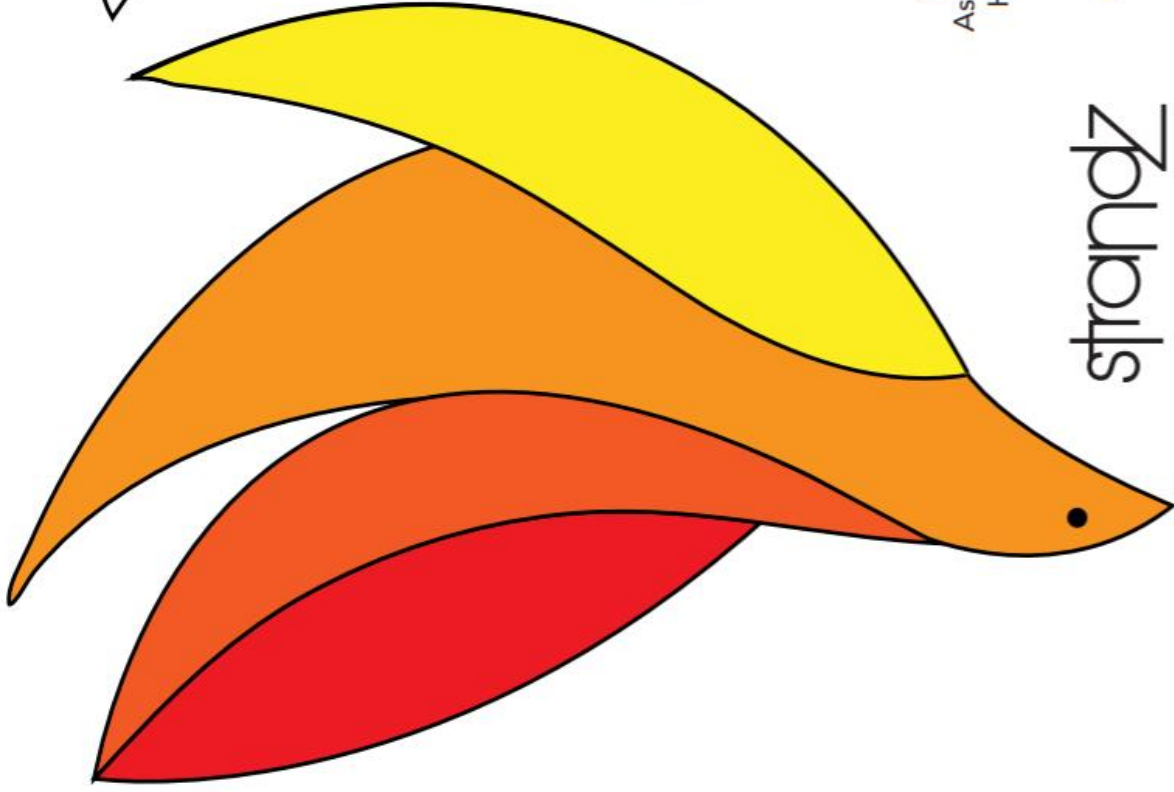
Learn how to say hello in languages from around the world!

Follow these links and select the 'go' tab to learn different ways of saying 'hello' from around the world. You could make turn this into a quiz to find out how many you can remember! Part of the story of the first Pentecost tells us of how Jesus wanted his disciples to talk to lots of people about him.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=472AnCrHYVs> (video of song with greetings from around the world - perhaps more suited to younger children!)

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nANhSfCGAs4> (video - you should be able to practise with people who live at home with you but check with an adult first). You are challenged to make up your own handshake in this one!

- <https://ideas.brf.org.uk/a-world-of-hellos> (written instructions)



Dove + Flame Prayers

Use the dove/flame template as you talk about Pentecost and the Holy Spirit. Give out the pre cut doves/flames either on white paper, or on yellow/red/orange stock.

Show how, by turning the dove on it's side, it is also a flame.

Talk about how the Holy Spirit gives us power, wisdom, and peace. Ask each person to hold their flame and to think about the things the Holy Spirit helps them do. Do they need power and wisdom (flame) or peace (dove) today? Ask the to draw or write God a prayer on their dove/flame, or just write their name. As people finish, invite them to come and put their dove/flame at the front (perhaps bluetacked to a wall) as a corporate act of prayer and worship.

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