



Confirmed in the Spirit

Before You Begin

- Print the Chapter 1 BLM: Getting to Know the Holy Spirit found at the end of this document.
- Download and print the Chapter 1 Prayer Service: Prayer to the Holy Spirit.
- Have a Bible available during the session for reference.
- Make sure your child has his or her *My Confirmation Journal* to record any insights during the session and to do the activities on pages ii–vii and 1–10 after the session.
- Download and print *A Prayer Guide for the Journey*.
- If you have the *Faith to Faith* magazine, encourage your child to use it to reflect on the session with his or her sponsor.

Engage: Page 1

- ◆ Have your child look through his or her book. Invite your child to point out the main topics of the book, discuss their meanings, and share any insights about the pictures. You can find additional conversation starters for this chapter at www.loyolapress.com/CISconversations.
- ◆ Invite your child to tell what he or she knows about Confirmation. Then have your child open his or her book to page 1 and read aloud the chapter title and the questions. Say: **Just as we turn to the people close to us for help in difficult situations, Jesus' disciples turned to him. After Jesus' Death, Resurrection, and Ascension, his disciples had to face the future without his physical presence. In Jesus' last talk with his disciples, he told them he would always be with them. Jesus gave them the Holy Spirit to help and guide them.**
- ◆ Introduce the prayer with the quote from the Rite of Confirmation on page 1. Then pray the Prayer to the Holy Spirit on page 108. Say: **Part of the process of preparing for Confirmation is opening yourself to God in your heart.**

Explore: Pages 2–9

- ◆ Have your child read aloud the Scripture passage at the top of page 2. Read aloud *Understanding Scripture*. Ask: **How is the Holy Spirit like a mediator? What does he do for us in that role?** (Possible answers: *guide us; help us understand the Father's will and focus on his kingdom*) Say: **The Holy Spirit is always present in the world. He is here for us today, just as he was for the disciples 2,000 years ago.**
- ◆ Have your child silently read aloud *Scripture and You*. Ask: **How has Jesus kept his promise? How is he with us today and always?** (Answers will vary.)
- ◆ Ask your child to spend a few moments to silently read *Reflecting on God's Word*. Allow time for reflection.

- ◆ Say: **Jesus' disciples were afraid of sharing Jesus' teachings with others. The Holy Spirit gave them the courage to be witnesses of his life, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension. God's Spirit was present in the Old Testament and New Testament, and the Holy Spirit is with us today. The Spirit gives us the strength, courage, and grace to be disciples of Jesus.**
- ◆ Take turns with your child reading aloud *The Spirit in the Old Testament*, *The Spirit in the New Testament*, and *The Spirit in the World Today* on pages 3 and 4. Say: **God is constantly present in our lives, and his Holy Spirit works through us and everyone around us. The Spirit guides our lives and gives us the strength and courage we need to lead the life God wants us to live.**
- ◆ Have your child read silently the section *Father, Son, and Spirit with Us* on page 4 and to complete the My Turn activity at the bottom of the page 4.
- ◆ Take turns reading page 5. Say: **We are called to be missionaries in society and throughout the world. Using your talents and resources to help others and the world is called stewardship.** Have your child complete the My Turn activity on page 5.
- ◆ Have your child read *Images of the Spirit* on pages 6–7. Ask: **What connections can you make between Confirmation and these symbols of the Spirit?** (*Accept reasonable answers.*) Ask your child to complete the My Turn activity on page 7 and BLM 1: Getting to Know the Holy Spirit.
- ◆ Read the first paragraph of *A Confirmed Commitment* on page 8. Ask: **What commitment are you making when you receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?** (*Possible answers: taking my faith more seriously; renewing the baptismal promises made by my parents; deciding to serve others as Jesus asked his followers to do*) Ask your child to read silently *The Spirit Helper* and to reflect on its meaning for his or her life. Allow time for your child to reflect on the questions in the shaded box and write in his or her journal.

Rite: Page 6

- ◆ Have your child read aloud *Rite* and *Meaning* on page 6. Say: **God speaks to us through the Scripture, which was inspired by the Holy Spirit.**
- ◆ Read aloud *Daily Life* and *Life of Faith* on page 6. Ask: **Think about what you do when you have good news to share. Do you write an e-mail to a friend, send a text message, or call them on your phone?** (*Accept reasonable answers.*) Say: **Every day is an opportunity to share. We are called to proclaim the Word of God in words and actions.**
- ◆ Have your child look up the following Scripture passages: Daniel 9:24, Psalm 2:2, and 1 Samuel 2:10. When your child has finished, point out that each passage contains the word *anointed*.) Ask: **Who is the anointed or anointed one to which these passages refer?** (*the Messiah, Christ, Jesus, the Savior*)

Witness: Page 8

- ◆ Have your child read aloud *Witness* on page 8. Say: **An evangelist is someone who proclaims God's Word. Saint John the Evangelist was one of Jesus' closest friends. As one of the Apostles, John worked alongside Jesus. After Jesus ascended into heaven, John carried on Jesus' message in the Gospels.**
- ◆ Ask: **What is the symbol used for John the Evangelist?** (*an eagle*) Ask: **Is there a similar symbol for the Holy Spirit? What is it?** (*a dove*) Say: **An eagle soars higher than other birds, and John's ideas are said to reach heights that the other Gospels do not.**

- ◆ The Gospel of John uses the theme of darkness and light. Have your child read John 1:1–18. Then invite your child to write a prayer about his or her journey toward Confirmation using this theme.
- ◆ Encourage your child to record any insights in his or her journal.

Act and Pray: Page 9

- ◆ Say: **Catholic social teaching is the Gospel in action. Striving to make a more just world is an essential part of living the Gospel. The Catholic social teaching themes remind us to be followers of Jesus. We have opportunities every day to live in accordance with God's Word.**
- ◆ Take turns reading the Act section on page 9. Tell your child that Catholic social teaching is a rich treasure of wisdom about how to attain a quality of life that is just and how to live good and decent lives as God intends.
- ◆ Say: **Saint Augustine wrote many sermons, letters, and books, which reflected the ever-deepening love he felt for God.** Invite your child to read silently the *Pray* section on page 9.

Reflect: Page 10

- ◆ Tell your child that you are going to celebrate a prayer service that will focus on the Prayer to the Holy Spirit. Proceed to your family's prayer space.
- ◆ Emphasize that prayer helps us grow in our relationship with God and communicate with him about all aspects of our lives. Explain that prayer is an essential part of daily life that helps us grow closer to God. Encourage your child to be attentive to the words, images, or ideas of the prayer to help him or her concentrate and reflect.
- ◆ Choose who will read the parts for the Leader. You and your child will both read the parts labeled "All." Lead by example, participating actively and with reverence.
- ◆ Pray the Prayer to the Holy Spirit on page 10. Adapt it to your circumstances if needed. Observe the periods of silence and help keep a prayerful pace. Allow time in between sections for reflection.
- ◆ Pause for a moment of silence before concluding.
- ◆ Encourage your child to refer to and pray this prayer often during his or her preparation for Confirmation.



Respond: Page 11–12

- ◆ Read aloud the Faith Summary section on page 11. Ask: **When does the Holy Spirit come to us?** (*at Baptism and Confirmation*) Ask: **Who sent us the Holy Spirit?** (*Jesus*) Ask: **What does the Spirit do for us?** (*The Holy Spirit gives us the ability to live Christian lives; The Holy Spirit helps us live as faithful Catholics.*)
- ◆ Read aloud the Remember section. Make sure your child understands the main points of the chapter.
- ◆ Encourage your child to write in the *My Confirmation Journal* to enter more deeply into this chapter. Be sure that your child completes pages ii–viii at the beginning of the journal. The corresponding pages to this chapter are 1–10. Remind your child that no one else will read his or her journal.
- ◆ Read aloud the Words to Know and review the definitions. Complete definitions can be found in the Glossary on pages 115–118 and in the online Glossary.
- ◆ Ask your child to choose one Reach Out item to complete and to reflect privately on the outcomes.
- ◆ Encourage your child and his or her sponsor to reflect on this chapter as they strengthen their relationship and grow in their faith. They may want to use the *Faith to Faith* magazine.
- ◆ Conclude the chapter by praying together the closing prayer on page 11. Encourage your child to use this prayer throughout the week. Share with your child *A Prayer Guide for the Journey* to help him or her grow in a life of prayer.
- ◆ Encourage your child to use the review activities on page 12 to review and reinforce the key concepts of this chapter.
- ◆ Use the following questions to check your child’s comprehension of the chapter:
 - ◆ What signs did you observe to indicate your child has a positive attitude toward being confirmed?
 - ◆ Does your child understand why he or she might choose a new Confirmation name and how your child might do that?
 - ◆ How well can your child identify signs of the Spirit’s presence in his or her life?

Name _____

Date _____

Getting to Know the Holy Spirit

The Apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit on the Feast of Pentecost. They went forth spreading the Good News and teaching others about the Holy Spirit.

Below are passages from Letters of the New Testament. Imagine that you received a message about the Holy Spirit from one of the leaders of the early Church. Look up each Scripture passage and write what it tells about the Spirit.



1. Romans 8:14

2. Romans 15:13

3. 1 Corinthians 2:10

4. 1 Corinthians 12:4

5. Galatians 5:22–23

6. 1 Thessalonians 1:6

7. 1 John 5:6–7
