

i te wairua o te
KOTAHITANGA

UNITED IN THE SPIRIT

FEAST OF PENTECOST

SECONDARY SCHOOL LITURGY RESOURCE

This liturgy aims to engage students in a time of prayer focused on the Holy Spirit and provide a way for your school to unite in prayer with the whole Diocese. Many of these songs and prayers will be used in various ways to celebrate the Feast of Pentecost across the Diocese of Palmerston North.

Adapt where necessary for any alert level requirements and the age of students.

OUTLINE

1. Welcome
2. Song: *Receive the Power or Holy Spirit*
3. Opening Prayer
4. Scripture Reading
5. Reflection
6. Prayers of Intercession
7. Song: *Wairua Tapu*
- 8: Closing Prayer



RESOURCES

- Music and words
- Prayer focus
- 7 Candles or Symbols for Gifts of the Spirit
- Bible for Scripture reading
- Script for readers

MUSIC

- **Receive the Power** - Guy Sebastian and Gary Pinto
<https://youtu.be/7HyTyIsBzGA?t=38>
- **Holy Spirit** – Jesus Culture
https://youtu.be/pSF0_XZA2mU?t=27
- **Wairua Tapu** (with Sign Language)
https://youtu.be/kUotKNr8_QQ

WELCOME

Tena koutou katoa. Welcome to our liturgy. Today we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Pentecost is known as the birthday of the church. Pentecost is a particularly special feast for us as a Diocese because of the Holy Spirit which we are consecrated to and our Cathedral is named after. This year we are joining with the whole Diocese in prayer as we were founded 40 years ago.

Please stand for our opening song, _____ [insert which song you choose].

SONG

Invite students to join in singing either *Receive the Power, Holy Spirit*, or another Holy Spirit themed song they are familiar with.

OPENING PRAYER

This prayer uses the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit and traditionally is prayed in the Cathedral on Pentecost Sunday. It includes an action of lighting a candle or bringing forward a symbol to represent each gift, you can adapt this as it will work for you. You might like to either assign seven students to read one gift each or two students who alternate between.



Leader: Our seven-week celebration of Easter is ended, now is the time of the Spirit.

Let us celebrate the seven gifts which the Church has been given by Christ, through the Holy Spirit. Almighty and wondrous God, source of all life, we ask your blessing upon us and these candles which we light to remind us of the empowering of your Spirit.

1: Send Wisdom to be our guide.

Candle is lit (or symbol is brought forward).

2: Gift us with Courage.

Candle is lit (or symbol is brought forward).

3: May we nurture your gift of Understanding.

Candle is lit (or symbol is brought forward).

4: Increase in us the Knowledge of your will for us.

Candle is lit (or symbol is brought forward).

5: May our decisions reflect Right Judgement.

Candle is lit (or symbol is brought forward).

6: Call us to Wonder at your creation.

Candle is lit (or symbol is brought forward).

7: May we stand in Reverence of your presence in our lives.

Candle is lit (or symbol is brought forward).



SCRIPTURE READING: ACTS 2:1-11

From the Acts of the Apostles

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound

the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power."

REFLECTION

To be led by the teacher

You may like to invite students to reflect on what they have heard in the Scripture, to imagine what it might have been like to be in that room and how it may have felt. You may also ask them to reflect on the gifts of the Spirit that were prayed for in the opening prayer. You may like to talk about the Sacrament of Confirmation, which young people in the Diocese of Palmerston North receive when they are a teenager. Offer any other reflections on Pentecost you may have.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Response: *E te Ariki*

Whakarongo mai ra ki a matou.

1: Heavenly Father, pour upon us your loving Spirit this Pentecost, and renew within us all the gifts of baptism.

2: Guided by the Holy Spirit, help us to proclaim the good news of the Gospel with great enthusiasm and joy. Lord hear us.

3: As we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit today, bless and unite this faith community.

4: For the people of the Diocese of Palmerston North in this 40th Anniversary year – that we may continue to add to the work of the Church in building up the Kingdom.

5: May the Holy Spirit unite all cultures and nations throughout the world, so that all people can live in true freedom and peace.

6: Bring our dead to eternal life and strengthen our own hope of Resurrection glory.

CLOSING PRAYER

Invite students to pray this prayer aloud together. This will be prayed all throughout the Diocese to celebrate Pentecost, uniting us in prayer.

Holy Spirit,
we, the people of the Diocese of Palmerston North,
different peoples, one people of God,
give ourselves over to you.
Through you we know God,
for you are the Spirit of God.
You inspire the Scriptures
which show us that God is like a loving,
trustworthy father,

a mother who gently gathers her children.
You give us joy in the news of our salvation.
Holy Spirit, work miracles in us,
miracles of conversion, healing and reconciliation;
miracles of new hope, new life and new beginnings.
Amen

SONG

Invite students to conclude by joining in singing *Wairua Tapu* which is accompanied with Sign Language.