

FAITH @Home

24TH MAY 2026: YEAR A: PENTECOST

Diocese of Waterford & Lismore
www.waterfordlismore.ie



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Celebrating and supporting faith, hope and love in the heart of the family!

"TO THE HEIGHTS" YOUTH EDITION ALSO AVAILABLE

Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Acts 2:1-11

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 103(104):1,24,29-31,34

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 12:3-7,12-13

Gospel:

John 20:19-23

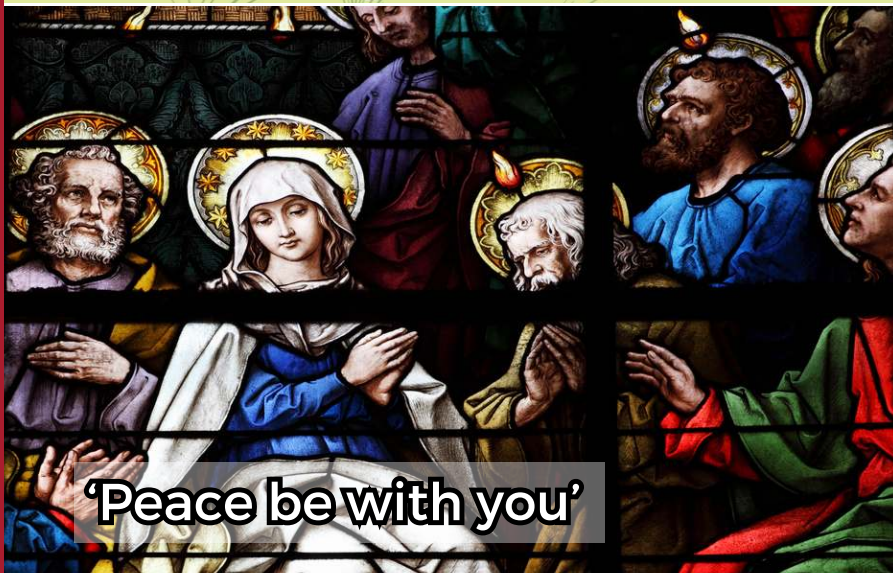


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Hear



Grab your Bible and look up the Gospel reading. Don't have one?
No worries, you can find this week's readings online [HERE](#).

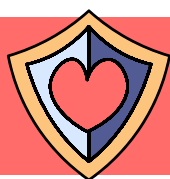
Reflect



In the Gospel today we hear about Jesus commissioning His disciples in the Upper Room.

- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this piece of Scripture? How do these words resonate with you personally?
- Reread those words slowly: *"As the Father sent me, so am I sending you."* Reflect on what the Father sent Jesus to do. What do you feel the Father could be calling you to do, particularly this week?
- Jesus breathed His Holy Spirit on the apostles after He gave them this commission. Close your eyes and imagine being in the room with Jesus, as He breathes His Holy Spirit into you. Feel His peace, His love, His courage and conviction fill your heart. Draw life from His divine life.

Family Prayer



*Breathe in me O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.
Act in me O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy. Draw
my heart O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy. Strengthen
me O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy. Guard me, then, O
Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy. Amen.*

Chat



In today's readings we hear about the Holy Spirit coming to the Apostles at Pentecost, and how they were filled with courage and joy!

- How do you celebrate birthdays in your family? How do you mark important occasions? Today we celebrate the birthday of the Church! The Church is the family of God, so we should celebrate this too!
- Families don't always get on together, sometimes we have to ask for forgiveness. Jesus spoke about this in the Gospel today. Is there anything you need to ask for forgiveness for in your family today? Saying sorry and trying to make amends is a great way to celebrate the Feastday!
- Why not pray the third glorious mystery for your family: the Descent of the Holy Spirit!

Family Challenge!



Celebrate Pentecost as a family! Check out this article from [Aleteia](#) for 8 great ideas to do as a family to celebrate the birthday of the Church and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost! Print the attached bunting to hang up too!



A RECONCILING PRESENCE

The Season of Easter concludes with today's celebration, the Feast of Pentecost. On Pentecost we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem; this event marks the beginning of the Church. The story of Pentecost is found in the Acts of the Apostles, today's first reading. The account in today's Gospel, John 20:19-23, also recounts how Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Yet the event in John's Gospel takes place on Easter Sunday. There is no need to try to reconcile these two accounts. It is enough that we know that after his death, Jesus fulfilled his promise to send to his disciples a helper, an advocate, who would enable them to be his witnesses throughout the world.

We already heard today's Gospel proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Easter this year (Lectionary Cycle A). That Gospel passage, however, also included the description of Jesus' appearance to Thomas. In that context, we were led to reflect on belief and unbelief.

In the context of the Feast of Pentecost, John 20:19-23 reminds us about the integral connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." He breathes the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and sends them to continue his work of reconciliation through the forgiveness of sins. Jesus' act of breathing the Holy Spirit mirrors God's act of breathing life into Adam at the time of Creation. In fact, both the Greek and Hebrew words for "spirit" can also be translated as "breath."

This Gospel reminds us that the Church is called to be a reconciling presence in the world. The reconciling presence of Christ is celebrated in the Church's sacramental life. In the Sacrament of Baptism, we are cleansed of sin and become a new creation in Christ. In the Sacrament of Penance, the Church celebrates the mercy of God through the forgiving of sins. This reconciling presence is also to be a way of life for Christians. In situations of conflict, we are to be agents of peace and harmony among people.

taken from **Loyola Press Sunday Connection**



2026
Campá Mhuire Mháthair
CATHOLIC
Summer Faith Camps
For Boys & Girls (Primary School age)

6th - 9th July
JOY OF FAITH CAMP
DUNGARVAN, CO. WATERFORD
Contact Shauna: 087 137 8364

6th - 9th July
GOOD NEWS FAITH CAMP,
TRAMORE, CO. WATERFORD
Contact Pam: 086 072 6232
Olivia: 086 343 8467

6th - 9th July
ST CARLO ACUTIS CAMP,
AGHINAGH, CO. CORK
Contact Gillian: 0872238547

13th - 16th July
ST DECLAN'S CAMP,
ARDMORE, CO. WATERFORD
Contact Margaret: 024 94363

13th - 17th July
KILLARNEY FAITH CAMP,
CO. KERRY
Contact Sheila: 087 779 6966

Team Games | Music
Action Songs | Drama
Arts & Crafts | Prayer
10AM - 3PM DAILY

Campá Mhuire Mháthair Faith Camps

Campá Mhuire Mháthair Summer Camps are for primary school age children in July and feature Music & Action songs, Arts & Crafts, "Into the Deep" Bible Stories, Team Games, Drama, Daily Mass and prayer! Please contact individual camp coordinators for more info on specific camps.





CARLO'S CORNER

HOLY SPIRIT COURAGE!

What an incredible journey the Apostles were on since Holy Week! Palm Sunday and Jesus' triumphant entry in Jerusalem, swiftly followed by His arrest, torture and death on the Cross: all seemed hopeless.

Then within days, Jesus had risen from the dead and walked among them once more! 40 days of appearances as He continued to teach and strengthen their faith, and then He was gone at the Ascension, promising to send them the Advocate!

They gathered fearfully in the Upper Room on the eve of the feast of Pentecost, until they were filled with power from on high and a courage so intense it drove them immediately to the streets of Jerusalem, proclaiming the Good News without any fear of arrest or persecution! This same courage continued to guide their ministry even to a martyr's death for all, bar John who died later in prison. This same courage ensured that the Church was founded, and continues to this day.

This same courage is available to all believers through the power of the Holy Spirit. Imagine what your life could be like if you opened your heart fully to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Imagine all those fruits of the Spirit made manifest in your life! Ask the Holy Spirit to come to you and fill you anew!

Choose one of the following to celebrate the Holy Spirit / Pentecost this week:

- Intentionally pray the come holy spirit prayer each day
- Wear the colour red to remind you of the Holy Spirit's fire/love.
- Find out your baptism/confirmation date and mark them on your calendar to celebrate them!
- Celebrate Pentecost & the Church's birthday with cake!
- Help to renew the face of the earth: be a witness to your faith in some way this week!



Pentecost in 2 Minutes (Busted Halo)





Consuming Fire (Hillsong)



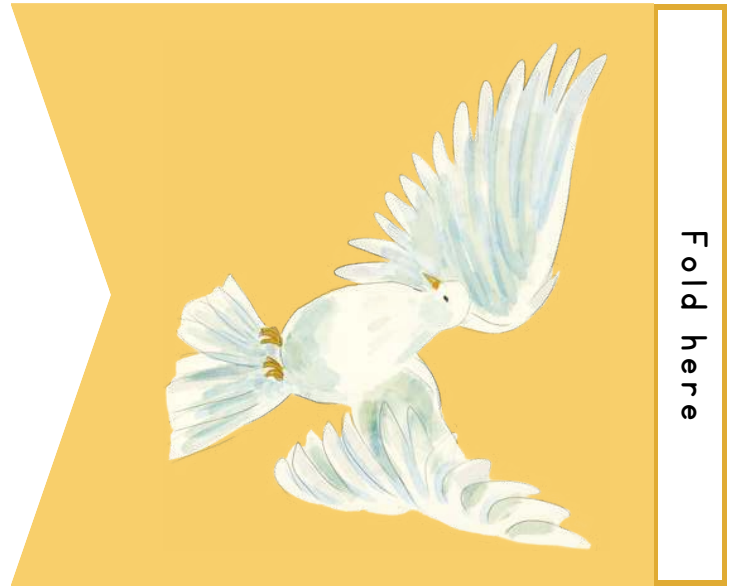
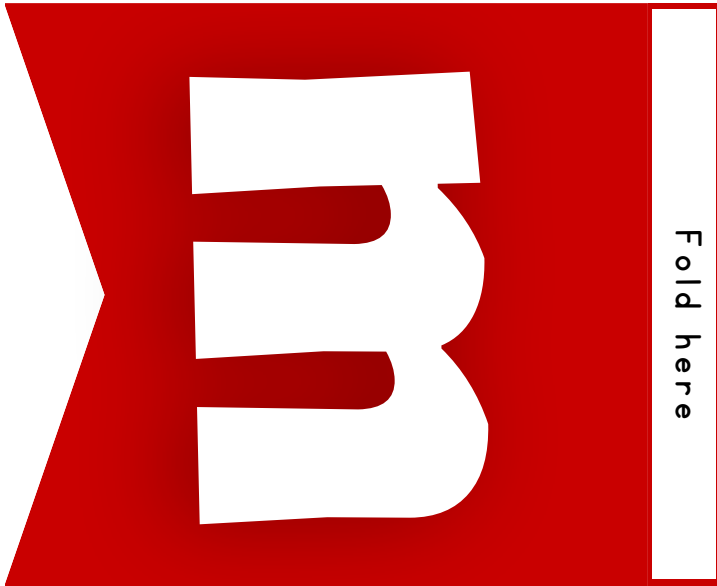
To the Heights Youth Resource also available



Have you subscribed yet to our Diocesan newsletters and events bulletin?
Click the Subscribe Button OR go to www.waterfordlismore.ie/resources

- Faith@Home / Let's Dive In (faithathome@waterfordlismore.ie)
- To the Heights (youthministry@waterfordlismore.ie)
- Check it Out! Diocesan Events Bulletin (events@waterfordlismore.ie)

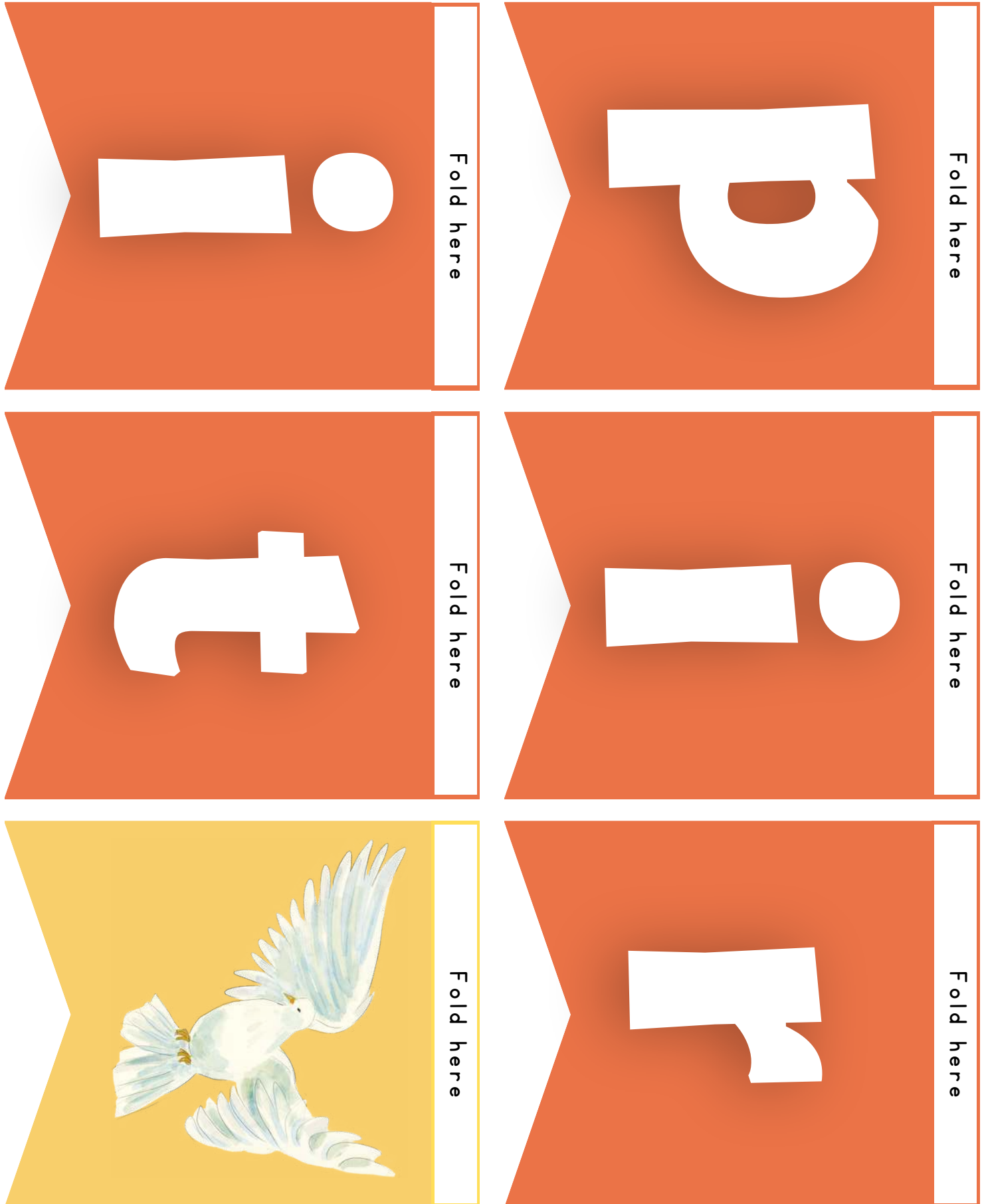
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Cut out bunting shapes, fold over tabs and stick to string / ribbon



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