

## KEY VERSE:

*I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, who will stay with you forever. 17 He is the Spirit, who reveals the truth about God.*

**John 14: 16 – 17**



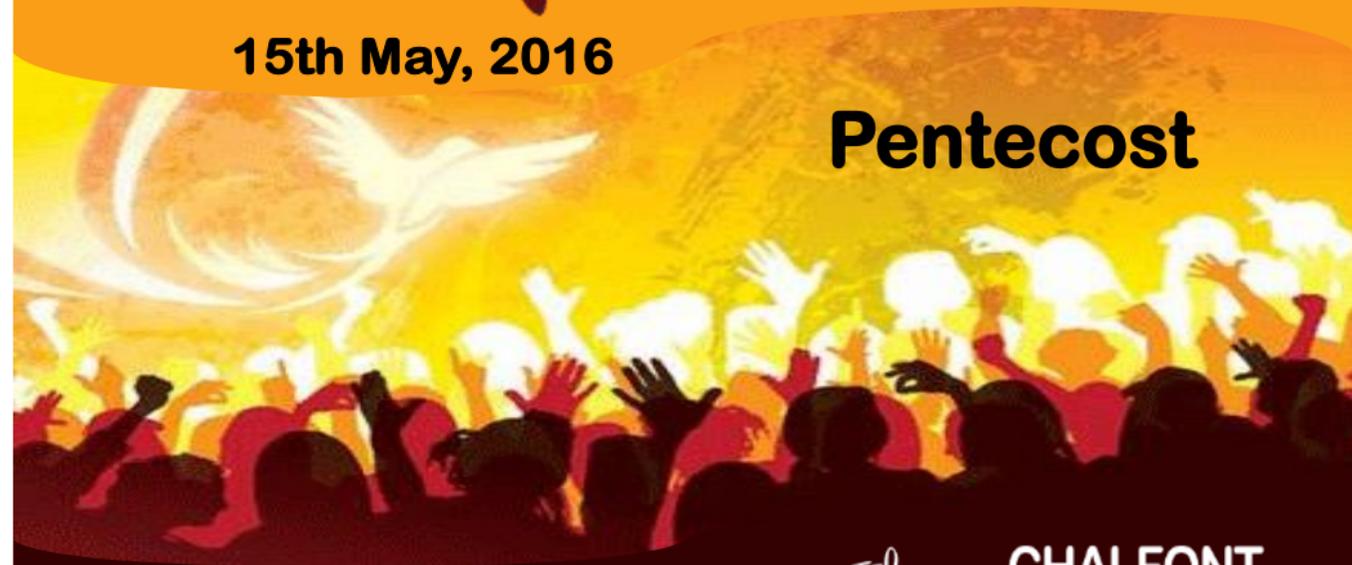
[www.csp-parish.org.uk](http://www.csp-parish.org.uk)



# FOUNDATION CAFÉ SERVICE

15th May, 2016

**Pentecost**



**CHALFONT  
ST. PETER  
PARISH CHURCHES**

## KNOW WHAT:

- Today is Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost is an important festival for the church because it celebrates when the Holy Spirit came in power upon the disciples.
- God gave the disciples the ability to speak in other languages which the people nearby could understand.
- Jesus had promised that when he returned to the Father he would send the Holy Spirit.
- The Bible pictures the Holy Spirit coming on the disciples as something like tongues of flame and a rushing wind filling the whole house where the disciples were meeting.
- The people round about could not make sense of what was going on so Peter explained it to them. This was God keeping his promise.

## SO WHAT:

- We can rely on Jesus to keep his promises.
- Just as the onlookers did not understand what was happening, we often do not understand the way the Holy Spirit is working.
- As believers we can know the power of God's Spirit in our lives.

## NOW WHAT:

- Let us celebrate the feast of Pentecost which is a joyful occasion.
- Let us ask God to fill us with his Holy Spirit every day.

## JIM'S JOTTINGS

I grew up in a Victorian house which was much as it had been in Victorian times. Although we had electricity, every room still had gas light with a fragile mantle that gave out an eerie glow when lit. Gas lighting itself had been a great leap forward. For centuries before people had relied on daylight to do most of their tasks and candlelight at night for a much more limited range of activities. Things such as reading and sewing were challenging by the flickering flame of a candle which could easily be blown out. So the arrival of widespread electricity transformed the home as well as industry and commerce.

For Jesus' first disciples their task looked impossible. Jesus had told them to go into the whole world and tell people the good news that God loved them, had a rescue plan to save them from their old lives and give them new hope and new futures as God's children. How could they do so with the challenges of travel on foot and by sailing ship in dangerous places to strange people with different languages and customs?

Jesus told his disciples to wait for the strength they needed to come from God, and then to get on with it. Early one morning, as the disciples were together, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit on them. They were so full of joy and power that they burst out of their room and began speaking on the streets in a range of languages. Some 3000 listeners became believers and the transformation of the world had started.

We call that day Pentecost and we celebrate God sending his spirit into the world. He still gives us his spirit today to enable us to do all the things which we need to accomplish in our busy lives. We need to wait for him to fill us.