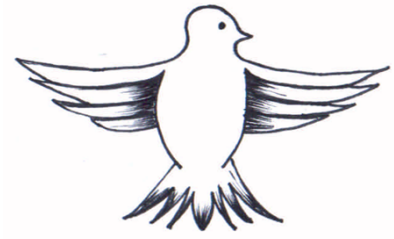


1. Jesus, filled with the Holy Spirit



Background information for parents/carers

"Christ does not want admirers, but followers."

Søren Kierkegaard

So the journey to Confirmation with your child begins, a time of great excitement, and a privileged time for parents and children to share time, memories, and the gift of their faith. Setting off on a journey always causes some uncertainty, but God accompanies us and asks us to open ourselves to the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Pope Francis, in his first sermon for Pentecost said, "Newness always makes us a bit fearful, because we feel more secure if we have everything under control, if we are the ones who build, programme and plan our lives in accordance with our own ideas, our own comfort, our own preferences. This is also the case when it comes to God. Let us ask ourselves today: Are we open to "God's surprises"? Or are we closed and fearful before the newness of the Holy Spirit?"

Jesus' whole life on earth was open to, and inspired by, the Holy Spirit. Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit. And so his words, deeds and attitudes towards others help us to understand something of the power of the Spirit. Let us journey together, open to what the Holy Spirit has in store for the next few weeks.

Bible references for this theme:

Luke 4: 16-21

Mark 8: 22-24

During this theme your child will

become more familiar with the

following key vocabulary:

Holy Spirit healing trust charity

selflessness caring volunteering

apostles Synagogue

The Spirit Works In Others



Jesus showed that the Spirit of God was upon him by bringing good news to the poor. Today, the Holy Spirit works in others when they show concern and try to help the less fortunate. Look in the newspaper/internet for an example of how an individual or a group of people are working to help those less fortunate than themselves.

Stick your picture/article here

In your co-op group discuss then write about:

- Who is being helped?
- Why do they need help?
- How are they being helped?
- What does this tell us about the people helping them?

Home Session 1



Discuss with your parent/carer the different qualities Jesus displayed when he went to the synagogue and then healed the blind man.



Think about a time where you displayed similar qualities. Write about it in the space provided:



Think about an activity you and your parent/carer may be able to do together in your local community to follow in the example of Jesus. You might:

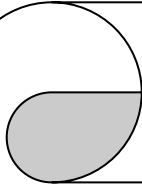
- Help a younger family member learn a new skill or do their homework.
- Volunteer to do the offertory procession together at Sunday Mass.
- Visit an elderly relative or someone you have not seen in a while.
- Participate in a charity fundraiser.

- Write below about what you chose to do and how it made you feel:

Pupil: _____

Parent: _____

Parent/Carer signature: _____



Prayer Time at Home



This could be a good time to reflect on your experiences this week.

- Light a candle if you have one (your child's Baptismal candle could also be used.)
- You may want to set up a small altar as a point to focus on during your prayer, this could consist of a Bible, flowers and your candle.
- Close your eyes for a couple of minutes and think about how God's Spirit has been in your heart this week and how your experiences have brought you closer to him.
- When finished reflecting, say together:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

God our Father,

We thank you for bringing the gift of the Holy Spirit into our hearts.

Help us to embrace the Holy Spirit in our daily lives and be inspired by His presence to follow Jesus' example in all that we do.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

