
INFORMATION

- The second sacrament of initiation
- Gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom (helps us think of the heavenly reality as opposed to just life on this earth), understanding (helps us understand the faith and doctrines), counsel (helps us choose God's way over my way), fortitude (helps us overcome obstacles to our salvation), knowledge (helps us see the world from God's perspective; helps us to know God and know myself), piety (helps us live joy in serving God), fear of the Lord (helps us to fear sin and lovingly revere God)
- Fruits of the Holy Spirit: charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, chastity
- Prepares you to go out and be a witness/martyr for the faith
- Bishops used to slap the Confirmandi to help them understand they will endure persecution, but must stand up for Christ and His Church
- Effects of Confirmation: roots us deeper as sons and daughters of God, unites us more firmly to Christ, increases the gifts of the Spirit in us, renders our bond with the Church more perfect, gives us special strength from the Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and actions boldly.
- Gives us an indelible mark on our souls

CONSIDER

- Who did I choose for my sponsor and Saint?
- Do I understand the moral responsibilities I take on as a sponsor, if I am one?
- How do I see the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit working in my life?
- How can I be a better witness, also translated as martyr, of the faith?
- Is my child growing, or already has grown, into an adult faith? St. Augustine says this takes way less time than physical growth into an adult.

ACTIVITIES

- Practice the rites of Confirmation
- Explore saints you might like as patrons
- For every achievement, first thank God in a Church or at home prayer ceremony to acknowledge your gifts & talents are gifts from God to be used for others
- Put a bar of soap in the microwave. The soap is us. The air inside the soap is the Holy Spirit. When we "ignite" (heat up) this Holy Spirit, it cannot be contained! No flames are involved
- Make chocolate milk. The milk is us. Pour the syrup in, but do not stir. That is us receiving the Holy Spirit in Baptism. Now stir it up. This is the stirring up and extra graces of the Holy Spirit we receive in Confirmation
- Perform skits of different martyrs or missionaries
- Ask children where they would want to be a missionary
- Look at a world map or globe and look up missionaries that went to those countries

BIBLE

- He breathed on them: John 20:21-22
- Pentecost: Acts 2:1-13
- They laid hands on them: Acts 8:14-17
- Baptism then Confirmation: Acts 19:1-7
- You were sealed with the Holy Spirit: Ephesians 1: 11-14
- Fruits of the Holy Spirit: Galatians 5:22
- Peace I give to you: John 14:27
- Christ put his seal upon us: 2 Corinthians 1:21-22
- We have received the Spirit of God: 1 Corinthians 2:10b-13
- Spiritual gifts: 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11
- Be ready to give an explanation: 1 Peter 3:14-17