Session 1 - Jesus Sends the Holy Spirit

OBJECTIVES

- Pentecost is when Jesus sent the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles. This was the beginning of the mission of the church.
- The Holy Spirit is the third divine Person of the Holy Trinity. He is the love between the Father and the Son.
- The Holy Spirit comes to dwell in our hearts at Baptism.
 - a. He makes us holy by restoring in us the divine likeness lost through sin & making us like lesus.
- Water, fire, a dove, and wind are symbols of the Holy Spirit.
- The Holy Spirit guides the Church, especially the Magisterium, the teaching office of the church.

KEY WORDS

- 1. **Holy Spirit** The third divine Person of the Holy Trinity, who is the love between the Father and the Son.
- 2. Pentecost The day the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles, fifty days after Easter.
- 3. **Consubstantial** Of the same substance or essence. When talking about the Persons of the Holy Trinity, it means that each person is fully and completely God.
- 4. Sanctify To make us holy and like Christ.
- 5. Magisterium The teaching authority of the Church, which is the Pope and all the bishops in union with him.
- 6. Martyr Someone who bears witness to Christ and is killed for his or her faith.

Memory Verse

Acts 1:8

• "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses..."

- 1. The Holy Spirit is consubstantial with the Father and the Son. This means he is fully God.
- 2. Symbols of the Holy Spirit
 - a. Water we receive the Holy Spirit in the waters of Baptism.
 - b. Fire the Holy Spirit transforms us and makes us holy and like Christ.
 - c. Dove the Holy Spirit appeared as a dove at Jesus' baptism.
 - d. Wind the Holy Spirit's power to create and give new life.
- 3. The Magisterium is the teaching authority of the church;
 - a. it includes the Pope and all the bishops in union with him.

Let's Watch - The Sacrament of Confirmation

- 1. What is important about sacraments?
 - Jesus left them for us as visible symbols or signs that point to what God is doing invisibly.
 - Through them, we receive grace so we can love God & others more & be more like Jesus.
- 2. How did the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost change the Apostles?
 - They changed from hiding & being afraid to going out & telling the Good News @ Jesus.
- 3. Why are you excited about Confirmation?

Some possible answers:

- You will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit
- It will make you a spiritually an adult so you have more spiritual strength & responsibility.

Let's Read God's Word - The Sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost

- 1. How did the coming of the Holy Spirit change the Apostles?
 - They changed from hiding b/c they were afraid that they would be killed like Jesus to boldly teaching about Jesus. The grace & power of the Holy Spirit did this.
- 2. What did the Apostles do as soon as they received the Holy Spirit? What happened next?
 - They immediately started speaking in different languages & teaching the crowds about Jesus.
 - Many people in the crowds believed what they heard & were baptized & joined the Church.
- 3. The Apostles were witnesses to Jesus. To be a witness means to tell people what you have seen or heard or experienced. We are also called to be witnesses to Jesus. What are some ways that you can be a witness to Jesus?
 - By telling other people about God & his love for them.
 - By obeying the 10 Commandments, being kind & loving to others
 - praying before meals when in public
- 4. Pentecost is called the birthday of the Church. How do you celebrate your birthday? What is something you could do to celebrate Pentecost in an extra special way this year?
 - birthday cake, candles, presents, party, games
 - Put extra money in the offering plate, have a party.

<u>Let's Learn About Our Faith</u> – The Holy Spirit Makes Us Holy

- 1. What do you think it means to be holy and to be like Christ?
 - to always obey God, to always be loving, to be willing to sacrifice for others.
 - to love God more than anything else.
- 2. What are some ways we need the help of the Holy Spirit on our journey to holiness? What is one thing you can do to be more aware of his presence and help in your life?
 - To help decide on the right choice. To make the right choice when we don't want to, when we are afraid like the Apostles were, to give us the strength to do what he is asking us to do
 - We should pray to him by name & ask for his help every day & thank him.
- 3. The Bible says that we are temples of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 6:19). What does it mean to be a temple of the Holy Spirit? How does knowing that you are a temple of the Holy Spirit affect the kinds of things you say or do?

- It means the Holy Spirit dwells in us just as God dwelled in his temple in Jerusalem.
- If we realize the Holy Spirit is always with us, this should help us want to only say and do things that are pleasing to God he is not just watching from a distance, but he is within our heart.
- 4. The bible says that the Holy Spirit teaches us and helps us to pray (Rom 8:26). What are some ways that you like to pray now? What is one thing for which you can ask the Holy Spirit's help in your prayer life?
 - spontaneous prayer, talking to God, asking for help, praying the Rosary, going to Mass, reading the Bible.
 - to want to pray more, learn more vocal/rote prayers, pay attention in prayer more, help to enjoy praying more, help to be patient for answers to prayer.

<u>Did You Know</u> – The Symbols of the Holy Spirit

- 1. Name the Symbols of the Holy Spirit?
 - Water Baptism, Fire Pentecost, Dove Jesus' Baptism, Wind creation
- 2. Which is your favorite?

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Did You Know - The Holy Spirit Guides the Church

- 1. What is the Magisterium?
 - The teaching authority of the church the Pope & all the bishops in union with him.
- 2. Who can you name that is in the Magisterium?
 - Pope Francis, Bishop Thomas John Paprocki.

Let's Do Activities

The Story of Pentecost

Apostles, wind, fire, Holy Spirit, Heaven, heard, God, Jesus, love, world, gifts

What's in a Symbol?

Answers will vary.

Let's Recall & Reflect

- 1. When do we first receive the Holy Spirit? What does he do in us when we receive him?
 - At Baptism He makes us a new creation in Christ & makes us adopted sons & daughters of God.
 - From Baptism on, he sanctifies us makes us holy & makes us like Christ, restoring in us the divine likeness that was lost through sin..
- 2. How does the Holy Spirit help us on our journey of holiness?
 - He guides us & gives us strength.
 - Helps us know the right thing to do & to be brave enough to do it.
 - Teaches us how to pray.
 - Is always present with us & makes us able to have a relationship with the Holy Trinity.

Story of a Saint - St. Stephen

- 1. St. Stephen was described as being full of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit's work in Stephen showed in his actions (taking care of the poor) and in his words (teaching about Jesus). Who is someone you know whose actions and words show the work of the Holy Spirit?
 - parents, godparents, a priest or religious, a teacher, sibling, or friend.
 - The lives of the saints show us many different ways that actions & words can demonstrate the work of the Holy Spirit.
- 2. Stephen knew that teaching the truth about Jesus would get him in trouble with the leaders of Jerusalem, but he did it anyway. Why do you think he was so brave?
 - The Holy Spirit made him brave and he was able to be brave because he loved God more than anything else & he trusted God to take care of him no matter what.
 - The Holy Spirit helps us to love and trust God so that we can be brave, no matter how hard or scary something is.
- 3. St. Stephen was the first Christian martyr. We are not all called to lay down our lives like Stephen did, but we are all called to sometimes do hard things in order to follow Jesus. What is something hard you have had to do or you have to do now to follow Jesus?
 - losing friends or getting made fun of because we stood up for what is right, missing out on a
 party or activity because we needed to go to Mass at that time, or feeling embarrassed
 because we had to apologize for something but doing it anyway because we knew it was right.

Let's Read a Story - Short Cuts

- 1. Why is it worth it to read all the directions, even if you think you know the best way to do something?
 - Directions often tell us things we wouldn't otherwise know about the best way to do a task.
 - Often, we are surprised to find out that the best way to do it is not what we thought it was.
 - Sometimes, if we don't listen to directions, we start doing something entirely different than
 what is required & we are frustrated when we find out there was a different goal or a better
 way.
- 2. How do we know what God's directions for us are?
 - The Holy Spirit guides us through Scripture & the Church.
 - We grow in the gifts the Holy Spirit wants to give us through prayer & sacraments.
 - This allows us to know even more clearly what God wants us to do & to find our greatest joy in obeying Him.
- 3. Why should we follow all of God's directions?
 - God tells us our purpose and how to fulfill it.
 - Living life without obeying him makes it impossible to reach our goal of being with him forever in Heaven.
 - Without him, either we will try to reach the goal in our own way, which will be much worse than God's way, or we will not even know what the goal is.
 - With him, we can be truly happy because we will be living for our purpose.

Session 2 - The Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit

OBJECTIVES

- Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit as our Helper, Advocate, and Counselor.
- The Holy Spirit gives us his Seven Gifts in Baptism and strengthens them in Confirmation: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord.
- The Holy Spirit gives different charisms to each baptized person for the good of the whole church.
- When we know and use the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, they produce the Fruits of the Holy Spirit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

KEY WORDS

- 1. Advocate Someone who stands up for or defends someone else.
- 2. **Counselor** Someone who helps and guides someone else.
- 3. Paraclete A title for the Holy Spirit; from the Greek word meaning counselor or advocate.
- 4. **Reverence** A loving respect (especially for God).
- 5. **Charism** A special or unique gift the Holy Spirit gives to a person so that he or she can build up the Church in a particular way.

Memory Verse

John 14:26

• "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you."

- 1. Fear of the Lord we want to obey God and avoid doing anything that would separate us from him.
- 2. Piety worshipping & serving God as our Father & loving & serving one another out of love for God.
- 3. **Knowledge** helps us know for sure that what the Church tells us is true and helps us to know how we should act based on what we believe.
- 4. **Fortitude** makes us able to do what is right even when it is hard, and it gives us the courage to be witnesses of Jesus and to follow him, no matter what.
- 5. **Counsel** shows us the right thing to do and the right way to do it.
- 6. Understanding allows us to know God better and to see more clearly how much God loves us.
- 7. **Wisdom** helps us to see everything as God sees it and to love God above all else.

<u>Let's Watch</u> – Gifts, Fruits, Charisms

- 1. How do you think the gifts of the Holy Spirit will help you in your everyday life to be holy and be closer to God?
 - They will help me follow Jesus more closely & to make good choices.
 - Help me learn more about my faith, worship God and be witness to Jesus' saving love in the world.
- 2. How can you prepare now to be open to receive all that God wants to give you in Confirmation?
 - Pray for openness to receive the gifts on my Confirmation.
 - Think & pray about ways to do better in following Jesus & building up the Church
- 3. Charisms are special gifts or talents that God gives us so that we can bring Jesus to others and build up the Church. List some of your gifts that God has given you. How might God use these gifts to bring others to Jesus and build up the Church?
 - Encourage children to choose a talent they have & then explain how it will help in their Christian life.

Let's Read God's Word - Jesus Promises to Send the Holy Spirit to Be Our Helper and Guide

- 1. How does the Holy Spirit help us keep God's peace in our hearts?
 - The Holy Spirit is God and he comes to dwell in our hearts in baptism.
 - We have God's peace in our heart because we have God in our heart.
 - The Holy Spirit will remind us of what Jesus taught us and that will bring us peace.
 - The Holy Spirit will help us make good choices and avoid sin and that will bring peace because we are in right relationship with God.
- 2. What does Jesus say we will do if we love him? How does the Holy Spirit help us do this?
 - Follow his commandments.
 - By helping us remember them, know what is the right thing to do in a situation, be strong & brave to do the right thing.
- 3. How do we hear Jesus' voice? How does the Holy Spirit help us hear Jesus?
 - Through the bible The Holy Spirit helps us to remember what Jesus said.
 - The Church He helps us pay attention & obey what the Church teaches.
 - through prayer He helps us be close to God in prayer.
- 4. How do these words of Jesus (from John's Gospel) help you know and love the Holy Spirit better?
 - Jesus introduces us to the Holy Spirit, so we can know & love him.
 - He tells us what the Holy Spirit will do for us & we can see how much the Holy Spirit loves us.
 - Now we can recognize the Holy Spirit's presence & action in our lives & be thankful and love him more and more.

Let's Learn About Our Faith - The Holy Spirit Gives us His Seven Gifts

- 1. Which Gift of the Holy Spirit do you most want to grow in? Why?
 - What is a gift you might need for a certain situation?
 - Fortitude so have courage & strength to always do what is right.
 - Knowledge so they can know what the Church teaches is true.
- 2. The Bible says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" (Proverbs 9:10). What is the gift of fear of the Lord? Why is this gift the first "step" on the ladder of gifts leading up to God?
 - Fear of the Lord is reverence or loving respect for God.
 - We want to obey God and avoid sin because we don't want to offend God or be separated from Him.
- 3. Piety means worshipping and serving God as our Father. But it also means something for our relationships with other people. What is the second part of the gift of piety?
 - Loving & serving one another out of love for God because we are all brothers & sisters in Baptism.

Did You Know - Charisms

- 1. Do you know someone that has one of the Charisms?
- 2. How do you see this Charism in their actions?

<u>Did You Know</u> – The Fruits of the Holy Spirit

1. Have you seen one of these fruits in someone's life?

Let's Do Activities

The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Fear of the Lord, Counsel, Wisdom, Understanding, Knowledge, Fortitude, Piety

Find the Fruits of the Holy Spirit

Let's Recall & Reflect

- 1. The Fruits of the Holy Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, chastity, modesty, and self-control? Which of these fruits do you see already in your own life? Which of these fruits would you like to see increase in your life?
- 2. The Holy Spirit has called you to a special role in helping to build up the Church. What are some things you can do now to use the gifts the Holy Spirit has given you in service to the Church?
 - Pray & ask the Holy Spirit to help us recognize the gifts he has given us.
 - What do you feel you are good at doing how can you do this for the glory of God and the good of the Church?
 - Teach, sing, clean, welcome

Story of a Saint - Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati

- 1. How did Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati share his faith with others? What do you think inspired him to do this?
 - By telling people about God's love & showing them through his own loving actions.
 - He was generous & kind, especially to these who were sick or poor..
- 2. What Fruits of the Spirit do you think other people saw in Blessed Pier Giorgio's life? What part of his story makes you think of that particular fruit?
 - Service to the poor & sick love, joy, kindness & goodness.
 - Illness patient.
 - Temptations faithful & self control.
- 3. Blessed Pier Giorgio spent a lot of his free time helping others. What is something you can do this week to help someone else?
 - Help parents around the house before being asked
 - Doing more than expected.
 - helping someone with homework.
 - donating toys or clothes.
 - Visiting someone who is homebound.
 - Being a friend to someone who is lonely at school.

Let's Read a Story - Barnacle Course

- 1. Why do we need the gifts of the Holy Spirit to do God's will?
 - Our natural gifts are limited, so we will always fall short.
 - God empowers us to do his will, even when we wouldn't normally think we could..
- 2. If the Holy Spirit offers his gifts to us at our Baptism, why don't all Christians show all the gifts all the time?
 - The Holy Spirit wants us to cooperate with him so that he can cause our gifts to flourish when we say yes & open our hearts to receiving his grace.
 - Everyone is different, so the Holy Spirit works in all of us in unique ways.
- 3. Why is it better to work with others to do God's will instead of doing everything on our own?
 - Alone, we will miss out on the special gifts God gives to others.
 - We might also miss out on how the Holy Spirit might use all our gifts together to build the Kingdom of God.

Session 3 - The Sacrament of Confirmation

OBJECTIVES

- The bible tells us about the Apostles conferring the Sacrament of Confirmation in the very early church.
- In Confirmation we sacramentally receive the same grace and power of the Holy Spirit that the Apostles received at Pentecost. Confirmation ...
 - Completes the graces we received in Baptism
 - o Gives us an indelible mark or seal of the Holy Spirit in our soul.
 - Unites us more closely to Jesus and helps us to be more like Him.
 - Increases the 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit in us to help us by holy followers of Jesus.
 - Unites us more closely to God's family, the Church.
 - Gives us the power of the Holy Spirit to go out and be witnesses to Jesus through our words and actions. – just like the Apostles at Pentecost.
- We choose a Confirmation sponsor to witness the Christian life to us and help us live it.
- We choose a Confirmation saint to be an example to us and to intercede for us.

KEY WORDS

- 1. Bishops Successors of the Apostles who have the authority to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- 2. **Seal** The permanent mark we receive on our souls in Baptism & Confirmation. It can never be taken away.
- 3. **Sponsor** Someone who has already received the Sacrament of Confirmation, tries to live a life of faith, and will help you live out the graces of your Confirmation.
- 4. Saint Someone who has led a life of "heroic virtue."
- 5. **Baptism** The Sacrament in which our sins are forgiven, we are made sons and daughters of God, and we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts.
- 6. **Confirmation** This increases and deepens the graces received in Baptism and gives us the power of the Holy Spirit to go out and be witnesses of Jesus through our words and actions.

Memory Verse

Ephesians 1:13

 "In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit."

- 1. Confirmation perfects Baptism.
- 2. The effects of confirmation on our souls and in our lives include ...
 - a. Strengthens our identity as children of God.
 - b. Unites us more closely to Jesus and strengthens us to be more like him
 - c. Increases the 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit in us to help us be holy followers of Jesus.
 - d. Unites us more closely to God's family, the Church.
 - e. Gives us the power of the Holy Spirit to go out and be witnesses to Jesus through our words and actions just like the Apostles at Pentecost.
- 3. We choose a Confirmation ...
 - a. **sponsor** to witness the Christian life to us and help us live that life.
 - b. saint to be an ex. of virtue & the Gifts & Fruits of the Holy Spirit, to always be close to & pray for us.

Let's Watch - You are Plugged In

- 1. How is the Sacrament of Confirmation our own personal Pentecost?
 - The same presence and power of the Holy Spirit that was sent by Jesus upon the Church at Pentecost is sent upon us.
- 2. What does it mean to be anointed with Sacred Chrism in Confirmation?
 - It reminds us that we are anointed like Jesus was anointed as the Messiah at his Baptism.
- 3. What is the meaning of the laying on of hands in Confirmation?
 - It is the calling down of the presence & power of the Holy Spirit into our souls.
 - Confirmation completes the grace of our Baptism and the fullness of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit are given to us.

<u>Let's Read God's Word</u> – The Sacrament of Confirmation

- 1. How do you think the new Christians in Samaria felt when they learned that Peter and John would pray for them to receive the Holy Spirit? How do you feel about your upcoming Confirmation?
 - They were probably excited & nervous that someone "important" who knew Jesus personally
 was coming to pray for them.
- 2. What did Peter and John do so that the new believer would receive the Holy Spirit fully?
 - a. Why did it have to be Peter and John, and not Philip?
 - Peter & John laid their hands on the new believers & prayed for them.
 - It had to be Peter & John because they were Apostles the ones with the authority.
- 3. What does this Bible story tell us about the relationship between Baptism and Confirmation?
 - Baptism has to come first Philip baptized, then Peter & John Confirmed.
 - It showed that we receive the Holy Spirit in a fuller way in Confirmation than Baptism.
 - The 2 sacraments are related, but they don't do the same thing.
- 4. Who has the authority to confer Confirmation today? Why do they have this authority?
 - Bishops have the authority they are the successors of the Apostles.

Let's Learn About Our Faith - The Grace of Confirmation

- 1. How is the Sacrament of Confirmation your own personal Pentecost?
 - We receive the same grace & power of the Holy Spirit that the Apostles received at Pentecost.
- 2. How were seals used in the ancient world?
 - a. What does this tell us about the meaning of being sealed with the Holy Spirit in Confirmation?
 - Seals were used to mark something as belonging to or from someone.
- 3. How does Confirmation affect our relationship with God?
 - Confirmation strengthens our identity as children of God, so that we can be even closer to him and always be confident in the Father's love for us.
 - It also makes us closer to Jesus.
 - It strengthens our relationship with the Holy Spirit, as it makes him live fully & powerfully in our hearts and strengthens his 7 gifts in us.
- 4. How does Confirmation affect our relationship with God's family, the Church?
 - It unites us more closely to the Church.
 - Gives us strength & power to better love & serve the Church.

Did You Know - Confirmation Sponsor and Saint

- 1. Who are you thinking might make good Confirmation Sponsor for you?
- 2. What saints are you thinking about having as your Confirmation saint?

Let's Do Activities

Super Saint Powers

Strengthened as a Child of God, United more closely to Jesus, Helps me grow in Holiness, Increases the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit, United more closely to the Church, Receive power to be a witness to the world, Holy Spirit comes upon me just like Pentecost

Sealed with the Spirit

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Let's Recall & Reflect

- 1. What are the effects of the Sacrament of Confirmation? Or, in other words, How does Confirmation change us?
 - We are strengthened in our identity as children of God,
 - united more closely to Jesus,
 - increases the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit in us,
 - united more closely to God's family, the Church,
 - receive the power of the Holy Spirit to go out & be witnesses to Jesus through our words & actions.
- 2. Why did Peter & John lay hands on the new believers in Samaria? What sacrament takes place in this story?
 - Confirmation

Story of a Saint – St. Maximilian Kolbe

- 1. What was St. Maximilian Kolbe's life like before he was arrested by the Nazis?
 - He was a priest and a bold witness to the truth.
- 2. How did St. Maximilian Kolbe witness to the truth of God's love in Auschwitz?
 - He volunteered to take the place of another man who was condemned to die.
 - He kept praying, singing hymns & fulfilling his priestly ministry by hearing confessions.
 - He modeled God's love by dying for someone else.
 - He did not despair, but kept his eyes and heart focused on God even when he was suffering.
- 3. In Confirmation, the Holy Spirit gives us the power to be a witness to God's love no matter what. St. Maximilian Kolbe was a bold witness to the truth even in a terrible situation. What kind of difficult situations do you think you might experience where you will be called to be a witness?
 - Sharing about God with someone we don't like.
 - · Standing up for something that is right even when we know we will get made fun of for it.
 - Keeping focus on God even when we are sad or discouraged & encouraging others too
 - Standing up for someone who is not being treated well

Let's Read a Story - Boats & Badges

- 1. When is it important to prepare before doing something?
 - When we do not already have the skills on our own to do something difficult, important or risky.
- 2. Why do we need the Sacrament of Confirmation to prepare us to fulfill God's mission?
 - We receive power & grace from the Holy Spirit to preach the Good News of Jesus like the Apostles.
- 3. How is the Sacrament of Confirmation different from being certified to do a certain task or go a certain place?
 - When we are certified to do things, we prove that we are prepared for the task.
 - In Confirmation it is God's gift of grace that prepares us not our own skills and knowledge.
 - We learn about him before & after our Confirmation so that we know how to appreciate his gift of grace & use it well to build up the Kingdom of God.
 - God equips the called, he doesn't call the equipped.

Session 4 – Receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation

OBJECTIVES

- Jesus breathed the Holy Spirit on his Apostles on Easter Sunday.
- In Confirmation we receive the same Spirit of peace that Jesus gave to His Apostles.
- The actions, materials, and words that make up the Rite of Confirmation are signs that reveal to us the grace that is given in the sacrament.
- The laying on of hands is a sign of calling down the Holy Spirit & his 7 Gifts on a person.
- The anointing with Sacred Chrism is a sign of the permanent seal of the Holy Spirit and his presence and power in our souls.

KEY WORDS

- 1. **Anoint** To put oil on someone or something. In salvation history, it is a sign of the power and presence of the Holy Spirit.
- 2. **Consecrate** To set someone or something apart for a special purpose or mission.
- 3. Minister The one who has the authority and power to confer or give the sacrament.
- 4. **Rite** The way the sacrament is celebrated, including the words, actions, and materials used in the sacrament.
- 5. **Sacred Chrism** A mixture of olive oil and balsam (a sweet-smelling substance that comes from certain trees) that is blessed by a bishop and used in Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders, and the consecration of a new church.
- 6. Christ Greek translation of "messiah" or "anointed one."
- 7. **Messiah** Hebrew word meaning "anointed one" and the title for the promised savior of God's people.

Memory Verse

2 Corinthians 1:22

"(God) has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee."

- 1. Sacred Chrism is made of olive oil and balsam.
- 2. The sweet smell of Sacred Chrism is a sign that we are called to be the "aroma of Christ" in the world.
- 3. Messiah and Christ both mean "anointed one."
- 4. Our anointing with Sacred Chrism is a sign that we are set apart to share in Jesus' mission as priest, prophet, and king.

Let's Watch - A Walk Through Confirmation

- 1. Who does the bishop represent at Confirmation who actually celebrates the sacrament?
 - Jesus. Jesus is really present & working through the bishop, so Jesus is truly the one who celebrates the sacrament.
- 2. How will the seal of the Holy Spirit make you different after Confirmation?
 - This seal is the mark of the Holy Spirit on our souls. This mark is a treasure that can never be
 erased or lots. With this mark, we become adult members of the Church and witnesses to
 Jesus in the world.
- 3. Bishop Jorge says he is joyful when he is able to confer the sacrament of Confirmation. Why will you be joyful when you receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?
 - The mark will show that we belong to God & God dwells in us.
 - We are excited to see how God will increase the gifts of the Holy Spirit & use them in our life.

Let's Read God's Word - Jesus Breathes the Holy Spirit on the Apostles

- 1. Why do you think Jesus told his Apostles" Peace be with you"?
 - a. What does this have to do with the Sacrament of Confirmation?
 - They were afraid and he wanted them to have his peace in their hearts.
 - He was also giving them his Spirit of Peace.
 - This is like Confirmation because in that sacrament we receive the same Spirit of peace that Jesus breathed on his Apostles.
- 2. The Apostles were afraid at first, but Jesus comforted them by showing them his hands and side and by telling them "Peace be with you." What comforts you when you are afraid?
 - prayer, being with a friend or family member, talking with someone about my fear.
- 3. What mission did Jesus have for his Apostles?
 - a. Why did they need to receive the Holy Spirit before they could fulfill the mission Jesus had for them?
 - This mission was more than any human person could do by themselves.
 - Only God can accomplish this mission so they needed the Holy Spirit to give them power & strength for the mission.
- 4. What do you think would happen if you tried to fulfill Jesus' mission for you without the help of the Holy Spirit?
 - We would fail.

<u>Let's Learn About Our Faith</u> – Receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation

- 1. What is the meaning of laying on of hands?
 - The bishop is calling down the presence & the power of the Holy Spirit on the one being confirmed.
 - It also means that the person receiving the Holy Spirit is being consecrated or set apart for a special mission.
- 2. The sweet smell of Sacred Chrism is a reminder that we are called to give off the "aroma of Christ" in the world. What do you think it means for us to do this?
 - Our words & actions should remind people of Jesus.
 - We should be a source of comfort or joy.

- We should try very hard not to do or say anything that goes against the mission God has given us a mission of God's love.
- 3. When the bishop anoints your forehead with Sacred Chrism, what mark will he make?
 - a. Why do you think this is important?
 - He will make the Sing of the Cross, which shows that we are united more closely to Jesus and we are consecrated specifically to share in Jesus' mission & to be a witness to Him.
- 4. Why does the bishop say "Peace be with you" after anointing you with Sacred Chrism?
 - This is what Jesus said to his Apostles. it reminds us that we are receiving the same Spirit of Peace.

Did You Know - Anointing

- 1. What does being anointed with Sacred Chrism show?
 - You have a special mission from God.
 - We are marked with the Holy Spirit in your soul.
 - We are clothed with his power, just like the Apostles received the power of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

Did You Know - Sacred Chrism

- 1. When is the special oil blessed?
 - At the Chrism Mass on Tuesday of Holy Week.
- 2. What Sacraments use Sacred Chrism?
 - Baptism, Confirmation & Holy Orders.
- 3. What is Chrism made from?
 - Olive oil & balsam.

Let's Do Activities

I Spy the Signs of Confirmation
I Profess My Faith

Let's Recall & Reflect

- 1. What are the signs of the Rite of Confirmation (the actions, materials, and words)?
 - a. What do these signs reveal about what is happening in our souls at this sacrament?
 - actions: laying on of hands & anointing with Sacred Chrism .
 - words: "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit. Amen." & "Peace be with you. And with your spirit."
 - The Holy Spirit is being called down on you as a permanent seal and you are being consecrated or set apart for a special mission.
- 2. What does it mean to be consecrated? What does this have to do with Confirmation?
 - To set apart.
 - In Confirmation you are set apart for a special mission to continue the mission that Jesus received from his Father sharing God's love with everyone & helping people come back into relationship with God.

Story of a Saint - St. Katherine Drexel

- 1. How did St. Katharine Drexel fulfill the mission we receive in Confirmation to be the sweet "aroma of Christ" in the world?
 - She devoted her life to helping other people, especially the poorest & most neglected people.
 - She took care of their physical needs as well as their spiritual needs both showing & telling them how much God loved them.
- 2. St. Katharine used her good education and her family's wealth to help people who were in need. What blessings physical and spiritual have you received that you can use to help other people?
 - using our talents to help others helping a friend understand homework, teaching younger sibling to play a sport.
 - using our physical blessing of health & strength doing yardwork for an elderly neighbor.
 - using our education in our faith to share God's love with others & pray for others.
- 3. St. Katharine's parents taught her to understand the importance of faith, prayer, and care for the poor. What is one thing you can do to grow in one of these areas right now?
 - Continue to learn about Confirmation.
 - Making a daily commitment to prayer or Mass or to pray for someone.
 - Volunteering or donating

<u>Let's Read a Story</u> – A Great Race

- 1. What would happen if you were trying to run a long race, but you had the wrong equipment? (extra bulky clothing, heavy bag, no water, etc)
 - You would get tired and want to stop.
 - You may give up and never cross the finish line.
- 2. How is a life of sin like running a race with all the wrong equipment and no water?
 - Sin makes obstacles that weigh us down when we try to get close to God.
 - It makes it harder for us to "keep running" in the Christian life.
- 3. How can Confirmation help us run the race of life with the right "equipment," and without bad things weighing us down?
 - The graces & gifts we receive in Confirmation help us avoid sin so we don't add unnecessary weight to ourselves during our race.
 - The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available to remove all our sin when we need it.

Session 5 - Sent on a Mission

OBJECTIVES

- Jesus sent his Apostles out into the world to preach the Good News to all nations and baptize them,
 this is called the Great Commission.
- Through Baptism and Confirmation, Jesus sends each of us on a mission to witness to him and help build up the church.
- Jesus is always with us through the Church and the sacraments to help us on our mission.
- The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life.
- We share God's love by serving others through the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.

KEY WORDS

- 1. **Great Commission** Jesus' command to go out into the world and preach the Good News to all nations and baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- 2. **Charity** Love. The virtue by which we love God for his own sake and love our neighbor as ourself out of love for God.
- 3. Evangelization Sharing the Good News about Jesus and his love for us.
- 4. Corporal Works of Mercy Acts of loving service that care for people's physical needs.
- 5. **Spiritual Works of Mercy** Acts of loving service that care for people's spiritual needs.
- 6. **Mission** To carry out and continue the work of Jesus Christ on earth.
- 7. **Discernment** Making choices that please God.

Memory Verse

John 15:5

 "I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."

Key Points

- 1. The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life.
 - a. Source The source of everything good and holy that we do and
 - b. Summit The final goal of being good and holy like Jesus.
- 2. Our mission of evangelization is to
 - a. share the Good News about Jesus and his love for us and
 - b. help others to become Jesus' disciples.
- 3. The word "Mass" comes from the Latin word meaning "to send." At the end of Mass, we are sent out into the world to share God's love.

<u>Let's Watch</u> – You are Sent.

- 1. What is the mission Jesus will entrust you with when you receive Confirmation?
 - To make disciples of everyone everywhere by teaching them about Jesus so that they can receive the gift of faith & join God's family through the Sacrament of Baptism.
- 2. How can you carry out this mission after you receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?
 - Using the spiritual & corporal works of mercy.

- Pray every day so you keep growing closer to God & never miss an opportunity to share his love.
- 3. What makes you excited about the mission God entrusts to you in your Confirmation?
 - Excited to share God's love with people that don't know about God.
 - Excited to fulfill someone's need through a spiritual or corporal work of mercy.

Let's Read God's Word - The Great Commission

- 1. What mission did Jesus give to his Apostles?
 - Thru our Baptism & Confirmation, Jesus is sending us on the same mission.
 - How were they going to be able to fulfill such an important mission?
 - Jesus gave them the authority to do this & he promised t o be with them forever they would not do this mission alone.
 - How do we share in that same mission?
 - Thru our Baptism & Confirmation, Jesus is sending us on the same mission.
- 2. When did Jesus give the Great Commission?
 - After his Resurrection and before his Ascension.
- 3. How does the Great Commission continue Jesus' mission of building his Kingdom, the Church?
 - Baptism is how we enter the Kingdom, the church, so when we baptize new believers we increase the size of the church.
- 4. Jesus told his Apostles to make disciples of all nations. To be a disciple of Jesus means to follow him. How do you show by your words and actions that you are a disciple of Jesus?
 - By telling others about Jesus & his love.
 - Thru our actions when we serve others in love, like Jesus did.

Let's Learn About Our Faith - You are Sent on a Mission

- 1. What do you need to do in order to be able to live out the mission Jesus gives you?
 - Worship God & pray especially at Mass.
 - Rely on God's grace & strength from the sacraments.
 - Receive the Eucharist worthily & regularly in order to become more holy so you can live more like Jesus.
- 2. What do the words "Mass" and 'mission' have in common? From the Latin word meaning "to send".
 - a. What is the relationship between the Mass and the mission Jesus gives us?
 - At Mass we receive the strength & grace for our mission.
 - After Mass we are sent out into the world on our Mission.
- 3. In addition to telling people about his love, how did Jesus show people his love through his actions?
 - a. How do we follow his example in our mission of evangelization?
 - We take care of people's physical needs thru the Corporal Works of Mercy and their spiritual needs thru the Spiritual Works of Mercy.

<u>Did You Know</u> – Source and Summit

1. What is the source and summit of our faith?

- The Eucharist.
- 2. How is it the source?
 - This heavenly food nourishes us and gives us the strength to do what God has called us to do.
- 3. How is it the summit?
 - It is the closest we can get to Jesus.

Let's Do Activities

Mission to Save the World

witnessing, God news, evangelize, words, actions, love, serving, Eucharis, mission The Corporal and the Spiritual Works of Mercy

Let's Recall & Reflect

- 1. What mission does Jesus give us in Baptism and Confirmation?
 - Evangelization to share in the Great Commission he gave his Apostles.
 - We live out this mission by teaching other people the truth about God & by taking care of their physical and spiritual needs to help them know God's love for them.
- 2. Think about everything we have learned about the Sacrament of Confirmation. How does Confirmation make you ready to be sent out into the world on this mission?
 - It gives us a special grace & strength of the Holy Spirit to be witnesses to Jesus.
 - It makes us bold so we can teach people the truth about God & his love for us & never be ashamed of the Cross.
 - The 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit helps us to know what to say and when to say it and what to do and when to do it.

Story of a Saint – St. Frances Cabrini

- 1. St. Frances Cabrini worked hard to meet both the physical and spiritual needs of the people she encountered. Why are both the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy so important to our mission of evangelization?
 - Because Jesus gave us the example for both.
 - God created us body and soul, so we need to take care of people's bodies and their souls.
 - To ignore one or the other would be to fail to share the fullness of God's love with people.
- 2. When the Pope sent St. Frances Cabrini to New York City instead of China, she obeyed with a willing heart. Do you think it is easy to follow God's plan instead of your own plans? Why or why not?
 - It is often hard to give up our own plans and expectations, but if we trust that God knows best, then we can also have a willing heart and go where he leads.
 - It might be scary to recognize that we are not in control of everything, but we can have peace knowing that God is in control.
- 3. St. Frances Cabrini always found strength for her mission in the Eucharist. How will you find strength for your mission in the Eucharist?
 - Going to Confession regularly in order to receive the Eucharist more worthily.
 - Taking time to pray before Mass to prepare your heart to receive the Eucharist more worthily.
 - Asking Jesus to give us special strength for our mission.

• Spending time in Eucharistic Adoration.

<u>Let's Read a Story</u> – Keepsakes

- 1. Why should we share God's love with others?
 - Because it is the best news there is and we should want others to have what we have.
 - Even though God can do anything on his own, he asks us to participate in his mission of gathering everyone to himself by telling them about Jesus' love.
- 2. How can we grow in our relationship with God so that we will be excited to share his love with others?
 - Be open to the grace he offers in prayer and the sacraments.
 - Learn more about our faith by reading and studying the Bible.
- 3. How can your relationship with God lead to more goodness in your life and the lives of others?
 - A relationship with God results in the fruits of the Holy Spirit and it motivates us to serve others.
 - All of this will help us have a good life now and in Heaven, but it will also help the people around us be happy and curious about the love of God so that they too can receive the Holy Spirit and be satisfied for all eternity through God's love.