**May**

**The spirit that inspires:**

***Shavuot & Pentecost***

Shavuot celebrates the empowering spirit of Divine Revelation. Pentecost celebrates the spirit of God that inspires the weak and the meek. Orientation and inspiration: standing on a stable foundation. Forming and shaping, moving forward with courage!

**A Christian voice**

**short version:**

Pentecost is a major festival which is celebrated on the 50th day after Easter. It commemorates the descent of God´s Spirit on the followers of Jesus while they were in Jerusalem celebrating Shavuot, as described in the [Acts of the Apostles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acts_of_the_Apostles) ([Acts 2:1–31](https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Bible_%28King_James%29/Acts#2:1)): "Then suddenly there came a sound from heaven ... and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit inspired them." (Acts 2:1f). People hear and understand what is said in their individual mother-tongue. Peter interprets this event, quoting Joel 3:1f: “And after this I will pour out my spirit on all flesh, and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions.”

The Holy Spirit is considered the divine power of change. In the Christian tradition it is part of the divine Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit works in people, "we thereby encounter the living God himself, who comes closer to us than we think," states a Lutheran Catechism.