

Lesson Plan, Grade 7 - Chapter 17

Catechist Background

Doctrinal Content

- As Christ first welcomed and fed his followers, we are welcomed and belong to the Church through the Sacraments of Initiation. (CCC, 1275)
- Confirmation is the Sacrament of Initiation through which the spiritual life, received in Baptism, is strengthened and the person is sealed with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. (CCC, 1121, 1285)
- Transubstantiation is the process by which, through the power of the Holy Spirit and the words and actions of the priest, the bread and wine are transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ. (CCC, 1376, 1377)
- In the Eucharist, the Sacrament that we celebrate regularly, we are fed with the Body and Blood of Christ and are brought closer to Christ and one another. (CCC, 1382, 1416)

Catechist Background

We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.... If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him.

—Romans 6:4, 8

Reflect What helps you feel at home with your family, with your friends, with God?

Through our membership in the Church, we are privileged to become God's children, to have the support of the Christian community in good times and in bad. Most importantly, we are privileged to receive Jesus himself in the Sacrament of Eucharist. But being part of God's family also brings with it responsibilities. Baptism empowers us with the Holy Spirit to make us ministers or stewards of the Gospel. The role of the lay members of the Church is different from that of our ordained priests. Our mission is to serve in the world—the home, the marketplace, the ballot box—and our call is to live the values of the Gospel in all of these places.

Our reception of Jesus in the Eucharist is not for our own sakes alone, but so that we can serve as Christ in the world. We come together to celebrate the Eucharist, to be nourished by Christ and sent out again into a wounded world. We are Jesus' hands and feet and eyes and ears in that world, and it is our role to bring him to others through acts of service and through the virtue of our lives. When we take on membership in the Christian community, we accept Jesus' mission.

Reflect How do you continue to draw upon the graces of the Sacraments in your life and ministry?

Catechist's Prayer

Loving God, you brought me into the community of your People. May I strive to live in a manner worthy of the privilege of membership in your Church with the opportunity to touch the lives of the young people you have placed in my care. I praise your most holy name. Amen.

Sharing the Message

How Seventh-Graders Understand Chapter Topics

Many young people this age will have only a distant memory of experiencing the Sacraments of Initiation. Several were baptized as infants, and will not remember their Baptism, except from photos. Many more will remember their first Eucharist, but the most prominent memories will be of the clothing they wore, the gifts they received, or the reception afterwards. Seventh-graders will need some help appreciating the significance of becoming members of Christ's Body. Many Saints who came before us risked everything, even death, for the privilege of being part of this Church.

Teaching Tip

Talk about some Saints who risked persecution or death to become Christians and share the message of salvation. Some examples from Scripture are Nicodemus, Saint Stephen, and Saint Paul. There are also many brave women in Church history, such as Saints Felicity and Perpetua and Saint Lucy.

Sharing the Message with Seventh-Graders

As they develop intellectually and spiritually, adolescents will begin to question their roles in life in a more serious way.

- Young people this age are beginning to want to understand why they are here on Earth and what their purpose is.
- Seventh-graders are drawn to groups that give them personal support while also affirming their desire to be a part of something bigger than themselves.

Chapter Connections

Tasks of Catechesis Helping children grow in a faith that is "known, celebrated, lived, and expressed in prayer" (NDC, 20). This chapter focuses on the following tasks of catechesis:

- Promoting Knowledge of the Faith
- Liturgical Education

NCEA IFG: ACRE Edition

Knowledge of the Faith

- Objective: To know and understand basic Catholic teaching about the Incarnate Word Jesus Christ as the way, truth, and life

Liturgical Life

- Objective: To know the Paschal Mystery of Jesus: in the Church's liturgical life—feasts, seasons, symbols, and practices—and in the Sacraments as signs and instruments of grace

Catholic Faith Literacy

Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist(ic), Gifts of the Holy Spirit, Initiation

Catholic Social Teaching

To integrate Catholic Social Teaching into your lesson, choose one of the following features: Call to Family, Community, and Participation, pages 336–337; or Care for God's Creation, pages 346–347.

- Start the Live step of the process by talking about Saint Catherine of Genoa on page 272. Then move directly to the Catholic Social Teaching feature.
- Or, to expand the lesson, complete page 272, then move to the Catholic Social Teaching feature.
- Return to Chapter 17 for the prayer on page 273.

Music Option

► Use one or more of the following songs to enhance catechetical learning or for prayer.

- "I Will Choose Christ," Live, Page 273

Catechist Instruction, Grade 7 – Chapter 17

Invite Page 263

Objective

- Reflect on God's personal invitation through Scripture

♥ Let Us Pray

Choose a volunteer to be the Leader. Invite the youth to gather in the prayer space and make the Sign of the Cross.

Ask the Leader to proclaim the opening prayer and Psalm verse, and lead the group in the response.

Have the youth move out of the prayer space and back to their seats.

Say: We are baptized into Christ and through our Baptism, we each have a special place in the Church.

† Scripture

Guide the youth through the process of Scripture reflection.

Invite the young people to be still, close their eyes, and focus on their breathing.

Encourage them to open their minds and hearts to what God is saying to them.

- Proclaim the Scripture and have the youth sit in silence.
- *Ask:* What did you hear God say to you today?
- Allow volunteers to share.

► You may play instrumental music to begin the reflection.

Remember, this is a spiritual discipline that takes practice. The young people will grow in their capacity to sit in silence. Throughout the year, build to four minutes.

Have you ever thought...

Say: We receive the gifts of faith and new life through our Baptism, our initiation into the Church.

- Invite the young people to respond to the questions.

Discover (1) Pages 266-267

Objectives

- Explain how the Sacraments of Initiation bring us into a relationship with Christ and the Church
- Identify the effects of Baptism

Baptism

Point out the description of the Sacraments of Initiation in the second paragraph.

- Ask the young people to name the three Sacraments that make up this category.

† Go to the Source

Send the youth to Galatians 3:26–28, to find out what Saint Paul says about Baptism.

What Happens

Tell the young people to silently read this section.

- Invite a volunteer to summarize the reading.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Connect this section, on page 267, with the Rite as it is celebrated in your parish.

- Give the youth an opportunity to share what they know about RCIA in their own parishes.
- Consider inviting a parishioner who is involved in RCIA to speak with the group.
Note: It is possible that some of the youth were baptized as older children or saw a parent go through the RCIA process. Allow them to share what they remember.
- Review the content of this section with the group.

The Effects of Baptism

Say: We know Baptism begins our new life in Christ. Let's read about some of the other effects of Baptism.

- Go over the information in the chart with the group. Begin each bullet with "Baptism gives us ..."
- Invite the youth to put a star beside the effect that they identify with the most.

† Scripture Background

Galatians 3:26–28

Here, Saint Paul describes God's complete impartiality. How wonderful the world would be if we could see as God sees: no slave or free person, male or female, Jew or Gentile. Since God sees us all as children in the same family, isn't that something we should do as well?

Saint Paul tells us we have to "put on Christ." These verses were probably part of the liturgy of Baptism in the early Church, said as the baptized donned the white baptismal garment. Saint Paul uses the imagery of "putting on" Christ, putting on his light, and putting on the armor of God in several places. (See Romans 13:12, 14, Galatians 3:27, and Ephesians 6:11.)

Activity

Allow the youth to work with a partner to complete the activity. • Go over the answers as a group to make sure that everyone has the correct information.

Quick Review

We are initiated into a relationship with Christ and the Church through the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Adults who wish to join as members of the Church prepare to receive the Sacraments of Initiation through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

Discover (2) Pages 268-269

Objectives

- Describe Confirmation as the Sacrament of Initiation through which the spiritual life received in Baptism is strengthened
- Give examples of ways to use the Gifts of the Holy Spirit in life situations

Teaching Activity: Relying on the Gifts

Youth will consider ways that the Gifts of the Holy Spirit can help us in real life situations. Participants will then play a matching game to match the Gifts to the correct descriptions.

Before the Lesson

Materials Needed

✚ Go to **aliveinchrist.osv.com** and download Descriptions of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, The Effects of Confirmation Chart , Catholic Faith Words pages
brown paper bags (1 per participant), index cards, tape

Preparation

- Search on the Internet for an image from the Sacrament of Baptism (that shows the water being poured over an infant's head) and an image from the Sacrament of Confirmation (that shows a candidate being anointed on the forehead) and print for use during the activity.
- Create enough lunch bags so that there is one for each participant. Label a third of the bags with the word "Determination," a third of the bags with the word "Patience," and a third of the bags with the word "Forgiveness."
- Write the each of the five scenarios for each type of bag on separate index cards. Place the five index cards inside the bag with the corresponding word:
 - **Determination Bags:** Get Your Parents to Let You Join a Team, Win a Gold Medal, Make the "A" Team, Earning a Black Belt in Karate, Do All That Is Necessary to Develop More Skills

- **Patience Bags:** Working for Decades on a Cure for Cancer, Waiting in a Long Line for the Bathroom, Waiting for Your Birthday, Waiting to Hear If You Got Into College, Trying to Master a New Skill
- **Forgiveness Bags:** Forgiving the Thief Who Stole Your Smartphone, Forgiving Someone Who Killed Your Child in a Drunk Driving Car Accident, Forgiving a Friend Who Told Someone Else Something You Said In Confidence, Forgiving a Person Who Swindled All of Your Retirement Money, Forgiving Your Husband/Wife for Lying to You About Losing His Or Her Job
- Cut out the descriptions of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Separate the Gifts from their descriptions to distribute them to the group. Be sure to mix them up so that some participants have the Gifts and some have the descriptions.

Activity Directions

As the activity begins, distribute one bag to each of the participants. Distribute the seven Gifts and the seven descriptions to the youth.

Say: Everyone got a bag today with some cards in it. I want you to take out the cards and put them in order. Arrange them in order by the amount of virtue you would need in each scenario.

Allow the participants enough time to sort their cards. When you see most of the participants are done ask for volunteers to share their answers. Ask the other participants with the same virtue if they put the scenarios in the same order.

Say: As we live through challenges in our lives, we need a deeper capacity to handle all of life's challenges. Today we are going to explore the Sacrament of Confirmation and its relationship to Baptism. These two Sacraments of Initiation were once celebrated at the same time and are closely linked.

Post the Catholic Faith Word definition for *Confirmation* and ask a volunteer to read it aloud to the group.

Post the images of the water being poured during the Sacrament of Baptism and the candidate being anointed in Sacrament of Confirmation on the wall. Draw a heavy line between them.

Post The Effects of Confirmation chart on the wall and direct the participant's attention to it.

Say: Let's read how Confirmation strengthens the grace of Baptism.

Ask volunteers to read aloud the chart to the group.

Say: Confirmation seals us with the *Gifts of the Holy Spirit* in a special way. They help us to follow the Holy Spirit's guidance and live the Christian life.

Review the term *Gifts of the Holy Spirit* and its definition with the group.

Say: Pull out your paper of either a Gift of the Holy Spirit or a description of that Gift. If you have a paper that has one of the Gifts listed on it, come to the front of the room.

When the seven participants have come to stand at the front of the room, ask a participant with a description of one of the Gifts to read it aloud. Have the group guess which Gift it explains. If they answer correctly, have the youth holding the description sit on the floor in front of the Gift. Continue until all of the Gifts have been matched with the correct description.

Wisdom—Helps you see yourself and others as God sees you. Understanding—Helps you get along with others. Right Judgment (Counsel)—Helps you make good choices. Courage (Fortitude)—Helps you act bravely. Knowledge—Helps you know God better. Reverence (Piety)—Helps you pray every day. Wonder and Awe (Fear of the Lord)—Helps you understand how great and powerful God is.

Extend the Lesson

Use **Activity Master 17: The Gifts of the Holy Spirit** to extend the lesson; it is not included in the timed estimate for this section of the Lesson Plan.

Discover (3) Pages 270-271

Objectives

- Relate the strength that we gain from receiving the Eucharist to each person's call to participate in the mission of the Church
- Examine how we experience the presence of Christ in the two parts of the Mass, but most fully in the Eucharist
- Define transubstantiation

Eucharist

Say: Some people are surprised to learn that the Eucharist, which we can receive every day, is a Sacrament of Initiation like the one-time-only Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation.

- Tell the group to silently read the opening section to find out why the Eucharist is so important.
- Direct the young people to read the definition of Eucharist in the Catholic Faith Words box.

The Parts of the Mass

Read aloud the first four paragraphs of this section, which continues on page 271.

- After each paragraph, ask a volunteer to summarize what you've just read to ensure their understanding. Have a student read aloud the last two paragraphs of this section.
- Ask: What is transubstantiation?
- Invite a volunteer to read the definition from page 270.

†Scripture Background

To Eat with Sinners

The four Scripture passages that the youth will read today are stories of Jesus' desire to be with sinners and to call them to conversion.

Sharing a meal was a way for Jesus to spend time with sinners, and a way for him to offer them a spiritual food that would help them to change their lives and turn their hearts to his Father. That spiritual food was his very life.

Jesus' primary concern was to share God's love with the repentant sinner, a love that changes one's life, a love we can experience each time we participate in the Church's Eucharistic liturgy.

† Go to the Source

Arrange the group in smaller groups of four and assign each member of each small group one of the following readings: Luke 15:1–2, Luke 19:1–10, Luke 22:21–23, or Matthew 9:9–13.

- Direct each small group to create a poster. Divide the poster into two parts—one part to illustrate the physical feeding and the other to represent the spiritual feeding that happened in the passages they read.

Ask: How can we feed others? ***By being generous with our time, talents (gifts), and resources***

The Effects of the Eucharist

Direct the youth to study the bullet points and to circle the effect of the Eucharist that they feel they need the most.

Activity

Read aloud the prompt and discuss actual ways to help feed the spiritual and physical hunger of others.

In Summary

Read the summary statement to the group. Ask the young people to silently read the bullets.

Live Pages 272-273

Objectives

- Discuss feeling in awe of God
- Explore the faith life of Saint Catherine of Genoa
- Offer a Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Our Catholic Life

Invite a volunteer to read this section to the group.

- Have the youth discuss the questions with a partner.

People of Faith

Ask a volunteer to read aloud the paragraph on Saint Catherine of Genoa.

- Share the information from the People of Faith Background box.
- Allow the young people a few quiet moments to reflect on their own faith journeys.
- Encourage them to think about obstacles they have faced during their faith journeys and how facing these obstacles has brought them closer to God.
- Ask: Have you encountered unexpected outcomes or some surprising opportunities along the way?
-

Here are some additional details about Saint Catherine of Genoa to assist you in presenting this section:

- Saint Catherine's most famous writings are Dialogues of the Soul and Body and Treatise on Purgatory.
- After her husband's death, Saint Catherine devoted herself to the sick at the hospital of Genoa, where she eventually became the director and treasurer.

Activity

Have the young people read the instructions and complete the activity.

- Allow volunteers to share the characteristics they chose and why.

Renewal of Baptismal Promises

♥ Take the role of leader during this prayer.

- Gather everyone at the prayer table with their books opened to page 273.
- Follow the order of prayer on the prayer page.

► Conclude by playing the song "I Will Choose Christ," downloaded from **aliveinchrist.osv.com**.

Chapter Review

If you are using eAssessments, remind the young people that they will need to be completed by the due date. Feedback is important at this age. For the tool to be used effectively provide feedback to the young people about their work.

Chapter 17 Lesson Plan

Objectives	Process	Materials
Invite, 15 minutes		
Sacraments of Initiation Page 263	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Psalm 138:2 Pray the opening prayer. Romans 6:1–4, 8 Guide the youth through the process of Scripture reflection. • Discuss Have You Ever Thought questions. 	
Discover, 45 minutes		
Baptism pp. 266–267 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain how the Sacraments of Initiation bring us into a relationship with Christ and the Church • Identify the effects of Baptism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about the Sacrament of Baptism and its effects. Read and reflect on Galatians 3:26–28. • Review the RCIA process. • Activity Describe the symbols of Baptism. 	<input type="checkbox"/> pencils or pens <input type="checkbox"/> Bibles
Confirmation pp. 268–269 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe Confirmation as the Sacrament of Initiation through which the spiritual life received in Baptism is strengthened • Give examples of ways to use the Gifts of the Holy Spirit in life situations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching Activity Youth will consider ways that the Gifts of the Holy Spirit can help us in real life situations. Participants will then play a matching game to match the Gifts to the corresponding descriptions. • Activity Master The Gifts of the Holy Spirit 	Descriptions of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, The Effects of Confirmation, Catholic Faith Words, Activity Master 17 <input type="checkbox"/> brown paper bags (1 per participant), index cards, tape
Eucharist pp. 270–271 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relate the strength that we gain from receiving the Eucharist to each person's call to participate in the mission of the Church • Examine how we experience the presence of Christ in the two parts of the Mass, but most fully in the Eucharist • Define transubstantiation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss how the Sacrament of Eucharist connects us to mission. Read Luke 15:1–2, 19:1–10, and 22:21–23, and Matthew 9:9–13. • Activity Consider ways to help feed the spiritual and physical hunger of others. 	<input type="checkbox"/> pencils or pens <input type="checkbox"/> board or chart paper <input type="checkbox"/> Bible
Live, 15 minutes		
Our Catholic Life Page 272	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the Our Catholic Life questions. • People of Faith Learn about Saint Catherine of Genoa. • Activity Consider how to emulate the characteristics of Jesus. 	<input type="checkbox"/> pencils or pens
Renewal of Baptismal Promises Page 273	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite youth to the prayer space. • Follow the order of prayer. 	"I Will Choose Christ"

CATHOLIC FAITH WORDS

Confirmation, Gifts of the Holy Spirit, Eucharist, transubstantiation

ASSESSMENT

Chapter Review, Page 274

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Name _____

Date _____

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit gives us many different gifts to help us on our faith journey:

WISDOM: Helps us see things more like God sees them. We can make decisions with clear thinking.

UNDERSTANDING: Helps us know why people say and do things. We can “stand with them” even if we don’t agree with them.

KNOWLEDGE: Helps us learn the teachings of our faith and of our world. We gain facts and information we need.

REVERENCE (PIETY): Helps us show respect for God and all of God’s creation.

RIGHT JUDGMENT (COUNSEL): Helps us seek good advice and give good advice before decisions are made.

COURAGE (FORTITUDE): Helps us stand up for what we believe in and live our faith without fear of what others think.

WONDER AND AWE (FEAR OF THE LORD): Helps us know our place before God. We see God’s power and his great love for us.

In the chart below, write about a time or situation when you need each gift. List one person you have seen use each gift and tell how they used it. Write on a separate sheet of paper if necessary.

	I need this gift when:	Who I saw use this gift:	How the person used this gift:
WISDOM			
UNDERSTANDING			
KNOWLEDGE			
REVERENCE (PIETY)			
RIGHT JUDGMENT (COUNSEL)			
COURAGE (FORTITUDE)			
WONDER AND AWE (FEAR OF THE LORD)			

Wisdom

Understanding

Right Judgment (Counsel)

Courage (Fortitude)

Knowledge

Reverence (Piety)

Wonder and Awe (Fear of the Lord)

Helps you see yourself and others
as God sees you.

Helps you get along with others.

Helps you make good choices.

Helps you act bravely.

Helps you know God better.

Helps you pray every day.

Helps you understand how great and
powerful God is.

The Effects of Confirmation

- A deepening and perfection of the life of God in us, which we first received in Baptism
- An outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which increases the Gifts already working in us
- A strengthening of our relationship with God and our unity with Christ
- A perfection of our connection with the Church, a special strengthening by the Holy Spirit to take part in the mission of the Church, to show others by our words and actions that we are Catholics, and to tell others about the Good News of Jesus

Catholic Faith Words

Confirmation the Sacrament of Initiation through which the spiritual life received in Baptism is strengthened and the person is sealed with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Catholic Faith Words

Gifts of the Holy Spirit seven powerful gifts God gives us to follow guidance of the Holy Spirit and live the Christian life. We are sealed with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit at Confirmation.