

# 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Confirmation First Year

## Sacrament of Confirmation – The Didache Series

Lesson Plan Week 6 - 11/06/2022

**Topic: Begin chapter 3 (God Sends His Holy Spirit); refresher using vocabulary lists from Introduction (p10), chapter 1 (p30) and chapter 2 (p50)**

### **Review of last time: Covenants, Paschal Mystery, New Passover, Everlasting Life**

Last week we didn't talk about the New Passover as chapter 6 is all about the Eucharist, but we will briefly talk about it this week to give context our discussion of the covenants and significance of OT rituals.

### **New Passover of the Eucharist**

- Passover meal was an annual remembrance of when God delivered the Israelites from slavery in Egypt
- Sacrificed an unblemished lamb, spread its blood on the doorposts, eaten in a shared meal
- In the New Testament, we find Christ himself is the sacrificial lamb whose blood is shed in order to deliver all people from slavery to sin
- What was the "manna in the wilderness"?
- The sacrifice of the lamb at the first Passover is a prefigurement of the Sacrifice of Christ

### **God the Holy Spirit**

- Understanding what we mean when we recite the Nicene Creed:
  - o the Lord - God the Holy Spirit is a divine person, distinct from God the Father and God the Son yet *consubstantial* with them
  - o the Giver of Life – all three persons of the Trinity were involved in creation
  - o Worshiped and Glorified – God alone is deserving of worship. As God, the Holy Spirit is worshipped equally with the Father and the Son
  - o He has spoken through the prophets – the Holy Spirit worked throughout the OT

### **The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament**

- God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living being (Gn 2:7)
- Language of the Holy Spirit: *comes upon, falls upon, rests upon, takes possession of*
- Scripture often uses the laying on of hands as a sign of handing on the Holy Spirit
- Anointing is also a sign of the Spirit of God
- The prophecies regarding the Spirit of God found their fulfillment in Jesus Christ

### **Christ and the Holy Spirit Reveal Each Other**

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- Holy Spirit involved in every aspect of Christ's mission beginning with his conception in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- At Christ's baptism, the Holy Spirit descended upon him in the form of a dove
- God gave his Apostles the Holy Spirit when he instituted the Sacrament of Penance
- Before he ascended into heaven, Christ also promised the power of the Holy Spirit to every Christian

### **Pentecost**

- Feast of Pentecost was a Jewish celebration commemorating the giving of the Law to Moses
- *When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting upon each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. (Acts 2:2-4)*
- Peter's sermon: about 3,000 souls were baptized *that day*
- The Holy Spirit gave them courage, knowledge, and many more gifts

### **The Holy Spirit – The Soul of the Church**

- *The Acts of the Apostles* is sometimes referred to as "the Gospel of the Holy Spirit"
- The Church is founded on the Holy Spirit, and all she does – then and now – is through the Holy Spirit, which gives life to the Church in three ways:
  - o Teaching: The Holy Spirit protects the Church from teaching error in her official pronouncements
  - o Sanctifying: The Holy Spirit's work of sanctification is primarily done through the Sacraments, which give us the grace to be more and more like Christ
  - o Governing: The Holy Spirit guides the Pope & bishops to properly govern the faithful

Symbols of the Holy Spirit: cloud – light – wind – fire – breath – water – anointing – hand – dove

### **Prayer to the Holy Spirit**

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.  
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And you shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen