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The Holy Spirit

A Scripture Story

CHAPTER BACKGROUND

The Soul of the Church

The Church is the Temple of the Holy Spirit. She is “where the Spirit flourishes” (CCC 749).¹ The Holy Spirit is so closely linked with the Church that he is the soul of the Body of Christ, which is the Church. The Holy Spirit is inseparable from the Church, acting within her. The early Church Father Saint Irenaeus (ca. 140–ca. 202) wrote, “For where the Church is, there also is God’s Spirit; where God’s Spirit is, there is the Church and every grace” (CCC 797).²

Promise of the Spirit

At the Last Supper Jesus announced the coming of the Holy Spirit. He promised to send his disciples the Advocate who would always be with them. This Advocate would stand by them, teaching them all that Jesus taught them. (See John 14:15–31.)

After Jesus’ Resurrection and Ascension to the right hand of his Father, the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples as Jesus promised. Fifty days after Easter, on the feast of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples. Saint Peter and the other Apostles left the upper room where they were staying and entered the marketplace. There Saint Peter proclaimed Jesus to the Jewish pilgrims “from every nation under



heaven staying in Jerusalem” (Acts of the Apostles 2:5). From that day forward the followers of Jesus have proclaimed the Gospel to the whole world. The work of the Church had begun.

The Holy Spirit in Church History

In many ways Church history recounts how the Holy Spirit makes Christ present in the world through the Church. The Holy Spirit prepares men and women by his grace to go out into the world and preach the Gospel by their words and deeds.

Church history depicts the many ways that the Holy Spirit

has been and continues to be integrally involved in the life of the Church. He is the guiding principle of every one of her life-giving and saving actions. He constantly helps her to be his instrument of charity in the world.

The Holy Spirit works through the Sacrament of Baptism that continues to form the Body of Christ. He works through the other sacraments to give healing and grace to the members of the Church. He gives the members of the Church charisms, or graces “which directly or indirectly benefit the Church, ordered as they are to her building up, to the good of men, and to the needs of the world” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* 799).

The Holy Spirit resides in each member of the Body of Christ. He flows in us like “[r]ivers of living water” (John 7:38) as we live our faith in Jesus. He helps us pray and guides us through times of trial and persecution as Jesus, who was about to suffer and die on the cross, promised. (See John 16:1–11.)

FOR REFLECTION

What is my relationship with the Holy Spirit?

How can I help the young people include praying to the Holy Spirit in their daily lives?

First Thoughts

The Giver of Life

Without the Holy Spirit, we are incapable of sharing in divine life. The Holy Spirit is the giver of life, the source of our communion with the Holy Trinity and with the Body of Christ, the Church. "The Holy Spirit, whom Christ the head pours out on his members, builds, animates, and sanctifies the Church. She is the sacrament of the Holy Trinity's communion with men" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* 747.)

It's that Simple

When working with your students and teaching about the Holy Spirit, let them know that the Holy Spirit is always with them just as Jesus promised. The Holy Spirit is their Helper, and he blesses them with gifts and talents to offer to the Church and all people. The Holy Spirit is their Advocate, supplying the wisdom and knowledge and courage they need to live as Jesus' disciples. Share with the students how you have become aware of the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life. Share where you see his grace at work in your life and help the young people recognize the grace of the Holy Spirit at work in their own lives.



The Church Teaches . . .

The *National Directory for Catechesis* teaches:

The Holy Spirit unfolds the divine plan of salvation within the Church. With Christ, the Holy Spirit animates the Church and directs her mission. . . . Thus, the Holy Spirit makes new life in Christ possible for the believers.

NDC 28 A3, page 93

In this chapter the students will deepen their understanding of how the Holy Spirit enables the Church to continue Christ's work in the world.

See the Catechism . . .

For more on the teachings of the Catholic Church on the work of the Holy Spirit in the divine plan of Salvation, see *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 461–463, 659–664, 683–686, 731–732, and 737–741.

*Holy Spirit,
ever present, may our hearts
be on fire with your love.
May we be open to the power
and grace you offer us,
so that our lives may
proclaim your praise.
Amen.*

Footnote references may be found on page 256.

How . . . turn the page and let's get organized!

LESSON PLANNER

Chapter Focus

To learn about the work of the Holy Spirit in the history of the Church

Focus

DAY 1 Engage/Teach and Apply Pages 73–75

Focus

To learn about the Holy Spirit's presence in the ministry and mission of Jesus

Process

Opening Prayer Discussion

How the Holy Spirit is the source of the Church's life

Presentation

Read, discuss, and summarize content.

Scripture: Psalm 104:30; Matthew 10:19–20; Luke 11:13; John 3:5–8, 7:38, 14:15–16, 26

Activity: List key concepts about Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

Did you know: Names for the Holy Spirit

Faith Connection: Put Jesus' words in John 3:5–8 into your own words.

Materials and Options

Materials

pens and pencils

Options

Called to Prayer and Liturgical Lessons booklet: See options for daily and seasonal prayers and liturgical prayers and lessons.

Enriching the Lesson (TG page 161)
Researching Scripture References
Designing a Holy Spirit Bulletin Board

Additional Activities and Assessment Tools booklet

Flames of Fire: The Work of the Holy Spirit, page 19

DAY 2 Teach and Apply Pages 76–77

Focus

To explore Jesus' promise to send the Holy Spirit

Prayer

Presentation

Read, discuss, and summarize content.

Scripture: Acts of the Apostles 1:4–5, 8–9, 2:1–8

Activity: Dramatize the Pentecost event and its meaning.

Materials

Bibles
pens or pencils

DAY 3 Teach/Apply and Connect Pages 78–79

Focus

To discover the work of the Holy Spirit in the history of the Church

Prayer

Presentation

Read, discuss, and summarize content.

Activity: Discuss why the age of the Church is the age of the Holy Spirit.

Faith Connection: Describe how the Holy Spirit is helping you fulfill your role in the Church.

Our Church Makes a Difference

Discover how the Holy Spirit was at work in the life of Saint Maximilian Kolbe.

Materials

pens or pencils

Options

Additional Activities and Assessment Tools booklet

Crossword: The Fruits of the Holy Spirit, page 20

DAY 4 Connect and Apply Pages 80–81

Focus

To understand more about the Fruits of the Holy Spirit

Prayer

What Difference Does Faith Make in My Life?

The Fruits of the Holy Spirit reveal God's presence in your life.

Activity: Identify people from the history of the Church whose lives give witness to the Fruits of the Holy Spirit.

Faith Decision: Choose to cooperate with the Holy Spirit this week.

Materials

paper
pens and pencils

Options

Enriching the Lesson (TG page 161)
Dramatizing the Fruits of the Holy Spirit

DAY 5 Pray and Review Page 82

Pray

Pray "Come, Holy Spirit" together.

Review

Activities: Complete the review exercises to reinforce the concepts of the chapter.

Family Discussion: Encourage the students to share and discuss the question with their family this week.

Materials

paper
pens and pencils

Options

Additional Activities and Assessment Tools booklet
Administer the chapter 7 test.

Music Connection (TG page 161)



Don't Forget! You can make lesson planning a breeze—check out the **Online Lesson Planner** at www.FaithFirst.com for additional resources to enhance this chapter.

The Holy Spirit

A Scripture Story

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FAITH FOCUS

What is the work of the Holy Spirit in the history of the Church?

FAITH VOCABULARY

Holy Spirit	Incarnation
Advocate	Ascension

Name a person from history who has played a vital role but who received little notice.

History is filled with men and women who took a back seat to more celebrated and visible heroes. However, without their contributions, history may have taken a different course. The work of the Holy Spirit, like the work of these heroes, is also seldom noticed. The work of the Holy Spirit is made visible by the work of the members of the Church. The Holy Spirit is the source of the Church's life, of her unity in diversity, and of the richness of her gifts and charisms.

When do you acknowledge the presence of the Holy Spirit at work in your life and in the life of the Church?

Holy Spirit and tongues of fire, stained glass.

When you send forth your breath, they are created, / and you renew the face of the earth.

Psalm 104:30

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PRAY

- Gather the class for prayer.
- Ask the young people to place themselves in God's presence.
- After a moment of prayerful reflection, pray Psalm 104:30 together.

FAITH FOCUS

Read aloud and invite brief responses to the "Faith Focus" question. Explain that in this chapter the students will explore how the Holy Spirit has been present in the Church, energizing her throughout her history.

DISCOVER

Assess the young people's prior knowledge and understanding of the role of the Holy Spirit in the Church.

- Write the "Faith Vocabulary" terms on the board. Ask volunteers to share what they already know about the meaning of the terms. Write their responses next to the appropriate terms on the board.
- Call for responses to the opening question. Then have a volunteer read the opening paragraph to the class.
- Reread the last sentence aloud, emphasizing that the Holy Spirit is the source of the Church's life, unity in diversity, and gifts and charism. Call attention to the stained-glass image of the Holy Spirit, which depicts the outpouring of the gifts and graces of the Holy Spirit upon the Church. Invite responses to the question at the end of the page.



National Directory for Catechesis

Implementing the National Directory for Catechesis:

Learning by Heart. The National Directory emphasizes that learning the principal formulations of the Church's faith by heart can "ensure an accurate exposition of the faith and foster a common language of the faith among all the faithful" (NDC 29F, page 102). Encourage the students to memorize the names of the twelve Fruits of the Holy Spirit discussed on pages 80 and 81. Knowing these twelve signs of the Holy Spirit's activity in our lives will help the students to be more mindful of cooperating with his grace in their daily lives.

Teach

FOCUS

Remind the young people that the Holy Spirit is the source of the Church's life, her unity in diversity, and her gifts and charisms. Tell them that today they will learn about the Holy Spirit's presence in the ministry and mission of Jesus.

DISCOVER

- Read aloud or paraphrase the introductory paragraph, stressing that without the Holy Spirit, the third divine Person of the Holy Trinity, the Church would not exist.
- Invite volunteers to silently read "The Incarnation," "Jesus and the Holy Spirit," and "The Mission of the Holy Spirit."
- Make three columns on the board and label each column with one of the section titles from the text.
- Explore with the students what they have learned from reading the three sections by asking them to identify and name the key concepts presented in each section. List their input in the appropriate columns on the board.

Bible Background

As you study Church history, your attention naturally becomes focused on important individuals who have played vital roles in the life of the Church. People, such as the Apostles, Popes, martyrs, and saints, quickly come to mind. There is, however, one Person without whom the Church would not exist—God, the **Holy Spirit**, the third Person of the Holy Trinity.

The Incarnation

The work of Salvation is the work of the Holy Trinity—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. When the Father sent his only Son to become man and inaugurate the Church, he also sent the Holy Spirit. This is clearly seen in the **Incarnation**. The Incarnation is the mystery of the Son of God becoming man without giving up his divinity. It is the mystery of the union of the divine and human natures in the one divine Person of Jesus. Jesus is fully divine and fully human.

It was the Holy Spirit who prepared Mary to become the Mother of God and the Mother of the Church. Through the Holy Spirit, the Blessed Virgin Mary conceived and gave birth to Jesus Christ. The name *Jesus* means "God saves," and the name *Christ* means "Anointed One," or "Messiah." Jesus Christ is the Incarnate Son of God and the long-awaited Messiah and Savior of the world.



Madonna and Child, oil on canvas. Sassoferrato (1609-1685). Italian Baroque Era painter.

Jesus and the Holy Spirit

Throughout his ministry Jesus gradually revealed the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Here are some of the things that Jesus taught them:

- The Holy Spirit would flow like "rivers of living water" within those who believe in Jesus. (See John 7:38.)
- The Holy Spirit will be given to the Father to those who turn to him in prayer. (See Luke 11:13.)
- The Holy Spirit will advocate for those who are persecuted. They are not to worry about how they are to speak or what they are to say because he will speak through them. (See Matthew 10:19-20.)

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Background: Doctrine

Mary, Mother of God, Full of Grace. The Gospel proclaims Mary to be full of grace. The angel Gabriel greeted Mary, saying, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you" (Luke 1:28). The Church has opened up the meaning of the phrase *favored one* by designating the source of Mary's being favored by God. He has shared his life and love with her in a unique way because of her unique role in the divine plan of Salvation. Mary lives in communion with God in a way no other human being has ever lived or ever will live. Mary was always "full of grace." She was free from sin from the first moment of her conception (Immaculate Conception) and free from any personal sin during her life. (See *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 490-493.)

As the hour of his death approached, Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would be with his disciples and with the Church. At the Last Supper he told his disciples:

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always." (John 14:15-16)

Jesus was telling his disciples that the Father would send the Holy Spirit to them. Jesus was their first Advocate, one who stands beside a person and speaks for them. He would send them "another" Advocate, who would be their teacher and who would remind them of all that Jesus taught them. (See John 14:26.)

The Mission of the Holy Spirit

Jesus showers the Holy Spirit upon the Church. The mission of Jesus, the Son of God, and the Holy Spirit are the same. "When the Father sends his Word, he always sends his Breath" (Catechism of the Catholic Church 689). The Holy Spirit is inseparable from the Father and the Son.

The Holy Spirit is the One who helps believers to believe, who gives them energy to follow Jesus, who heals them when they fail. He is the One who guides the Church to support and comfort the followers of Christ in their mission. The Holy Spirit is "the principal agent of the whole of the Church's mission" (Catechism of the Catholic Church 852).

How are the mission of the Holy Spirit and the mission of Jesus Christ the same?



Did you Know...

The New Testament gives a variety of names and titles to the Holy Spirit. They are Paraclete, Consoler, Spirit of truth, Spirit of promise, Spirit of adoption, Spirit of Christ, Spirit of the Lord, Spirit of God, and Spirit of glory. (See Catechism of the Catholic Church 692 and 693.) Each of these biblical designations helps us understand the Holy Spirit and his work in the Church.

The Holy Trinity, stained glass.

FAITH CONNECTION

Read John 3:5-8. Work with a partner to put Jesus' words into your own words. Describe what this passage tells you about the mission of the Holy Spirit in your life and the life of all the baptized.

Responses will vary.

Affirm appropriate responses.

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Background: Doctrine

The Mission of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit has always been at work in the world. The work of the Holy Spirit is inseparable from the work of the Father and the Son. "From the beginning until the 'fullness of time' [Galatians 4:4], the joint mission of the Father's Word and the Spirit remains hidden, but it is at work. [The Holy] Spirit prepares for the time of the Messiah. . . . So, for this reason, when the Church reads the Old Testament, she searches there for what the Holy Spirit, 'who has spoken through the prophets,' wants to tell us about Christ" (Catechism of the Catholic Church 702).

REINFORCE

- Write the word **Incarnation** on the board. Ask a student to define the word and describe how the Holy Spirit was involved. Summarize by stating that the Incarnation is the mystery of God the Son becoming man without giving up his divinity. It is the mystery of the union of the divine and human natures in the one divine Person of Jesus. Jesus is fully divine and fully human.
- Pose the questions at the end of the sections on page 75.
- Share "Did you know" and talk about how the names for the Holy Spirit further illustrate his work in the Church.

INTEGRATE

- Have the young people join with a partner to complete the "Faith Connection" activity.
- Invite volunteers to share their responses with the class.

PRAY

Ask the young people to quiet themselves for prayer. Lead the class in praying the Divine Praises on page 137 of the student text.

Enriching the Lesson

The "Researching Scripture References" and "Designing a Holy Spirit Bulletin Board" activities on page 161 are related to today's content. You may wish to include them in today's lesson.

Teach

PRAY

Invite the students to quiet themselves for prayer and proclaim Psalm 104:30 together.

FOCUS

Read aloud the “Faith Focus” question on page 73 and ask the young people how they would answer it based on what they have learned thus far. Remind them that the Holy Spirit was present at the Incarnation and throughout Jesus’ ministry. Tell them that these pages will focus on Jesus’ promise of the Holy Spirit and the fulfillment of that promise on Pentecost.

DISCOVER

- Have the young people work in four groups and discuss the similarities in the four images on pages 76 and 77.
- Introduce “The Promise of the Holy Spirit” and “Pentecost” and have each group read Acts of the Apostles: 1:4–5, 1:7–9, and 2:1–6.
- Invite each group to come up with a dramatization of Pentecost (Acts of the Apostles 2:1–6).

Reading the Word of God



Pentecost, icon painted on wood. Artist unknown.

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

After his Resurrection, and before his Ascension, Jesus appeared to his Apostles over a period of forty days and spoke to them about the Kingdom of God. The Ascension of the Risen Jesus is his glorious return to heaven from where he will return again in glory at the end of time. Luke recounts for us what happened just prior to the Ascension. He states:

While meeting with them, he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem, but

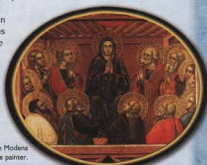
Pentecost, oil on wood. Barnaba de Modena (ca. 1330–1386), Italian Byzantine-style painter.

to wait for “the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak, for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the holy Spirit.” Acts of the Apostles 1:4–5

The Apostles asked him if he was going to restore the kingdom of Israel. Jesus replied:

“It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. Acts of the Apostles 1:7–9

Jesus’ words made it clear that they would not receive political authority to rebuild the kingdom of Israel. Rather they would receive a “power,” or a dynamic force, that would enable them to continue building the Kingdom of God that Jesus began and to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth.



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Teaching Tip

Researching Little-Known Saints. Help the young people recognize that they do not have to be in the spotlight in order to make a difference for good in the world. The book *We Were There, Too! Young People in U.S. History* (Phillip Hoose, Farrar Straus Giroux, 2001) is filled with stories about young people who quietly played major roles in the making of our nation. Suggest that the history of the Church is also filled with quiet deeds by amazing young people who have responded to the grace of the Holy Spirit. Have the students research those saints whose young lives made a difference.



The Pentecost.
El Greco
(1541–1614),
Greek-born
Spanish painter.

Pentecost

After Jesus ascended to the Father, the Apostles waited in Jerusalem and devoted themselves to prayer. There they were joined by Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem. . . . They

were astounded, and in amazement they asked, "Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans? Then how does each of us hear them in his own native language?"

Acts of the Apostles 2:1–8

Peter, then, stood with the other eleven Apostles and spoke to the crowd. The power of the Holy Spirit radiated through his speech. Three thousand people accepted his message and were baptized that day.

What are the signs that accompanied the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost? What do these signs tell you about the Holy Spirit empowering you to make a difference?

Affirm appropriate responses.



Pentecost, stained glass.

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REINFORCE

- Before the students present their dramatizations, read aloud the text that accompanies the Scripture passages on pages 76 and 77.
- Invite the groups to present their dramatizations of Pentecost.

INTEGRATE

- Invite the students to answer the first question at the end of page 77. List their responses on the board.
- Facilitate a large group discussion about what these signs might tell us about the work of the Holy Spirit in the Church.

PRAY

Ask the young people to quiet themselves for prayer. Pray together the Glory Be on page 135 of the student text, and praise God for his wonderful work among us.

Background: Doctrine

The Church Is One. In the Nicene Creed we profess faith in the "one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church." "One, holy, catholic and apostolic" are the four Marks, or essential characteristics, of the Church founded by Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit is the principle of the Church's unity. "It is the Holy Spirit, dwelling in those who believe and pervading and ruling over the entire Church, who brings about that wonderful communion of the faithful and joins them together so intimately in Christ that he is the principle of the Church's unity" (Vatican II, Decree on *Ecumenism* [Unitatis Redintegratio] 2).

Day 3

Teach

PRAY

Invite the students to pray the Sign of the Cross together and proclaim Psalm 104:30 to open class.

FOCUS

Invite volunteers to summarize the signs that accompanied the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Tell them that today's lesson will explore the work of the Holy Spirit in the Church.

DISCOVER

- Have the young people silently read the first paragraph of "The Holy Spirit in Church History" on page 78. Point out that the work of Salvation is the work of the Holy Trinity.
- Invite volunteers to read aloud the remaining paragraphs of "The Holy Spirit in Church History."

Apply

REINFORCE

- Have the young people close their books, then challenge them to summarize the main points presented on page 78.
- Invite responses to the concluding question.
- Summarize by emphasizing that they first received the Holy Spirit at Baptism and that the Spirit dwells in them and in the Church.

INTEGRATE

- Have the young people work in groups to discuss how they experience the Holy Spirit at work in their lives.
- Ask them to complete the "Faith Connection" activity.

Understanding the Word of God

The Holy Spirit in Church History

We speak of the age of the Church as the age of the Holy Spirit. With Jesus' Ascension to sit at the right hand of the Father in heaven, the divine plan of Salvation entered its final stage of fulfillment. The work of the Church began. "The mission of Christ and the Holy Spirit is brought to completion in the Church" (Catechism of the Catholic Church 737).

The Holy Spirit breathes life into the Church. He blesses members of the Church with charisms that enable them to live the Christian life and to build up the Church.

The Holy Spirit guides the Popes and bishops to faithfully fulfill their ministry and to authentically and without

error teach the faith handed down from the Apostles.

The Holy Spirit is the source of the Church's holiness and unity. He helps to heal the Church in times of weakness and division.

The Holy Spirit makes Jesus present to all his followers, nourishing the Church with the Eucharist and the Word of God proclaimed in Scripture.

The Holy Spirit dwells in the Church and also in you. By giving you the courage to live as a disciple of Jesus, by acting as your teacher, by helping you to pray, and by enabling you to cooperate with his grace, the Holy Spirit is making you a vital part of the Church's history.

What does it mean to say that the age of the Church is the age of the Holy Spirit?

The Spirit of God dwells within you.

FAITH CONNECTION

Through what work is the Holy Spirit helping you to participate in the Church? Describe how you are doing that work.

Responses will vary.

Affirm appropriate responses.

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Teaching Tip

Identifying Witnesses to the Holy Spirit. Throughout this chapter, the class has been talking about the ways the Holy Spirit works in the Church. Today's lesson emphasizes that the Holy Spirit moves in our lives too. Share an example of someone you know personally or through the media who has the Holy Spirit working in their life. Your sharing may help them identify how the same Holy Spirit is working in their own lives.

OUR CHURCH MAKES A DIFFERENCE



The Holy Spirit is always at work in the Church. That presence is powerfully felt and clearly seen in the lives of those who surrender their lives to death out of love of God and others. Saint Maximilian Kolbe is such a Spirit-filled person.

Maximilian Kolbe, oil on canvas. Artist unknown.

Saint Maximilian Kolbe

Maximilian Kolbe was a Franciscan priest who lived during the Nazi invasion of Poland in 1939. He lived in a large monastery that was giving shelter to 3,000 Polish refugees, two-thirds of whom were Jewish.

In May of 1941 the Nazis, intent upon exterminating the Jews and anyone who stood in their way, imprisoned Father Kolbe and many of his Franciscan brothers in Auschwitz. Assigned to a work detail run by especially abusive guards, Father Kolbe's calm and courageous faith was tested as he was given demeaning and exhausting jobs and was often severely beaten. Such abuse could not break Father Kolbe's commitment to forgive "seventy times seven" as Jesus commanded. Father Kolbe gave heroic witness to being a

Auschwitz, Poland, Nazi concentration camp

disciple of Jesus as he encouraged other prisoners to forgive their persecutors and to overcome evil with good.

In July 1941, a prison break caused Father Kolbe to make the greatest of all sacrifices, "no greater love does one have than to lay down his life for others" (John 15:13). It was the Nazi rule that ten men be executed for each escaped prisoner. When a married father of young children was condemned to die, Father Kolbe volunteered to take his place. On August 14, after weeks of starvation, Father Kolbe was put to death by lethal carbonic acid injection, and his body was burned in an oven, his ashes scattered.

The power of the Holy Spirit gave Father Kolbe the fortitude to resist evil and the love to give his life for a fellow man. In life and death he continued the work of Christ. On October 10, 1982, Pope John Paul II declared Maximilian Kolbe a saint, calling him a martyr of charity.

Who do you see giving witness to the presence of the Holy Spirit at work in their life? What are some of the signs of the Holy Spirit's presence in that person's life? Responses will vary. Affirm appropriate responses.



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Day 3

Connect

HIGHLIGHT

Recall that the mission of Christ and the Holy Spirit is continued in the Church. Point out that all the baptized are empowered by the Holy Spirit to join in the work of Salvation. Saint Maximilian Kolbe is an example of a person filled with the Holy Spirit.

DISCOVER

- Invite volunteers to read aloud about the life of Saint Maximilian Kolbe.
- Ask volunteers to share other information or stories they have heard about courageous people like Saint Maximilian.

INTEGRATE

Invite volunteers to respond to the two questions about people giving witness to the presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

PRAY

Ask the young people to quiet themselves. Pray together the Prayer to the Holy Spirit on page 137.

Teaching Tip

Writing in Journals. How do we cooperate with the grace of the Holy Spirit and shape our everyday lives as disciples of Jesus? You can help the students discover the answer to this important question by encouraging them to do an in-depth study and journal reflection on the life and work of one of the heroes of the Church. In their study have them look for characteristics of faith-filled people, such as openness of heart, a vivid awareness of God's presence, a life filled with prayer and service, and an ability to see the big picture during the ups and downs of life.

Connect

PRAY

Invite the young people to quiet themselves for prayer and place themselves in the presence of the Holy Trinity. Pray the Glory Be together.

FOCUS

Recall the life of Saint Maximilian Kolbe and how his life was filled with the Holy Spirit. Tell the young people that these pages will describe the indicators, called Fruits of the Holy Spirit, that demonstrate that the same Holy Spirit is at work in our lives.

DISCOVER

- Paraphrase or read aloud the introductory paragraph.
- List the Fruits of the Holy Spirit on the board.
- Emphasize that if a Christian gives witness to these fruits by his or her life, then we know that the person is living as a disciple of Jesus.
- Invite the young people to silently read "Living in Communion with God."

WHAT DIFFERENCE

Does Faith Make in My Life?

The Church has named twelve signs of the Holy Spirit at work in the life of a person. They are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, goodness, modesty, and chastity. These twelve signs are known as the Fruits of the Holy Spirit.



Living in Communion with God

The Fruits of the Holy Spirit are indications of God's presence at work in you. They are the result of your living in communion with God and with others. As you grow as a disciple of Christ, these Fruits of the Holy Spirit appear and radiate through you. Take a moment to reflect on how your life reflects and gives witness to these twelve signs of the Holy Spirit at work in your life.



Charity is loving God above all else for his own sake and loving your neighbor as yourself for the love of God. Charity helps you respect and value all people as children of God. (Pause and reflect.)

Joy is the happiness, the blessedness, that comes from your conviction of being loved by God. (Pause and reflect.)

Peace is the "work of justice and the effect of charity." True peace "cannot be attained on earth without safeguarding the goods of persons, free communication among men, respect for the dignity of persons and peoples, and the assiduous practice of fraternity" (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2304). (Pause and reflect.)

Patience is rooted in hope, in your conviction that all God's promises will come true. It is trusting God in every circumstance of your life, even in time of great adversity. (Pause and reflect.)

Kindness is a characteristic of mercy. Kindness, like mercy, leaves no room for revenge, hatred, or injustice of any kind. (Pause and reflect.)

Goodness is your living as a child of God, who is All-Good and the source of all that is good. Goodness brings light to the world—a light that "produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth" (Ephesians 5:9). (Pause and reflect.)

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Liturgy Tip

Praying to the Holy Spirit. While the prayer of Christians is primarily addressed to God the Father, we also pray to God the Son and to God the Holy Spirit. Encourage the students to pray to the Holy Spirit. Suggest that they learn by heart the Prayer to the Holy Spirit on page 137 of the student book and pray it daily.

Enriching the Lesson

The "Dramatizing Fruits of the Holy Spirit" activity on page 161 is related to the content on this page. You may wish to include it in today's lesson.

"Faith Connection" activity.

Generosity is gratitude in action. It is thankfully sharing your blessings which God so "generously and ungrudgingly" gives to all (James 1:5). (Pause and reflect.)

Gentleness is connected with living the Beatitude "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land" (Matthew 5:5). It is acting and speaking with reverence for yourself, others, and all creation. Followers of Jesus are to speak "with gentleness and reverence" (1 Peter 3:16) in imitation of Christ. (Pause and reflect.)

Faithfulness is keeping God first in your life. It means surrendering yourself to God in all things and following his will. (Pause and reflect.)

Modesty is being moderate in the way you present yourself to others. It is presenting yourself to others in a way that reflects the dignity with which God created you. You preserve an appearance of decency in all that you do and say. (Pause and reflect.)

Self-control is the balance in our use of created goods; it helps us develop a sense of detachment and live the Beatitude "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:3). (Pause and reflect.)

Chastity is the successful and proper integration of sexuality in your life. Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit. In Baptism you "put on Christ" (Galatians 3:26), the model of chastity for all. (Pause and reflect.)

Think about the ways your words and deeds manifest the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. Thank the Holy Spirit for his presence in your life. The best thanks is to cooperate with the Holy Spirit who dwells within you and within the Church.



Faith Decision

- In a small group, study each of the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. For each Fruit of the Holy Spirit suggest a name of a saint or another person from history whose life gives witness to the Holy Spirit in that way.
- As a class, brainstorm ways to cooperate with the Holy Spirit in your daily life.

This week I will cooperate with the Holy Spirit by

Responses will vary.

Affirm appropriate responses.

RESPOND

- Divide the class into small groups.
- Invite each group to study the Fruits of the Holy Spirit and suggest a name of a saint or another person from history whose life gives witness to the Holy Spirit in that way.
- Have the groups share their responses.
- Discuss as a class ways to cooperate with the Holy Spirit in our daily lives.

CHOOSE

- Invite each young person to make a faith decision and choose a way to cooperate with the Holy Spirit this week.
- Encourage the young people to put their faith decision into practice this week.

PRAY

Invite the students to end the session with prayer, quietly praying a personal prayer to the Holy Spirit.

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Catholic Social Teaching

Solidarity of the Human Family. The Catholic Church teaches that we are all members of a single human family. This solidarity is true regardless of our national, racial, ethnic, and ideological differences. Solidarity is an awareness of the interdependence that flows from our common dignity as humans and from Jesus' command to love one another as he loves us.

Tips: Brainstorm a list of world problems, such as hunger, poverty, and natural disasters. Invite someone involved in the social ministry of the Church to share how they are working to serve people in need.

Day 5

Pray and Review

FOCUS

Explain that today's prayer includes the invocation to the Holy Spirit, "Come, Holy Spirit."

PRAY

- Select a leader and a reader for the Scripture passage.
- Divide the class into four groups. Allow the students a few minutes to review their parts in the prayer.
- Gather the class for prayer.
- Pray "Come, Holy Spirit" together.

REVIEW

- Have the young people share the meaning of the terms in "Faith Vocabulary" and compare their definitions with those in the glossary.
- Use the "Main Ideas" and "Critical Thinking" sections to clarify any questions the students may have concerning what they have learned in the chapter.
- Remind everyone to share and discuss the "Family Discussion" question with their family.

PRAY and REVIEW

Come, Holy Spirit

Leader: God our Father,
send us the Holy Spirit, our
Helper and Advocate,
to fill us with light as we
listen to your word.

Reader 1: A reading from the First Letter
of Paul to the Corinthians.
Proclaim 1 Corinthians 12:12-13.
The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**
Reflect silently on the reading.

Group 1: May the Holy Spirit help us
make good decisions and
avoid hurting ourselves and
others.

All: **Come, Holy Spirit, fill our
hearts.**

Group 2: May the Holy Spirit pray
through us even when
we do not know what to say.

All: **Come, Holy Spirit, fill our
hearts.**

Group 3: May the Holy Spirit help us
trust you in times of fear
and anxiety.

All: **Come, Holy Spirit, fill our
hearts.**

Group 4: May the Holy Spirit guide us
throughout our life and may
your care keep us safe.

All: **Come, Holy Spirit, fill our
hearts.**

Leader: Father, we praise you for
sending us the Holy Spirit.
We give you thanks through
Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

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FAITH VOCABULARY

Define each of these terms:

1. Holy Spirit
2. Incarnation
3. Advocate
4. Ascension

MAIN IDEAS

Choose either (a) or (b) from each set of items.
Write a brief paragraph to answer each of your
choices.

1. (a) Explain the connection between the
mission of Jesus and the mission of the
Holy Spirit. pp. 74-75
(b) Describe what Jesus taught his disciples
about the Holy Spirit. p. 76
2. (a) Describe the events of Pentecost. p. 77
(b) Describe ways the Holy Spirit has helped
the Church during her history. p. 78

CRITICAL THINKING

Using what you have learned in this chapter,
briefly explain this statement:

The Holy Spirit is the life-force of the
Church.

FAMILY DISCUSSION

How can you and your family make the Holy
Spirit central to your daily life?

For more ideas on ways your family
can live your faith, visit the "Faith
First for Families" page at
www.FaithFirst.com. Also
click on "Game Alley" on
the Teen Center.



Evaluate

Take a few moments to evaluate this week's lesson.
I feel (circle one) about this week's lesson.

- a. very pleased
- b. OK
- c. disappointed

The activity the students enjoyed most was . . .

The concept that was most difficult to teach was . . .

because . . .

Something I would like to do differently is . . .

Before Moving On . . .

As you finish today's lesson,
reflect on the following
questions before moving
on to the next chapter.

*How do I recognize the Fruits
of the Holy Spirit in the lives
of my students? How have I
affirmed them this week?*

ENRICHING THE LESSON

Researching Scripture References

Purpose

To reinforce the presence of the Holy Spirit in the ministry and mission of Jesus (taught on pages 74–75)

Directions

- Divide the class into six groups.
- Have each group read one of the following Scripture passages:
 - John 14:15–19 (“The Father will send us an Advocate who will teach us everything that Jesus told us.”)
 - Acts of the Apostles 2:2–4 (Pentecost.)
 - Acts of the Apostles 2:38 (We will receive the Holy Spirit.)
 - Romans 5:5 (The love of God is poured out through the Holy Spirit.)
 - Romans 8:1–18 (Life in the Spirit.)
 - Galatians 5:16–26 (Live by the Spirit.)
- Ask them to discuss how the passage helps them understand the Holy Spirit’s relationship to them.
- Invite the groups to share what they discovered with the class.

Materials

Bibles, one for each student

Designing a Holy Spirit Bulletin Board

Purpose

To reinforce the names for the Holy Spirit (taught on page 75)

Directions

- Have the young people create a “Holy Spirit Bulletin Board.”
- Invite them to use the “Did you know?” information about the names for the Holy Spirit on page 75 and include signs, symbols, words (nouns as well as verbs), and colors that express the truths about the Holy Spirit.
- Invite them to decorate the bulletin board with their own colors, symbols, words, and shapes that describe our faith in the Holy Spirit. As you continue

through the chapter, the class can add symbols that represent how the Holy Spirit is at work in their own lives.

Materials

pens, markers
colored paper, scissors
stapler or tacks

Dramatizing Fruits of the Holy Spirit

Purpose

To reinforce the concept of the Fruits of the Holy Spirit as signs that the Holy Spirit is at work in us (taught on pages 80–81)

Directions

- Using twelve 3" x 5" cards, write one Fruit of the Holy Spirit on each card.
- Divide the class into groups of three or four students.
- A group comes forward and takes one card. Without telling the class what is on their card, they pantomime, role-play, or create a charade of young people living out the Fruit of the Holy Spirit that is written on their card.
- The class guesses which Fruit of the Holy Spirit is being portrayed.
- Continue until each of the twelve Fruits of the Holy Spirit have been acted out.

Materials

twelve 3" x 5" cards
pens, markers



Music Connection

- “Send Down the Fire,” M. Haugen. *Gather Comprehensive (GC) #477.*
- “Send Us Your Spirit,” D. Haas. *GC #476.*
- “Ven, Espíritu Santo,” J. Cortez. *Flor y Canto #428.*
- “We Receive Power,” J. Marchionda. *Voices As One #101.*