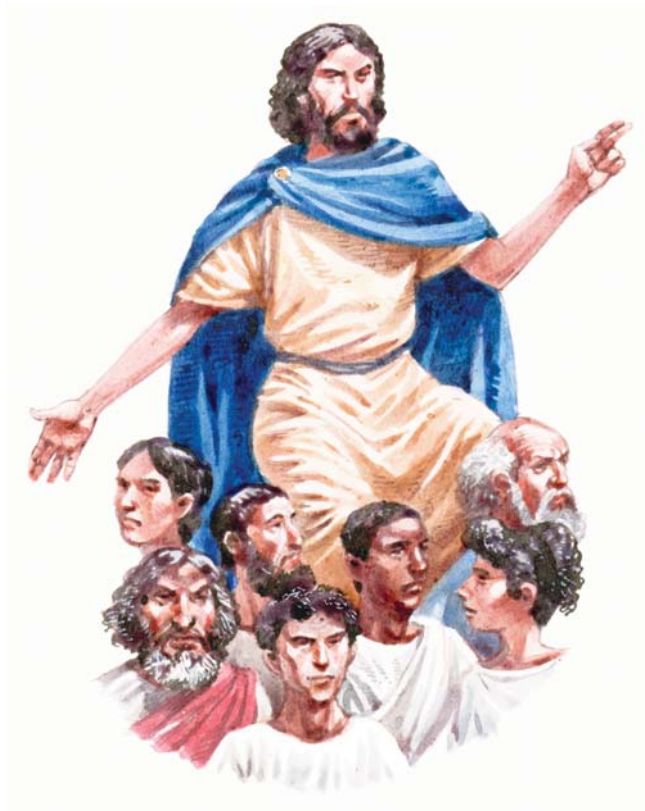


# Pentecost (Whitsun)

*This Christian festival is celebrated 50 days after Easter and is sometimes called the birthday of the Church. This is an important festival in the Christian year. It commemorates the day on which the disciples first proclaimed the Gospel having received the Holy Spirit. It is named after the Jewish festival on which it happened.*



- 1 Sit down with the children and show them the series of pictures overleaf. You may wish to lay the sheets out either on a table or the floor, and then read the story.
- 2 Ask the children the following questions and discuss them:-  
*Which parts of the story did you like?*  
*Where there any parts you didn't like?*  
*Talk about how you would feel if the door suddenly opened and wind rushed in, would you be scared? What other things makes you scared?*  
*Would you feel surprised? What usually surprises you?*  
*Peter spoke so clearly that everyone could understand him. What other language have you heard of? Can you speak in any other language?*
- 3 Ask the children to find out how to say 'Hello' in a different language.

# The Story Of Pentecost



**All the disciples and other friends of Jesus gathered in a big room to hear the story of Jesus being taken away in the cloud. They enjoyed each other's company and had meals together. They discussed the things Jesus had told them while he was with them. And most importantly, they prayed together.**

**Suddenly, from out of nowhere, came the sound of a rushing mighty wind. It sounded like a huge tornado was right in the room with them!**



**They saw something that looked like flames of fire resting just above each person's head. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they all began to speak in other languages which they had never learned.**

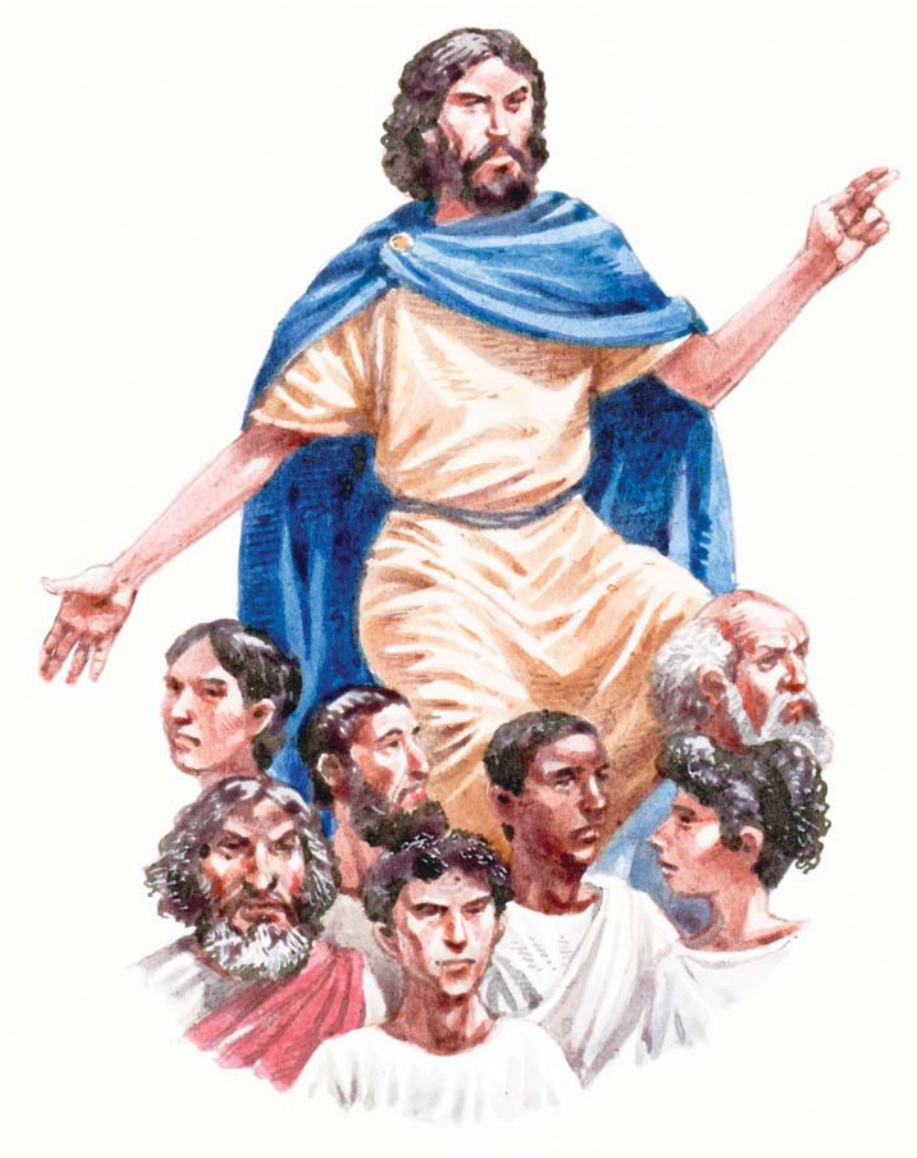


The noise from the wind, the praying, and from all the people speaking at the same time, was so loud. It was so loud that the people outside on the street down below were beginning to wonder what in the world was happening up there in that room.



**Some people were thrilled to be hearing about the wonderful works of God. Other people didn't understand and thought the people in the room were just drunk. Peter stood up and started to preach to all the people standing outside. He explained that what they were seeing and hearing was the power of the Holy Spirit.**

**A symbol of the Holy Spirit is a dove.**



**He preached to them about some of the prophecies in the Old Testament. He preached to them about the teachings of Jesus.**



**He preached that Jesus was truly the Son of God and they needed to accept Him. He preached that they needed to repent of their sins and be baptised.**

**This festival marks the birthday of the Christian Church.**