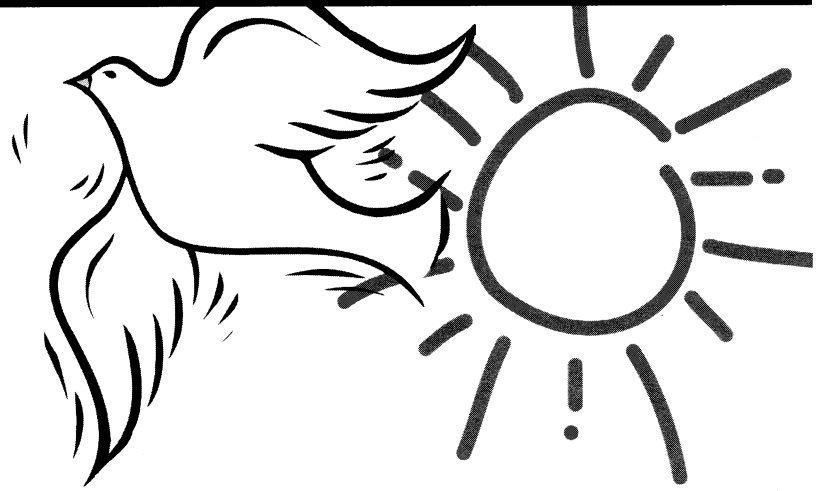


Come, Holy Spirit

The church teaches that the Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity. This is a difficult theological concept for adults, much less for children. On this poster we want to convey that on the day Jesus sent his Spirit to dwell among us (Pentecost Sunday), the Holy Spirit showered us with gifts and graces. Again, according to tradition, these are called the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. Pentecost is commonly known as the birthday of the church because it marks the moment that Jesus dwells among us in a new way, "in spirit" through the Holy Spirit. This poster celebrates the church's birthday.

Answers for fill in the blanks:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. knowledge, wisdom | 4. prayer |
| 2. generosity, kindness, gentleness | 5. self-control |
| 3. joy | 6. courage |



Suggested Activity

Read together the Pentecost story (Acts 2:2–4). Invite children to role-play this event by creating sound effects and dialogue. What might it have sounded like? What might the disciples be saying? How might the children have felt had they been there? Then, using these questions, lead a discussion about the Holy Spirit.

- What does it mean to be with someone "in spirit"?
- Has someone close to you died?
- How do you stay in touch with this person?
- How do you remember him or her?
- How is he or she still with you?
- How does Jesus keep in touch with us now?
- How would you describe the Holy Spirit?

After this discussion, invite children to look carefully at the poster. What are the gifts the Holy Spirit gives us (on the candles)? Which ones do they most need in their lives right now?