



Registered charity no 251394



JUNE 2025

FREAK WEATHER IN JERUSALEM

So might have read the headlines in a newspaper at the time of Jesus (if they had had newspapers then). It was 50 days after the events of Easter and the friends of Jesus were gathered in the house, wondering when the help that Jesus has promised them would come. Suddenly the room was filled with a great noise!

What happened then? asked our reporter:

We were all praying together when we felt a great wind blowing through the room.

What did you see? they were asked and they gave this astonishing reply:

What looked like tongues of fire which touched each person there.



Then it seems they all began to speak in different languages. They spoke to the crowds gathered outside who had come to Jerusalem from many different countries to celebrate a Jewish festival similar to our Harvest Festival, and everyone could understand them.

What a dramatic event that would have been, and from then on it is seen as the birthday of the Christian church. This is Pentecost, and this this year was celebrated on Sunday 8th June

From then on, the message of Jesus was spread around the world by those who came to believe in him. They were said to be filled with the 'Holy Spirit'

Fruits of the Spirit

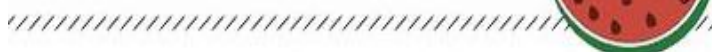
In the Bible (Galatians 5:22-23) those who receive the Holy Spirit are said to be filled with "the fruit of the Spirit" which are **love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, kindness, faith, goodness, self-control**. Can you find all these words in the wordsearch below?

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

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

PATIENCE
FAITHFULNESS
SELF-CONTROL
KINDNESS
GENTLENESS

PEACE
JOY
GOODNESS
LOVE



A story for June:

Once there was a man named John. Before he was born an angel visited his Mum, Elizabeth, who told her she was going to have a son (sound familiar - just like Jesus' Mum Mary?) and who then went to his father and told him that his son must be called John, and he would have a very special job to do in life.



I wonder what Mum and Dad made of their son when he grew up and went off to the wilderness, ate locusts and dressed in just a camel skin!! He was also very outspoken, telling anyone who would listen (and many did) that they had to change the way they lived and be ready for the coming of the Messiah. He started a trend of inviting people to join him in the River Jordan to have all their bad things washed out of their lives, and to start again, living a better life.



One day, there was John, waist deep in the river, when who should join him in the water but Jesus. Now John was very close to God and as soon as he saw Jesus he knew that here was the Messiah that he had been telling the people would soon come.

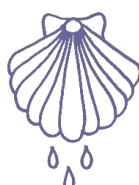


He told Jesus that he didn't need to be washed clean because he was God's son, but Jesus wasn't ready at that moment to tell everyone, so he asked John to treat him the same as other people. And there and then John BAPTISED Jesus.

In the church today, we still BAPTISE (or Christen) people, often young babies, but not in rivers! There is something called the FONT which holds the water. (They come in all shapes and sizes.)



A special seashell may be used to pour the water on the baby's head



You may have the chance to see a baptism in your local church. Look for the Vicar marking the shape of a cross on the baby's forehead with oil then watch the water being gently poured over the baby's head. And finally see a candle being presented to the family, to remind them that Jesus is the Light of the World.



Colour in the picture of John baptising Jesus, to look like a stained glass window.

The Church remembers John the Baptist on June 24th each year.

