

Film Title and Release Date: *Pentecost* (2011)

Length of Film: 12 minutes

Film Genre: Short Film/Drama/Sport

Reviewers Name and Grade: Nicolas A., 8th grade

Date Reviewed: February 22, 2021

The year is set to 1977 in Northern Ireland and 11 year old Damian is forced to serve in the altar during a huge mass to be able to end his punishment in which he is not allowed to take any part in anything that is soccer related. If Damian fails his punishment gets extended. Before the mass the Priests helper gives them a coach-like talk telling what to do. Throughout the service is like a soccer match for Damian. At the end Damain decides to kick the container of holy water and the end of the service and it abruptly ends so we will never know the exact outcome of Damian's punishment.

Questions about the Film:

How did you find the film on Kanopy (by title search, subject search, casual browsing, etc.)?: I found this film on Kanopy by searching sports and this is the first thing that came up on the search results

Did the plot keep you interested?: The plot was kind of like a big soccer match and that's what makes the film interesting in its way.

Was the pace of the film too fast, too slow, or just right?: In my opinion, I think the pace was just a bit too fast for me to keep up with because there were some parts that I wished they would explain better.

What grade level(s) is this film appropriate for?: In my opinion, I think this film can be appropriate to show to anyone because it's relatively clean. But in order to fully understand the movie I think grades 4-12.

Rating:

I would give this film a rating of *4 stars*. I enjoy this short film very much because it made the plot kind of like a big soccer match for Damian so it made it easier to understand his perspective. There were a few parts that the film tried to make the viewer laugh and I liked that. Though one thing this film is missing is the lack of explaining some parts; this film would be perfect if they did that. Plus the movie has been nominated for the Best Short Film at the Academy Awards and Best Narrative Short at the Tribeca Film Festival.

Reviewer Name and Grade: Ian F., 11th grade

Date Reviewed: March 21st, 2021

Pentecost is a funny and creative film. With themes such as sports, religion, youthful rebellion, and individuality, the Coming of Age experiences of a young boy Damien are guaranteed to charm and bring a smile to your face as you watch this short film. Damien is an altar boy. Not something he wants to be, but a chore.

One day, while daydreaming, Damien causes an accident while carrying the incense burner at the church. Everyone is outraged, most of all his father. He forbids Damien to play, watch or listen to football for three months. Damien is in love with the sport of football and a punishment like that would crush his heart. Not everything is lost and Damien is offered a chance to redeem his actions. An important Mass at the church is about to take place in the local parish. The Archbishop is invited and Damien is the only available boy to carry the incense burner. If he completes this mass without causing any problems he is able to get his privileges of football back. He ends up placing the incense down on the floor. He backs up and imagines he is taking a freekick for Liverpool FC (his favorite football club). He runs up and kicks the incense right into the Archbishops face. The film ends with him smiling after he hits his target.

How did you find this film on Kanopy?

I found this film while searching in the Short Films section. I love the sport of football or soccer. My favorite team (Chelsea FC) is actually the rival team of Damiens favorite team (Liverpool) in the film.

How did the plot keep you interested?

Because of the love for the sport, the film had kept me interested.

What was the pace of the film?

The film was perfectly timed with the scenes and the speed at which the plot was moving.

What grade level is appropriate for this film?

Any grade level is appropriate for watching this film.

Rating:

I would give this film 5 Stars. I really enjoyed watching the film because it was funny and interesting to see how the film would end.