

Knowing God the Spirit

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets.

Nicene Creed

What is the Holy Spirit?

- The third person of the Trinity – fully God
- Believed to be the way that God is active in the world today
- Often represented in artwork or scripture as a dove or a flame
- Is written about a lot in the Gospel of Luke who describes the Holy Spirit as God guiding us to build his kingdom:

For the Holy Spirit will teach you” Luke 12:12

What happens at Confirmation?



1) Preparation

The person/candidate will attend lessons before their confirmation to learn about what it means to be a Catholic. During this time they will choose a name of a saint who has inspired them, and a sponsor – who is usually a family member.

2) Presentation of the Candidate

Each candidate is given a confirmation card with their chosen name and their sponsor. Each candidate is presented to the Bishop.

3) Renewal of Baptism promises

The candidate renews the vows their parents made for them at Baptism. They promise to choose to do good and they reaffirm their faith.

4) Laying on of hands

The Bishop places his hands on the candidate’s head. This is an ancient sign of being chosen to do a special task.

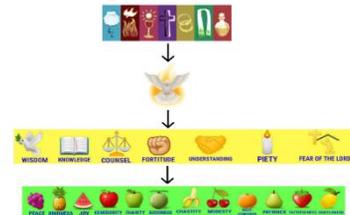
5) Anointing with Chrism

The Oil of Chrism is put on the candidate’s forehead in the sign of the cross and the Bishop says “Receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit.”

What is Pentecost?

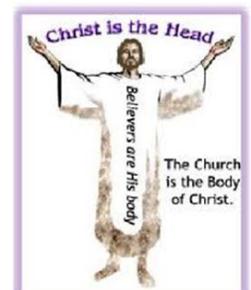
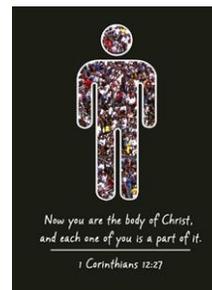
- 50 days after the resurrection
- Believed to be when the Holy Spirit appeared to the apostles and gave them the strength to go out and “make disciples of all nations”
- The Holy Spirit was represented in the Bible by the flames on the heads of the apostles
- Known as the Birth of the Church as this is when Christianity really started to spread
- Over 2000 people were baptised

Why is the Holy Spirit important?



- Catholics believe that when they receive the sacraments, they get closer to God by experiencing the Holy Spirit
- The Holy Spirit gives us 7 gifts which give us the strength to become better Catholics
- The gifts give us the fruits which give us the ability to become closer to God and build heaven on earth

What is the Church as the Body of Christ?



- St Paul in his letter to the Corinthians wrote about the people of God being part of the “one body”.
- What he meant by this is that all Christians (who have received the Holy Spirit) are united as one team.
- We must use our common gifts and fruits to work together to help build the kingdom of God.
- The example of a body is used because St Paul reminds us that Jesus is the head, and we together, united by the Holy Spirit, can be Jesus’ work in the world today.
- We can do this by working to help those in need and living out the commandment to ‘love thy neighbour’.