

"Spirit Alive!" –Resources for Catechetical Leaders

Pre-School/Pre-K

Scriptural References For Use: Ps. 139:7-8a Acts 1:1-11; 2:1-4 John 14:25-27

Concept: To introduce children of the pre-school/pre-kindergarten ages to the Diocese of Rochester's ongoing *Spirit Alive!* spiritual renewal initiative through prayer, reflection, and interactive learning. This is accomplished through "Spirit Prayer", "Spirit Story", "Spirit Song," and "Spirit Action."

Spirit Prayer: Use this prayer to foster an understanding that all of us are baptized through the power of the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit guides and helps us as we grow with God throughout our lives.

† All make the Sign of the Cross
*In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.*

*Holy Spirit, You give us life.
You came to us in our Baptism.
Help us to keep you in our hearts,
And help us to grow with God.
Help protect us, cleanse us
And
Help bring us peace.
We ask this through Jesus Christ.
Amen.*

† All make the Sign of the Cross
*In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.*

Spirit Story: Use this story, based on John 14:25-27; Acts 1:1-11; 2:1-4, to help the children develop an understanding of the Holy Spirit and the power of the spirit in our lives.

"Jesus told his friends, the Apostles, that when he was no longer on earth, but up in heaven with God, his Father, that he would send them a very special helper. We know this helper too. It is the Holy Spirit. Jesus told them that the Holy Spirit would teach them new things. Jesus told them that the spirit would help them remember all the special and important things Jesus told them to do. Jesus also told them not to be afraid, and that he would always be with them, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Before Jesus left, he said, "Peace be with you, I give you peace." Jesus shared his peace with all of his friends. Then, Jesus was lifted up from the earth, and went up to heaven.

Later on, Jesus' friends were gathered together. From heaven they heard and felt a whoosh of a very strong wind. Then, what looked like sparks of fire came to them, and a flame touched each one of them. Suddenly, they could all speak new languages that they had never spoken before. They had been touched by the Holy Spirit! The Apostles then went out to share the Peace of Christ with the entire world!

Spirit Story Follow-Up: Ask the children "What do you think it would have been like to be there?"

Ask the children if they, or anyone they know, speak a different language.

Remind the children, that although we come from all over the world, we all have Christ's Peace.

Share a sign of peace with and amongst the Children.

Spirit Song: These songs will help the children express their spirituality through music.

Song One: "This Little Light of Mine"

Hint: You can use flashlights that the children click on and off during the song!

Song Two: "I've got the Joy" (I've got the Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, down in my heart)

Song Three: "Holy Spirit" (sung to the tune of *Frere Jacques*)

*Holy Spirit,
Holy Spirit
Come To Us,
Come To Us,*

*Fill Us With Your Power,
Each and Every Hour*

*Peace and Love,
Peace and Love.*

Amen!

Spirit Action: A follow-up activity designed to foster Discipleship and Stewardship.

"FlameTags!"

Materials: Red Construction Paper or Felt (cut to resemble flames)

Double-Sided Tape, Regular Tape, or Small Velcro strips or circles.

Dark Markers, or other decorating items.

Procedure: Distribute the pre-cut "FlameTags" to the children.

Help the children decorate their "FlameTag" (They may put their name on it, a special friend they would to pray for, a special action they would like to do, etc.)

Attach Tape, or Velcro to back of the "FlameTags" (Velcro works well because it sticks to most clothes, like sweaters, etc.)

Put on your "FlameTag!"

As you help them put on their "FlameTag" tell the children:

*"This week you will be very special 'Holy Spirit Helpers!'
Wear your FlameTags everyday and help your friends and family
Remember the power of the Spirit in our lives!*

Amen!"