

If you have an outdoor space that's free of overhead powerlines, a kite festival is a great way of getting people out in the fresh air, looking up, thinking about God and enjoying being family together. Kites are fun for people of all ages.

You could invite people to bring along ready-made kites or have kite-making workshops with the following instructions:

You will need: a piece of paper 30cm x 45cm or A3 size; string; orange, yellow and red tissue paper; a length of wool; gold curling ribbons; scissors; ruler; bamboo canes (two small and one large per kite); glue; tape; hole punch.

This activity is based on Acts 2:3 when the Holy Spirit came and it looked like flames of fire were reaching out and touching people.

- Take the large piece of paper and fold it in half lengthways.
- Using the ruler, measure 15cm down the fold and make a mark **A**.
- Draw a line from mark **A** on the fold to the outside edge of the paper and mark this **B**.
- Draw a line from the outside edge of the paper **B** to the top of the fold and mark this **C** to make a triangle shape.

- Draw another line from the outside edge of the paper at mark **B** to the bottom of the fold and mark it **D** to make a longer triangle shape. Cut along the line from mark **B** to **C** and then from **B** to **D**. Unfold the paper and you should have a kite shape.
- Using the coloured tissue paper, cut out flame shapes in different sizes and stick them on to the kite.
- Turn the kite over and stick two small bamboo canes on to the kite in a cross shape with tape to strengthen the kite.
- Using the hole punch, make a hole in the bottom of the kite and tie a length of wool to the bottom of the kite, threading it through the hole.
- Cut some of the tissue paper into strips and tie a few strips on to the wool for kite tails. You may also want to tie some gold curling ribbon on to the bottom of the kite.
- Tie a length of string to the centre of the bamboo cross on the back of the kite and then tie the other end of the string to the top of one of the larger bamboo canes and use this to lift the kite (similar to a fishing rod) and move the kite through the air.
- As you fly your kite, stand in a line with the other kite makers and fly your kites together as a kite festival. Pray that the Holy Spirit will rest on the people around you as you fly your kites, and fill them with courage and enthusiasm.

