

# Staffroom Prayer Prayer Leader Sheet



## Peace Be With You

This week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> June, we celebrate and remember the Feast of Pentecost. You are invited to this period of prayer and reflection, where you will have some time to think about peace in our lives and around the world. You might like to begin by sharing the sign of peace with those around you.

### MUSIC (1 min 30 secs)

Today's reading is from the Gospel of John 20: 19 - 23.

*In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, "Peace be with you", and showed them His hands and His side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and He said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so am I sending you."*

*After saying this He breathed on them and said:*

*"Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained."*

### PAUSE (20 secs)

Jesus greeted His disciples with words of peace; He repeats the phrase "Peace be with you." In situations of conflict, we are called to be agents of peace and harmony. Take a moment to think about a time when you were a peacemaker and how you sought to restore peace. How does being a peacemaker strengthen your relationships?

### PAUSE (1 min)

In the Gospel reading, Jesus breathed the Holy Spirit upon the disciples so that they could be supported in continuing His work of reconciliation through the forgiveness of sins. As Christians, we have been given the same gift of the Holy Spirit to help us learn how to forgive and accept forgiveness. Close your eyes and think of the word 'sorry' – what emotions do you feel are connected to this word?

### PAUSE (1 min)

Listen again to the part of the Gospel which shows Jesus as a voice of reassurance and comfort for the disciples, when they were feeling afraid and lost.

*Jesus said to them, "Peace be with you", and showed them His hands and His side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and He said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so am I sending you."*

**PAUSE (20 secs)**

The disciples had gathered in fear. They were witnesses to Jesus' death and were very much part of the conflict at that time. They needed these words of peace and reassurance from Jesus. Consider the importance, in your work as educators of young people, of being a voice of peace and reassurance. How does this make others feel?

**PAUSE (1 min)**

"Peace be with you" is a powerful prayer. Let's pray now for peace in places around the world where there is conflict.

**PAUSE (1 min)**

Finally, let's take a moment to privately offer any prayers on your heart for yourself, a family member, a friend, your school, a colleague, a pupil or their family.

**PAUSE (1 min)**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.