

Jesus Gives the Spirit to the Church

Keep these ideas in mind as you study *Chapter 18*.

✦ Jesus promised his apostles that he would send them the Holy Spirit who would teach them about Jesus and help them teach others. Fifty days after Jesus rose, the Holy Spirit was sent from heaven, and the Church was born. We celebrate this event on Pentecost. When the Spirit came, it was with the signs of wind and fire.

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✦ On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit had come with the power to help the whole Church do what Jesus had done. We are God's people today. The Holy Spirit comes to live in our hearts at Baptism and gives us the grace to love God and others. The Holy Spirit wants us to become like Jesus. The Spirit speaks quietly—often when we are not expecting him. We must always be ready to listen!

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✦ Jewish children used the name *Abba* for their earthly fathers. It is like “Dad.” Jesus called God by that name and says that we may do so also.

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✦ The Holy Spirit was always with Mary. At the Annunciation, the Spirit asked Mary to be the mother of Jesus. Mary was visited in a special way by the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. She celebrated the Spirit's arrival with the rest of the disciples.

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