

Year 4

Year 4

PENTECOST – SERVING

Come and See for yourself

EXPLORE

Each of us, by the way we live our lives, the way we treat others, and by our words and actions, show if we have an attitude of service.

Often, we are especially influenced by those whose actions speak powerfully of a life of service.

- Q Think of someone who impresses you deeply because of the way she/he lives.
- Q What is it that impresses you?
- Q What do you think inspires them?

REVEAL

Christians believe that the Spirit of God is active in each person and, in a special way, in the community of believers, which is the Church. It is the work of the Spirit to enable people to hear God's message and to live Jesus' way of service.

Word of God

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."

Luke 4: 18-19

Catechism of the Catholic Church

“Those, who with God’s help, have welcomed Christ’s call and freely responded to it, are urged on by love of Christ to proclaim the Good News everywhere in the world. This treasure, received from the apostles, has been faithfully guarded by their successors. All Christ’s faithful are called to hand it on from generation to generation, by professing the faith, by living it in fraternal sharing, and by celebrating it in liturgy and prayer.”

(CCC Prologue 3)

Q How is this lived out in your life today?

RESPOND

Q In what ways is serving emphasised in the classroom and throughout the school?

Q How can you help children to appreciate their energy and use it for the good of others?

Q In what ways may a school community draw on the power of the Holy Spirit?

Prayer and Reflection

Father, pour out your Spirit

upon your people,

and grant us

a new vision of your glory,

a new faithfulness to your Word

and a new consecration to your service,

that your love may grow among us,

and your kingdom come:

through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

(Prayer of preparation for Vatican II)

EXPLORE

How good news brings life

STANDARD INDICATOR

Some children will be able to **ask and respond** to questions about their own and others' experiences of good news bringing life.

Some children will be able to ask questions about what they and others **wonder** about how good news brings life and happiness.

Some children will be able to **make links** to show how feelings of sadness and joy and the belief in the goodness of others, affects their own and others' behaviour.

Some children will be able to **compare** their own and other people's ideas about how good news brings life.

KEY WORDS

life, good news

RESOURCES

Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers

TEACHING POINT

Throughout this topic we explore everyday 'good news' denoted by lower case letters. We also explore 'The Good News' of Jesus denoted by upper case letters.

LEARNING INTENTION:

Good news brings life.

Talk about the experience of feeling a bit miserable or just slightly bored and then something happens to brighten your day and make you feel alive. What happened? Who was responsible and why did it make a difference? How did your good feeling affect others?

Read the following story:

Cameron had just had a birthday. His parents had given him what he really wanted, a remote controlled stunt monster car. He was really thrilled and had spent the weekend learning how to use it and doing lots of stunt manoeuvres.

He took it to bed with him and looked at it sitting on his window sill, sparkling in the light from the street.

Monday morning arrived and his Mum reminded him that he had to leave his stunt monster at home and not take it to school. Cameron nodded,

hoping his mum would not notice the large shape in his school bag.

When he got to school he told all his friends about his present. He knew he could not show them in school, so suggested that they walk home through the park so he could demo his monster.

The other boys watched as Cameron made his stunt monster do incredible things and go really fast.

Someone was watching this, an older boy called Gary. Slowly

he got nearer and no one noticed him until he ran over snatched the monster and ran off with it.

Cameron felt sick. What could he do? It was no good running after Gary. He would never catch him. And his friends all went off to their homes.

Mum commented that he was a bit late, but Cameron just muttered something, and went to his room. Mum shouted up that if he got on and did his homework now, he would have time to play with his monster after tea. That made Cameron feel even worse.

His Dad thought Cameron looked sick, and thought he had better go to bed rather than play with his monster. Cameron agreed.

Next morning he was still feeling rotten. He knew his parents had saved for his present and his Dad was as excited as Cameron with it.

He knew he had been really stupid – not to mention disobedient. All day in school, he was quiet. His friends were sympathetic, but he felt lifeless.

Another day went on like that.

He heard his mum and Dad talking about him, wondering what was wrong with him. He looked unwell and he didn't even want to play with his monster. They wondered if they should take him to the doctor.

His elder sister, Danielle, came into to his bedroom and asked him what was wrong and she asked him where his monster was.

At first he said nothing was wrong, but his sister had a kind way of talking to him, and eventually he told her his sad story and how awful he had felt

about it, especially because his parents had been so generous and he had let them down.

Next evening, after another miserable day, when he got home he went straight up to his room and there to his surprise was his monster sitting on his bed. He picked it up and hugged it. Tears of joy ran down his cheeks. He quickly brushed them away. He felt like a new person. He called his sister to tell her and ask her what had happened.

Danielle smiled, and told him she knew Gary's mum and had

been round to his house. Gary's Mum gave her the monster and told her she wondered where Gary had got it from and that it was useless to him as he didn't have the radio to make it work. Gary was going to be in trouble when he got home.

Cameron was jumping up and down and was so excited that his Mum came up to see what was wrong. She said she was glad to see him looking happy and alive again. He told her the story and said he was very sorry. She said she thought he was fortunate to have such a good sister and he had learnt an important lesson.

SOME KEY QUESTIONS

- Q How did Cameron react to something really bad happening?
- Q Why was Cameron upset about how his parents would feel?
- Q How was Cameron rescued and what effect did it have on him?
- Q What effect did it have on the people who knew Cameron?
- Q What lesson do you think he learnt?
- Q What do you think happened in school next day?
- Q What do you do when life is difficult?
- Q How does good news change the way you feel and how you react?

- Make a good news board. Collect some good news from everyone in your house. Record in some way why it was good news and how it made them feel. Maybe you could keep adding to it during this topic.



REVEAL

The new life of the Easter message is spread through the power of the Holy Spirit

CONTENT: – scripture – tradition – prayers

STANDARD INDICATOR

Some children will be able to **retell** some special stories about the religious events and people connected with Pentecost.

Some children will be able to use religious words and phrases to **describe** the events of Pentecost.

Some children will be able to **describe** some ways in which the apostles spread the Good News through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Some children will be able to **give reasons** why the apostles spread the Good News and the reasons for the actions of Peter, John and Paul.

Some children will be able to **make links** between the Pentecost story and the Christian belief in the new life of the Easter message through the power of the Holy Spirit.

KEY WORDS

Pentecost, Holy Spirit, Resurrection, fellowship

TEACHING POINT

Pentecost is a Greek word meaning fiftieth. The Jewish 'Feast of Weeks' was a thanksgiving feast 50 days after Passover.

LEARNING FOCUS 1: Pentecost.

I can **retell** some special stories about the religious events and people connected with Pentecost.

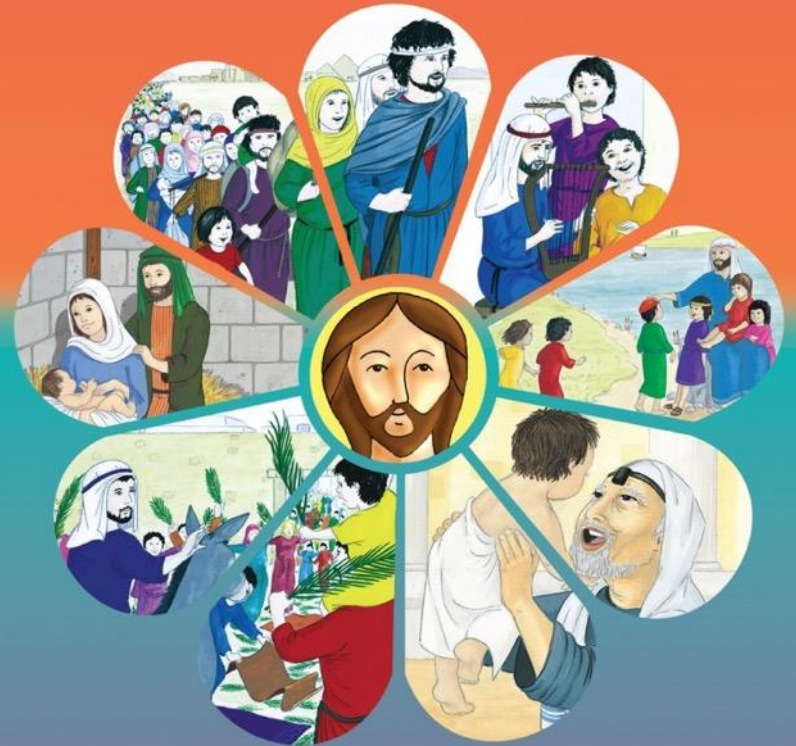
I can use religious words and phrases to **describe** the events of Pentecost.

Pentecost is a Greek word meaning 'the fiftieth Day'. At this feast the Jewish people celebrate Shavuot, the Festival of Weeks. It celebrates the giving of the Torah, that is the first five books of the Bible, at Mount Sinai. In Jesus' day it would have been a time when there were a lot of people in Jerusalem. This was the time of year when the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles and Mary.

This is described in Chapter 2 of the Acts of the Apostles.

Good News

Good News





Then Peter stood up with the other apostles and in a loud voice began to speak to the crowd:

‘Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, listen to me and let me tell you what this means. This is what the prophet Joel spoke about:

‘Yes, even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my spirit in those days, and they will proclaim my message.’

Listen to these words, fellow Israelites!

Jesus of Nazareth was a man whose divine authority was clearly proven to you by all the miracles and wonders which God performed through him.

You yourselves know this, for it happened here among you.

In accordance with his own plan, God had already decided that Jesus would be handed over to be crucified.

But God has raised this very Jesus from death, and we are all witnesses to this fact.

All the people of Israel, then, are to know for sure that this Jesus, whom you crucified, is the one that God has made lord and messiah!

When the people heard this, they were deeply troubled and said to Peter and the other apostles, 'What shall we do, brothers?'

Peter said to them, 'Each one of you must turn away from your sins and be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ, so that your sins will be forgiven; and you will receive God's gift, the holy spirit.'

For God's promise was made to you and your children, and to all who are far away - all whom the Lord our God calls to himself'.

Many of them believed his message and were baptised, and about three thousand people were added to the group that day.

They spent their time in learning from the apostles, taking part in the fellowship, and sharing in the fellowship meals and the prayers.

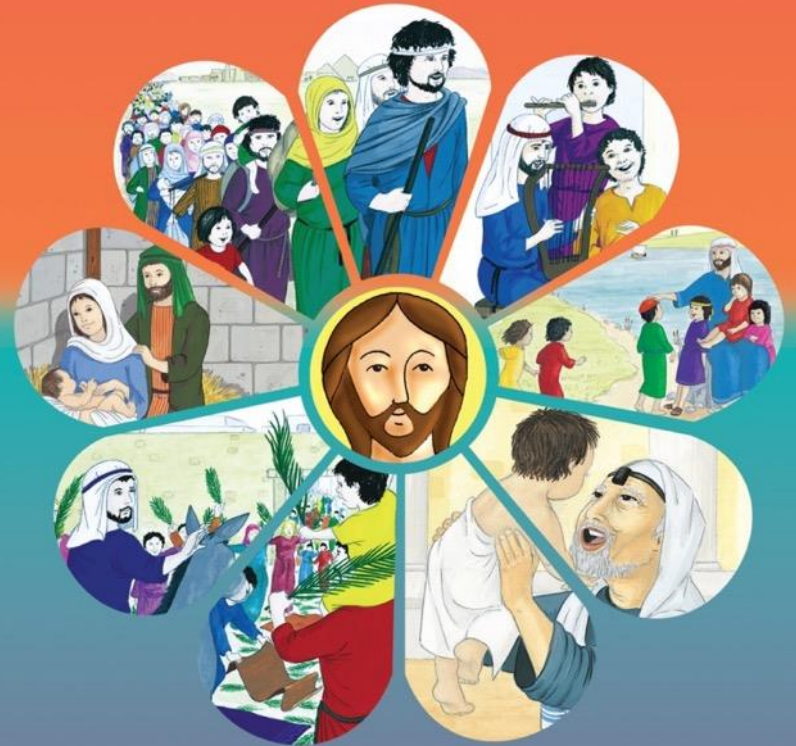
**Based on Acts 2
(Come and See)**



Good News

Good News

Good News



When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers were gathered together in one place.

Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched each person there.

They were all filled with the holy spirit and began to talk in other languages, as the spirit enabled them to speak.

There were Jews living in Jerusalem, religious people who had come from every country in the world.

When they heard this noise, a large crowd gathered.

They were all excited, because all of them heard the believers talking in their own languages.

In amazement and wonder they exclaimed, 'These people who are talking like this are Galileans! How is it, then, that all of us hear them speaking in our own native languages?'

We are from Parthia, Media, and Elam; from Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia; from Pontus and Asia; from Phrygia and Pamphylia, from Egypt and the regions of Libya near Cyrene.

Some of us are from Rome, both Jews and Gentiles converted to Judaism, and some of us are from Crete and Arabia

Yet all of us hear them speaking in our own languages about the great things that God has done!



**Based on Acts 2
(Come and See)**



Good News

The power of the Holy Spirit is for all Christians and all are called to share the Gospel message. The Good News of Jesus is for the whole world. The event is celebrated in Christian churches on the Feast of Pentecost.

SOME KEY QUESTIONS

- Q What happened to the friends of Jesus?
- Q How would this help people to spread the Good News?
- Q What reaction did the people have who heard Peter speak?
- Q What effect did it have on their lives?
- Q How would you have felt on hearing Peter's message?
- Q How does the power of the Holy Spirit change people's lives?
- Q How could you be bearers of Good News in school or at home?

Show your learning...

Study this painting which is called Pentecost by Titian.

Describe what is happening in the painting. Focus on the people, symbols and colour etc. How does this link to the scripture studied in the topic so far?

Research the painting to learn more about it.



LEARNING FOCUS 2: The Holy Spirit gives courage to Peter and John.

I can **describe** some ways in which the apostles spread the Good News through the power of the Holy Spirit.

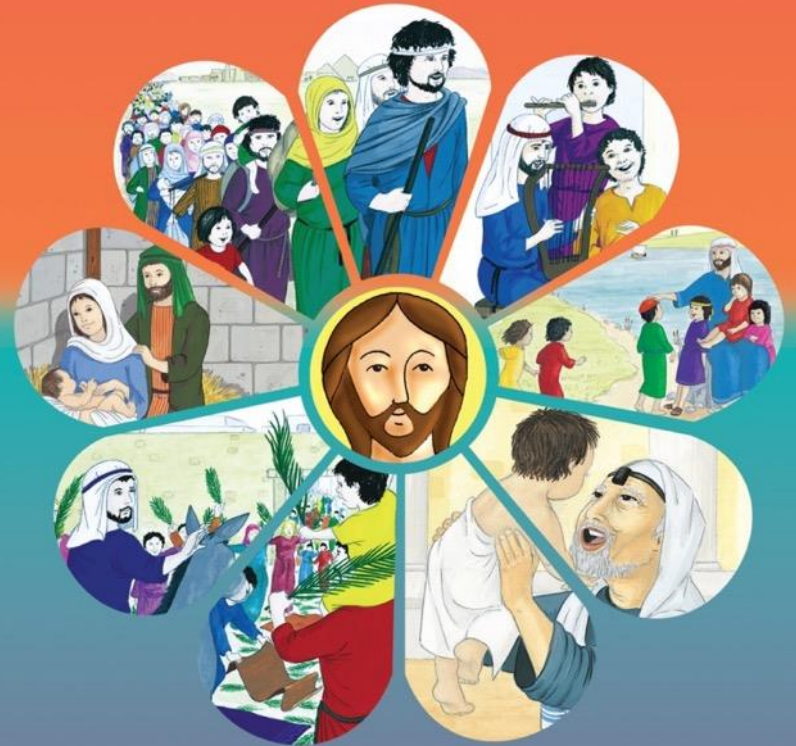
I can **give reasons** why the apostles spread the Good News and the reasons for the actions of Peter and John.

What is Pentecost?

The apostles are witnesses to Jesus being raised to new life by God. The Holy Spirit confirmed their faith in Jesus and gave them the courage they needed to speak out about the Good News of Jesus even when they were threatened.

Good News

Good News



The friends of Jesus were full of new life and could not stop telling everyone about Jesus. Their minds and hearts were full of all he had done and said.

When they went to the temple to pray they talked to people and crowds gathered round them. They helped the poor and the sick.

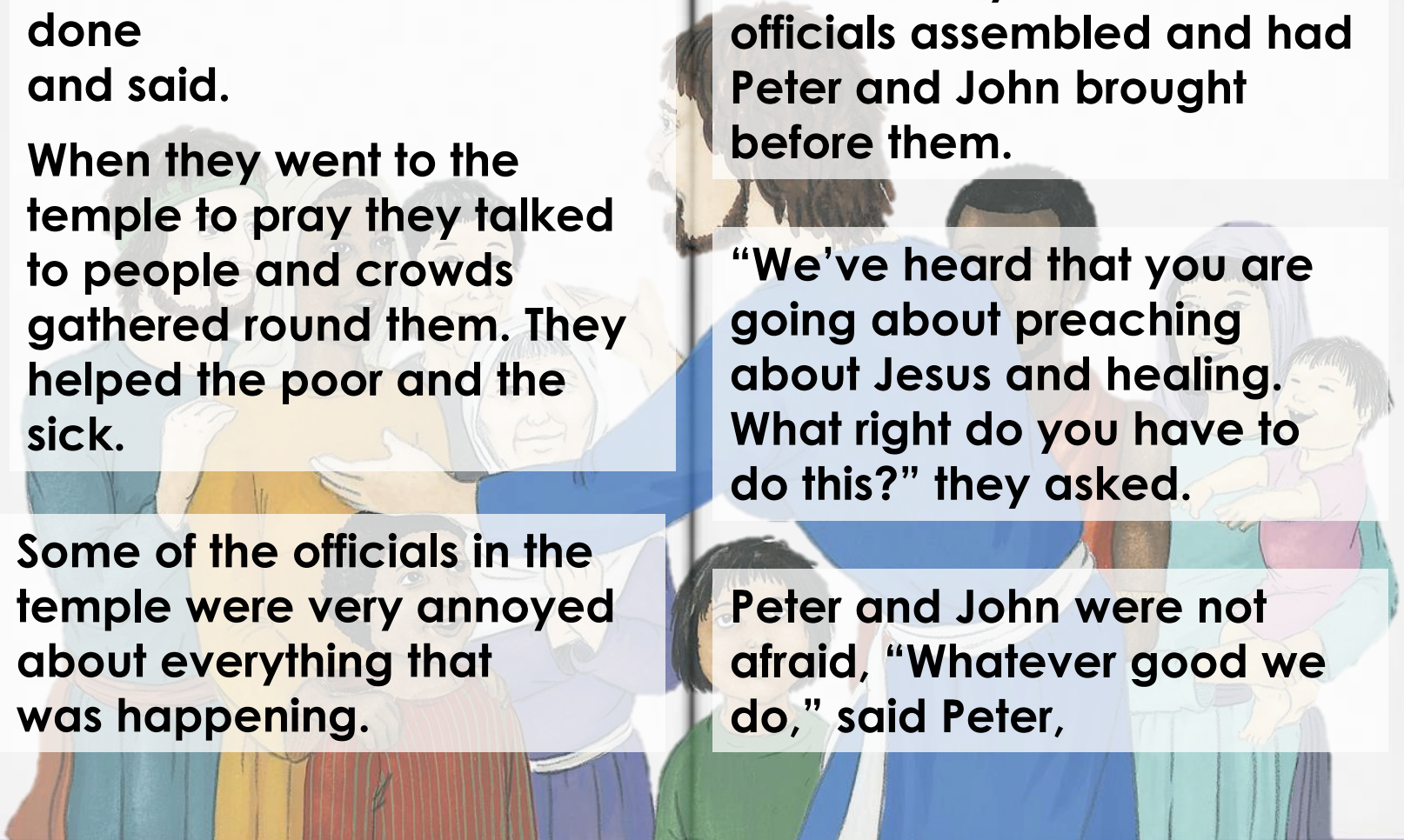
Some of the officials in the temple were very annoyed about everything that was happening.

One day they had Peter and John arrested and put them in prison.

The next day all the council officials assembled and had Peter and John brought before them.

“We’ve heard that you are going about preaching about Jesus and healing. What right do you have to do this?” they asked.

Peter and John were not afraid, “Whatever good we do,” said Peter,



“we do in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth. You crucified him, but God raised him from the dead.”

The whole council were amazed that two very ordinary men were not afraid, and were able to speak out boldly.

They discussed the matter, and then ordered the disciples never to speak or teach in the name of Jesus.

But Peter and John were not frightened by any of their threats and said,

“We cannot keep silent about the great things that God has done. We have to spread the Good News of Jesus.”

The officials had to let them go because the people were so glad about what they were doing, and the officials did not want to risk a riot.

When Peter and John got back to the other disciples, everyone thanked God for their safety and the courage that the coming of the Holy Spirit had given them.

**Based on Acts 4:1-26
(God's Story 3)**

SOME KEY QUESTIONS

- Q Why were the friends of Jesus full of new life?
- Q Why do you think the officials were annoyed?
- Q What happened to Peter and John?
- Q How do you think Peter and John felt when they were arrested?
- Q What did they say to the council?
- Q How did Peter and John show their courage to the officials?
- Q What would you have done? Why?



Show your learning...

Set up an interview with Peter and John.

Prepare a set of questions to ask them to find out why they did what they did.

Remember to ask them **how and why** they spread the Good News. Ask a family member to help you hold the interview – they can ask the questions you have prepared and you can be Peter / John answering them.



LEARNING FOCUS 3: The Ethiopian receives the new life of Jesus.

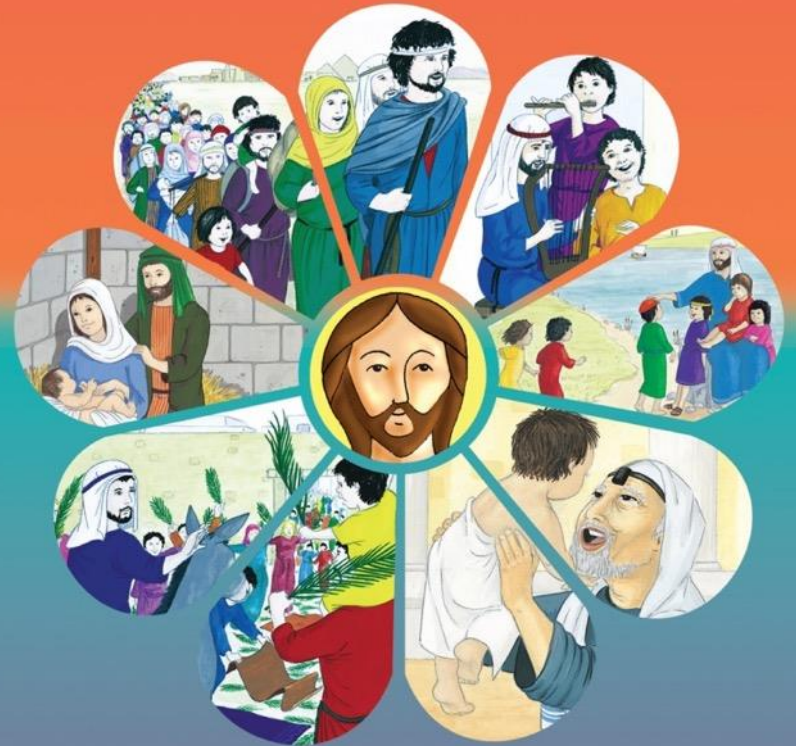
I can **make links** between the Pentecost story and the Christian belief in the new life of the Easter message through the power of the Holy Spirit.

How did Peter and John spread the Good News?

Philip was a follower of Jesus. He, too, spoke of the Good News of Jesus everywhere he went. He baptised the Ethiopian in the river before embarking on his journey spreading the message of new life.

Good News

Good News



Philip was a follower of Jesus. One day he went walking on the desert road from Jerusalem to Gaza.

A chariot passed him. In it was an officer of the court of the Queen of Ethiopia.

This man was reading one of the books of the Bible: the book of the prophet Isaiah.

God's spirit spoke to Philip, saying, "Go to meet that chariot."

When he reached the chariot, Philip heard the Ethiopian reading the words of Isaiah:

"Do you understand what you are reading?" asked Philip.

"How can I understand unless I have someone to help me?" he replied. He asked Philip to help him.

"Come up here beside me," he said. Philip did as he asked

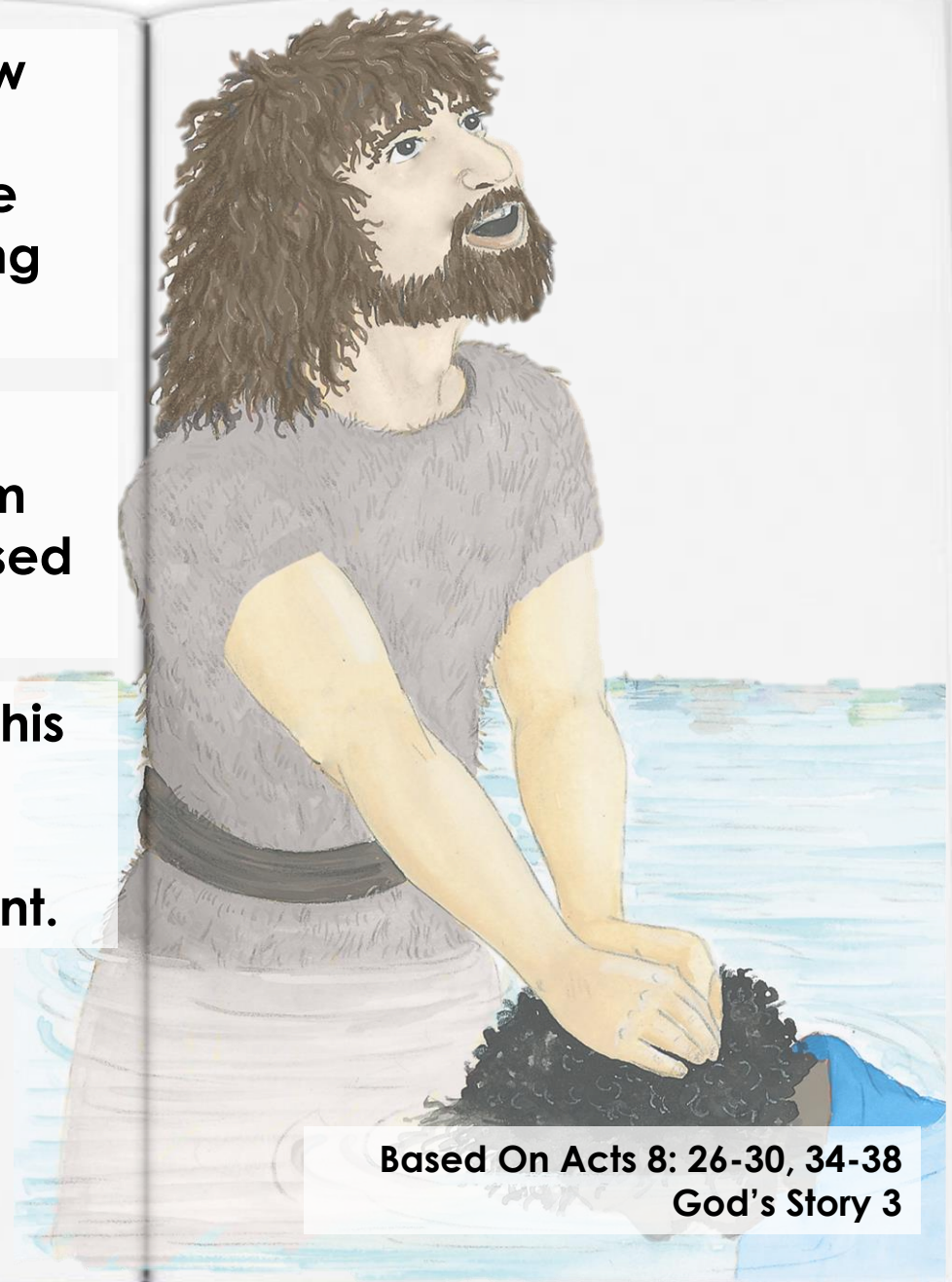
The Ethiopian said, "Who is this prophet talking about here?"

Philip explained that the passage was about Jesus and went on to tell him more of the Good News of Jesus.

A little further on they saw some water and the Ethiopian asked, “Is there anything to stop me being baptised?”

He stopped the chariot. Philip went down with him into the water and baptised him, there and then.

The Ethiopian continued his journey rejoicing. Philip went on telling the Good News everywhere he went.



**Based On Acts 8: 26-30, 34-38
God's Story 3**



Good News

The Baptism of the Ethiopian
by Rembrandt

What do you think is happening in the painting?

The Ethiopian had been reading from the prophet Isaiah about the Messiah.



SOME KEY QUESTIONS

- Q What happened to Philip on the way to Gaza?
- Q How did Philip help the Ethiopian?
- Q What do you think the Ethiopian meant when he said he needed help to read the Bible?
- Q Why did the Ethiopian want to be baptised?
- Q How did the Ethiopian feel then?

Show your learning...

- Imagine you are the Ethiopian. Write a letter to the Queen of Ethiopia to describe your encounter with Philip. Give reasons to show how this meeting gave you new life.

Word Bank

Prophet Isaiah

Bible

Good News

sharing

baptise



LEARNING FOCUS 4: The story of Paul.

I can **retell** the story of St Paul.

What do you remember
About Philip?

Who was St Paul?

Paul was originally called Saul. He was a Jew who came from Tarsus. He grew up in a Jewish home. He was a Pharisee and did everything he could to be a good man. He kept every rule there was to keep, but he did not like the followers of Jesus. He did his best to wipe them out; however, God filled his mind and heart with the light of truth and he recognised who Jesus was. He knew he owed everything to God's love. All he wanted to do was spread the Good News of that love all over the world. When he became a Christian, he changed his name to Paul.

He travelled many thousands of miles, on foot, on horseback and by boat to spread the Good News, mainly to the Gentiles, the people who were not Jews. In every place, he told people about Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit. He explained the Good News that Jesus had come to bring – God loves everyone. He told them how Jesus had died and been raised to a new life by his Father in heaven and how the Holy Spirit helps people. He told them that Jesus wanted them to share this new life. When they asked him what they had to do to live this new life, he told them that they must believe and be baptised and try to live like Jesus, loving God and loving one another. They were to share their faith with one another, pray together and break bread together as Jesus had done with his friends at the Last Supper.

<http://request.org.uk/restart/2017/07/21/the-beginning-of-pauls-story/>

What do you know about St Paul?



Show your learning...

- Imagine you are Paul today and many people are turning out at the local stadium to listen to you.
- Your task is to help people to understand how the Holy Spirit is working today in the Church in the same way as we read in the Acts of the Apostles. Write down what you would say and why.



LEARNING FOCUS 5: Paul spreads the Good News.

I can **describe** some ways in which the apostles spread the Good News through the power of the Holy Spirit.

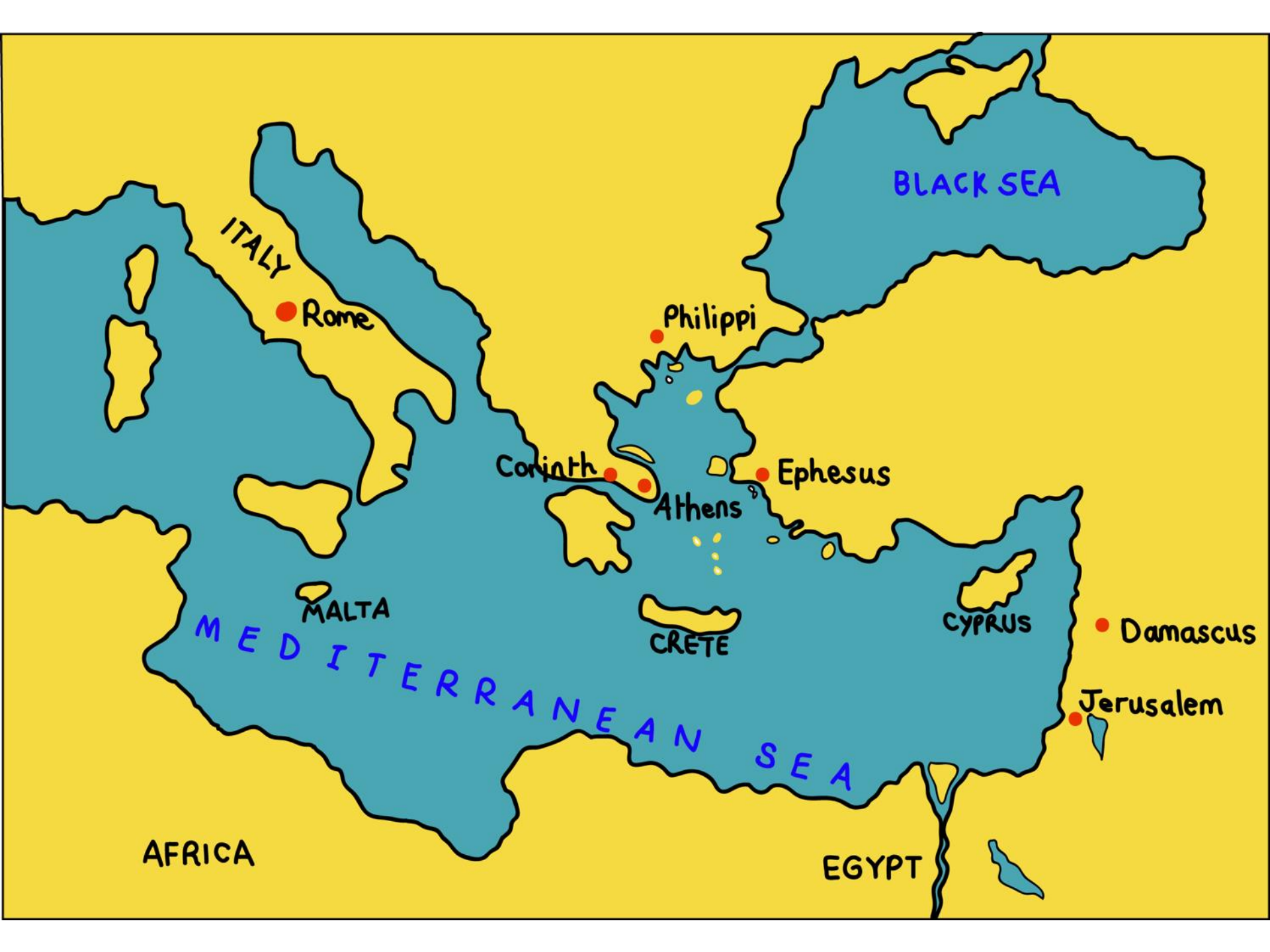
I can **give reasons** why the apostles spread the Good News and the reasons for the actions of Paul.

What happened to
change Paul?

Paul spreads the Good News

Paul was a Jew and became one of the friends of Jesus. He travelled many thousands of miles on foot, on horseback and by boat to give the message to the Gentiles, the people who were not Jews. Paul wanted as many people as possible to hear about the Good News of the new life which Jesus brought. So he travelled around to the towns surrounding the eastern Mediterranean Sea. The Acts of the Apostles tells about those journeys and what happened. He had many adventures during his journeys. He was shipwrecked and was imprisoned several times.

Paul would start a Christian community in a town and then move on to another place. He would often write to the people of the town where the Christian community had been started, offering them advice and encouragement. Sometimes he sent one of his friends to help them.



AFRICA

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

EGYPT

BLACK SEA

ITALY

MALTA

CRETE

CYPRUS

Rome

Corinth

Athens

Philippi

Ephesus

Jerusalem

Damascus

This is a simple outline of Paul's journeys:

1. The first journey began and ended in Antioch in Syria, and included Cyprus as well as Iconium, Lystra and Derbe.
2. The Second Journey, also began and ended in Antioch and included Phrygia and Galatia, Philippi, Thessalonika, Athens, Corinth and Ephesus. It included Caesarea in Palestine, and probably Jerusalem. (Note there are two towns called Antioch one in Pisidia and one in Syria.)
3. The Third Journey, included Galatia, Phrygia and Ephesus, where Paul spent more than two years; then Macedonia, Greece, where he spent three months, Philippi, and a return to Caesarea and Jerusalem.
4. The fourth journey was from Caesarea where Paul was arrested, and on to Rome where he was to be tried because he was a Roman citizen. On the way he stopped on the islands of Crete, Malta and Sicily. He was shipwrecked on this journey, but managed to get to Malta.

SOME KEY QUESTIONS

- Q What drove Paul to put his life in danger by such hazardous journeys?
- Q How do you think the people felt when Paul came to their city?
- Q What do you think happened when he left?
- Q What do you think it was that kept Paul going for 30 years in spite of all the hardships that he faced?
- Q What do you wonder about the journeys of Paul?

Paul would have travelled, by sea and over land, and that these journeys probably took place over a span of thirty years. It was the beginning of the Christian Church which later spread throughout the world

Show your learning...

Have a debate with members of your family about the importance of St Paul for the Church.

Debate: *'The Church would not exist today without St Paul spreading the Good News.'*

Record your ideas on the sheet from the next slide.

'The Church would not exist today without St Paul spreading the Good News.'



Date:

LEARNING FOCUS 6: The Holy Spirit gave Paul new life and happiness.

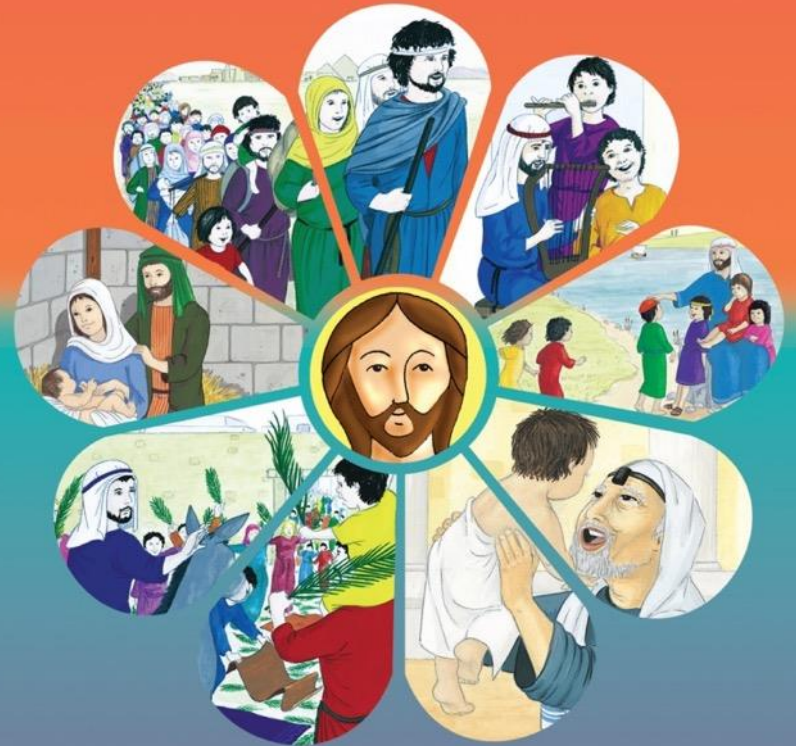
I can **describe** some ways in which the apostles spread the Good News through the power of the Holy Spirit.

I can **give reasons** why the apostles spread the Good News and the reasons for the actions of Paul.

Why was it important
St Paul spread
the Good News?

Good News

Good News



I've had to put up with all sorts of things – dangers and hard times and all sorts of difficulties;

I've been flogged, put in prison and beaten up; I've had to work like a slave, go without sleep and food.

People have sometimes honoured me, and sometimes insulted me;

Sometimes praised me, and sometimes blamed me.

They thought I was lying, yet I always tried to tell the truth;

They called me a nobody, yet everybody knew me;

My life wasn't worth living, yet I have enjoyed every moment of it;

I've had a rough time, yet they haven't finished me off;

Many things have made me sad, yet I've been a very happy man.

**Based on 2 Corinthians 6:3-10
(God's Story 3)**



Good News

Show your learning...

Make a booklet/ poster/ powerpoint about Paul entitled 'New Life and Happiness'.

Include some of his journeys, his messages, his advice, and how he lived his life, including his hardships, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Research more about St Paul here:

https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=91

https://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/history/paul_1.shtml

RESPOND

Remembering, celebrating and responding to good news bringing life and the new life of the Easter message is spread through the power of the Holy Spirit

Remember

Start the session with a moment of quiet reflection. Light a candle and make the sign of the cross. Provide you child with the opportunity to engage with questions of meaning and purpose related to the experience of *New Life*.

Ask your child if there is anything they wonder and ask questions about:

- The experience of good news bringing life.
- How the Good News brings life and happiness.
- The power of the Holy Spirit

Provide the opportunity, possibly by one of the means above, for your child to remember

- The new life of the Easter message.
- The story of Pentecost.
- The power of the Holy Spirit.
- How the Holy Spirit gave courage to Peter and John to bear witness to Jesus.
- How the Ethiopian received the new life of Jesus.
- The story of Paul.
- How Paul spread the Good News of Jesus.
- How the Holy Spirit gave Paul the new life of Jesus.
- How the power of the Holy Spirit helps Christians today.
- How to continue to spread the Good News.

Rejoice

Say a prayer or sing a hymn together.

Renew

Help your child to make an individual response to what they have understood and celebrated from their own experience and of the experience of the Church community.

Apply their learning

How can I spread the Good News, bringing life through the power of the Holy Spirit?

Some suggested ideas

- Think of ways in which you could help to spread the Good News at school or at home.
- Set up a Good News tree or board and ask the child to add to this as they are sharing Good News by the power of the Holy Spirit.