



Pentecost

Pentecost commemorates when Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to be with the disciples (Acts 2). With the Holy Spirit among the disciples, the church was born. Pentecost is a Christian festival that celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit. The day used to be known as Whitsun, a Christian holiday. The festival is generally full of good spirits. Ministers will wear red robes as a symbol of the flames in which the Holy Spirit came to Earth. Symbolism is important on the day. The Holy Spirit is the third part of the Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) which Christians use to interpret God. In essence, Pentecost is the birthday of the Christian faith.

The holiday takes place on the Sunday 50 days after Easter. Today, Pentecost is not widely celebrated as a religious day, but instead as a secular public holiday. It gives workers in many industries the day off.

The name Pentecost comes from the Greek *pentekoste* meaning *fiftieth*.