



Confirmed in Witness

Before You Begin

- Print the Chapter 7 BLM: Promises found at the end of this document.
- Download and print the Chapter 7 Prayer Service: Fruits of 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 61–70 after the session.
- If you have the *Faith to Faith* magazine, encourage your child to use it to reflect on the session with his or sponsor.

Engage: Page 73

- ◆ You might choose to begin by reviewing the previous chapter. Invite your child to recall important concepts from Chapter 6.
- ◆ Invite your child to open his or her book to page 73. Read aloud the chapter title and discuss the questions on this page with your child. Say: **In Confirmation, the Holy Spirit helps us express to others, in words and actions, how important our faith in Jesus is.** Remind your child that he or she has a prophetic mission to be a witness to Christ in the world.
- ◆ Say: **The Fruits of the Holy Spirit are the results of us living as spirit-filled messengers of Jesus. They are the evidence that God is alive in us, imparting to us wisdom and the other Gifts of the Holy Spirit.** Pray together the words on this page from the Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit.

Explore: Pages 74–81

- ◆ Have your child read aloud the Scripture passage on page 74 and summarize it in his or her own words.
- ◆ Read aloud *Understanding Scripture*. Ask: **What did Saint Paul tell the Corinthians was the purpose of spiritual gifts?** (*to build up the community*) Invite your child to read aloud *Scripture and You*. Ask: **How might you use your gifts to serve others?** (*Accept reasonable responses.*)
- ◆ Ask your child to spend a few moments silently reading *Reflecting on God's Word*. Allow time for reflection. Encourage your child to record insights in his or her journal.
- ◆ Read aloud the first two paragraphs of *Ready to Witness* on page 75. Ask: **How does growth in the Spirit take place?** (*over time, gradually, day by day*) **How can you show your growth in the Spirit?** (*participating in the Eucharist, praying, performing works of mercy*)
- ◆ Read aloud the first paragraph of *A Plan for Spiritual Growth*. Then have your child read the rest of this section silently. [Section continues on page 76.] Using the ideas presented on pages 75 and 76, have your child come up with his or her own plan for spiritual growth. Then have your child complete the My Turn Activity on page 76.

- ◆ Take turns reading aloud the first three paragraphs of Fruits of the Spirit on page 76. Ask: **How can people see the Spirit's presence in us?** (*by seeing our good works, our love for others, our service to others*)
- ◆ Have your child read aloud the sections *Faithfulness* and *Goodness*. Ask: **Who is someone you know who is dependable and trustworthy?** (*Accept reasonable answers.*) Ask: **What was the most recent act of kindness and goodness that someone did for you?** (*Accept reasonable answers.*)
- ◆ Take turns reading aloud the sections *Love*, *A Man Who Loved God and Others*, and *Modesty* on page 77. Have your child complete the My Turn activity on page 77 and the Chapter 7 BLM: Promises. This BLM will help your child understand baptismal promises.
- ◆ Take turns reading aloud *Kindness*, *A Nurse from God*, and *Self-Control* on page 78. Ask: **How can you show kindness?** (*Accept reasonable responses.*) Say: **In practicing self-control, we also show self-respect for ourselves and one another.**
- ◆ Take turns reading the sections *Patience*, *Peace*, and *Joy* on page 79. Have your child complete the My Turn activity on page 79.
- ◆ Take turns reading the sections *Chastity*, *A Chaste Couple*, *Gentleness*, and *Generosity* on page 80. Say: **Our Baptism challenges us to follow Christ, the model of chastity. By imitating Jesus, who is gentle and humble of heart, we learn to meet the challenging situations of life with patience and to comfort others who are suffering.**
- ◆ Have your child read Matthew 7:17–20 from a Bible. Relate that this passage in Matthew's Gospel helps us understand the Fruits of the Holy Spirit, which are recognized in the observable behaviors of people who have cooperated with the grace of the Holy Spirit within them.

Rite: Page 78

- ◆ Read aloud *Rite* on page 78 and have your child read aloud *Meaning*. Say: **After we are confirmed, we become God's messengers, carrying Christ's message throughout the world.**
- ◆ Give your child one chapter from the Gospels, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Letters of Paul. Have your child find passages concerning the spread of the kingdom, the mission of the Apostles, or the preaching of the Good News and share the results of the search.
- ◆ Read aloud *Daily Life*. Say: **Spreading God's love to those around us allows the Spirit to thrive within us.** Have your child read aloud *Life of Faith*. Say: **We come together at Mass and during the week to be open to the grace of the Holy Spirit working through us.**

Witness: Page 80

- ◆ Have your child read silently the *Witness* section on page 80. Say: **Saint John Bosco had a talent for entertaining and being a teacher. He used his talents to help others by housing and educating orphaned and neglected boys and helping them strengthen their relationship with God.**
- ◆ Have your child make a two-column chart listing his or her talents, gifts, and good qualities in one column. Then in the next column, ask your child to write how each talent might be used to help people.

Act and Pray: Page 81

- ◆ Read aloud the *Act* section on page 81. Say: **As Catholics, we belong to a community of believers. We share in the experience of Mass together and sing and celebrate our shared love of Christ.** Ask: **What are some ways you show solidarity with others?** (*Accept reasonable responses.*)
- ◆ Have your child collect new toys to donate to a nearby children's hospital. Invite him or her to be like the prophets by writing letters of encouragement and hope to the children who are ill.
- ◆ Have your child read the *Pray* section on page 81. Say: **When we treat people and our environment with dignity, respect, and care, we are fulfilling our duty to God and to one another. By keeping this seemingly simple rule at the forefront of our minds and using it to guide our lives, we are working to make the world a better place.**
- ◆ Encourage your child to record any insights in his or her journal.

Reflect: Page 82

- ◆ Tell your child that you are going to celebrate a prayer service that will focus on spiritual gifts. Proceed to your family's prayer space.
- ◆ Remind your child that God wants us to be close to him in prayer. He is always present to give us the strength and courage to follow his will. All we need to do is to pause, be present to him, and bring our needs before him.
- ◆ Choose who will read the parts for the Leader and Readers 1 through 3. You and your child will both read the parts labeled "All." Lead by example, participating actively and with reverence.
- ◆ Pray *Fruits of the Holy Spirit* on page 82. Adapt it to your circumstances if needed. Observe the periods of silence and keep a prayerful pace. Allow time in between sections for reflection.
- ◆ Pause for a moment of silence before concluding.

Respond: Page 83–84

- ◆ Read aloud the Faith Summary section on page 83. Ask: **What are the Fruits of the Spirit?** (*When we live by the Spirit and perform good works, our work and prayer bears fruit. The Fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, modesty, chastity, and generosity.*) **Who enjoys the Fruits of the Spirit?** (*Those who cooperate with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.*)
- ◆ 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. The corresponding pages to this chapter are 61–70. 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. You may want to use the *Faith to Faith* magazine.
- ◆ Conclude the chapter by praying together the closing prayer on page 83. Encourage your child to use this prayer throughout the week.
- ◆ Your child can use the review activities on page 84 to review and reinforce the key concepts of this chapter.
- ◆ Use the following questions to check your child's comprehension of the chapter:
 - ◆ How well does your child understand the belief that everyone has special gifts to contribute to the world?
 - ◆ Does your child recognize ways to give witness to the Spirit in his or her life?
 - ◆ Can your child identify the Fruits of the Spirit and explain how they help us grow spiritually?

Name _____

Date _____

Promises

Keeping promises is not always easy. Faithful people keep their promises. When you were baptized, your godparents made promises for you. In Confirmation, you will be asked to renew these promises. In the column on the right, write a prayer asking God to help you understand and keep each promise you made in Baptism.

Baptismal Promise	My Prayer
Do you reject sin, so as to live in the freedom of God's children? I do.	<i>Example: Jesus, help me avoid sin. Give me the wisdom to know what is right and the courage to do what is right. Help me live as your child and treat others as your children.</i>
Do you reject the glamor of evil and refuse to be mastered by sin? I do.	
Do you reject Satan, father of sin, prince of darkness, and all his works and all his empty promises? I do.	
Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth? I do.	
Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father? I do.	
Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting? I do.	