

Empowered by the Spirit: The Gift of Confirmation

Exploring Confirmation Together

4. The Gift of the Church & the Gift of Faith Handed On

In this session we will be combining some of the material from Preparation Session 7 and from Preparation Session 8 to make one session. We will omit most of the material from Session 8.

You will need the 2 leaflets: Preparation Session 7 (The Gift of the Church) and Preparation Session 8 (The Gift of Faith Handed On). We will cover some of the material from both leaflets. **Please do read through the rest of the material if you have time.**

You will also need to have the 2 cards for these sessions ready to take away to read and place on your Prayer Place when we have finished looking through the leaflets. The cards are *Eternal Rest* and *The Rosary*.

Open the leaflet for Preparation Session 7. Remove the activity sheet and place it to one side.

Begin to read through the leaflet.

Let us pray

- Make the Sign of the Cross
- Pray the opening prayer (***Come Holy Spirit***) together

Read:

1. The **passage from the Bible** together (from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians).
PAUSE to reflect for a few moments after you have read the passage and then talk together about any words or phrases which have stood out for you.
2. What **YOUCAT says**.
3. What it says in the outline of the apple about **Generosity**.
4. The three paragraphs at the top of page 3 under the heading **Being part of the family of God**.

At this point, take up the **Activity Sheet Session 7** (with the small image of a church on it).

- **Read** what it says on the sheet
- **Describe** the Church in words or pictures in the space provided

Once you have completed the activity, place the Activity Sheet back in the leaflet to store it there. Turn back to the leaflet and look at the *Talk Together* section at the bottom of the left-hand column on p.3.

Talk Together

Focus on one question only (question 3):

- Share some examples of what you already do as a 'part' of the Church. Think about the gifts you have. What else could you do in the future to build up the Church?

Talk with one another about your answers to this question.

Picture

Take a little time now to look closely at the picture on the front cover of the leaflet. As you look, think about these questions:

- What do you notice when you look at the picture?
- How does the picture make you feel about the Church and being a 'part' of the Church?
- What do you think this picture tells us about what it means to be a 'part' of the family of the Church?

After 1-2 minutes of quiet looking, share with one another what you have been thinking about.

Read what the leaflet says about:

1. **Prayer** (at the end of page 3)
2. **St Teresa of Calcutta** (over the page on page 4)

Talk together about the 2nd bullet point (**OMIT the 1st bullet point**)

- **How can I be like St Teresa and show generosity to those in need?**

Things to do at home

Read:

- Number 1 (about the saints)
- Number 3 (about making a list of ways you could help the parish family)

Try to complete these activities before the next session.

Before we end the session, look very briefly at the leaflet for **Preparation session 8**.

Preparation Session 8 Leaflet:

Read

- What it says on page 3 in the outline of the apple about **Gentleness**
- What it says under **Prayer** at the end of page 3 about the Rosary

Look at the 2 cards which you have been given (*Eternal Rest* and *The Rosary*).

After the session, read through *The Rosary* card and try and pray one decade of the Rosary each day: make sure that you have a Rosary and place it on your Prayer Place. Also pray for those who have died using the *Eternal Rest* card.

Pray together for those who have died and are still united with us as members of the Church in heaven.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
And let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.
Amen.

May the souls of the faithful departed,
Through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.

Make the Sign of the Cross as you pray the second prayer above.

Stick the 'Generosity' and 'Gentleness' stickers onto your Sticker Chart to show that you have completed this fourth session.