

# Faith Lesson Plan and Faith Activity

## Chapter 6 - God the Holy Spirit

Grades 1 & 2

### Doctrinal Content

- The Holy Trinity is one God in three Divine Persons. (CCC, 253-255)
- The Holy Spirit is the Third Divine Person of the Holy Trinity who helps and guides us as Jesus promised. (CCC, 683-684)
- Jesus is the Son of God who became man, the Second Divine Person of the Holy Trinity. (CCC, 258-259)
- The Holy Spirit helped the Apostles understand and spread the teachings of Jesus and is with the Church today, helping us in many ways. (CCC, 767-768)

### Invite - Let Us Pray

Invite the young people to gather in the prayer space and make the sign of the Cross. Read aloud the leader's prayer. Proclaim the verse from Psalm 143:10 together. Have the young people move out of the prayer space and back to their seats.



### Let Us Pray

**Leader:** God, send us your Holy Spirit.

“May your kind spirit guide me.” **Psalm 143:10**

**All:** Holy Spirit, be with us always. Amen.

**Say:** God's Word is what we hear and read in the Bible.

**Guide** the young people through the process of Scripture reflection below.

**Invite** them to close their eyes, be still, and open their minds and hearts to what God is saying to them in this passage.

**Proclaim** the Scripture.

**Maintain** several moments of silence.

## Chapter Story: Wind

Use this story after the opening prayer, before talking to the children about the Holy Spirit.

**Say:** I'm about to share a story with you as an introduction to today's lesson on the Holy Spirit.

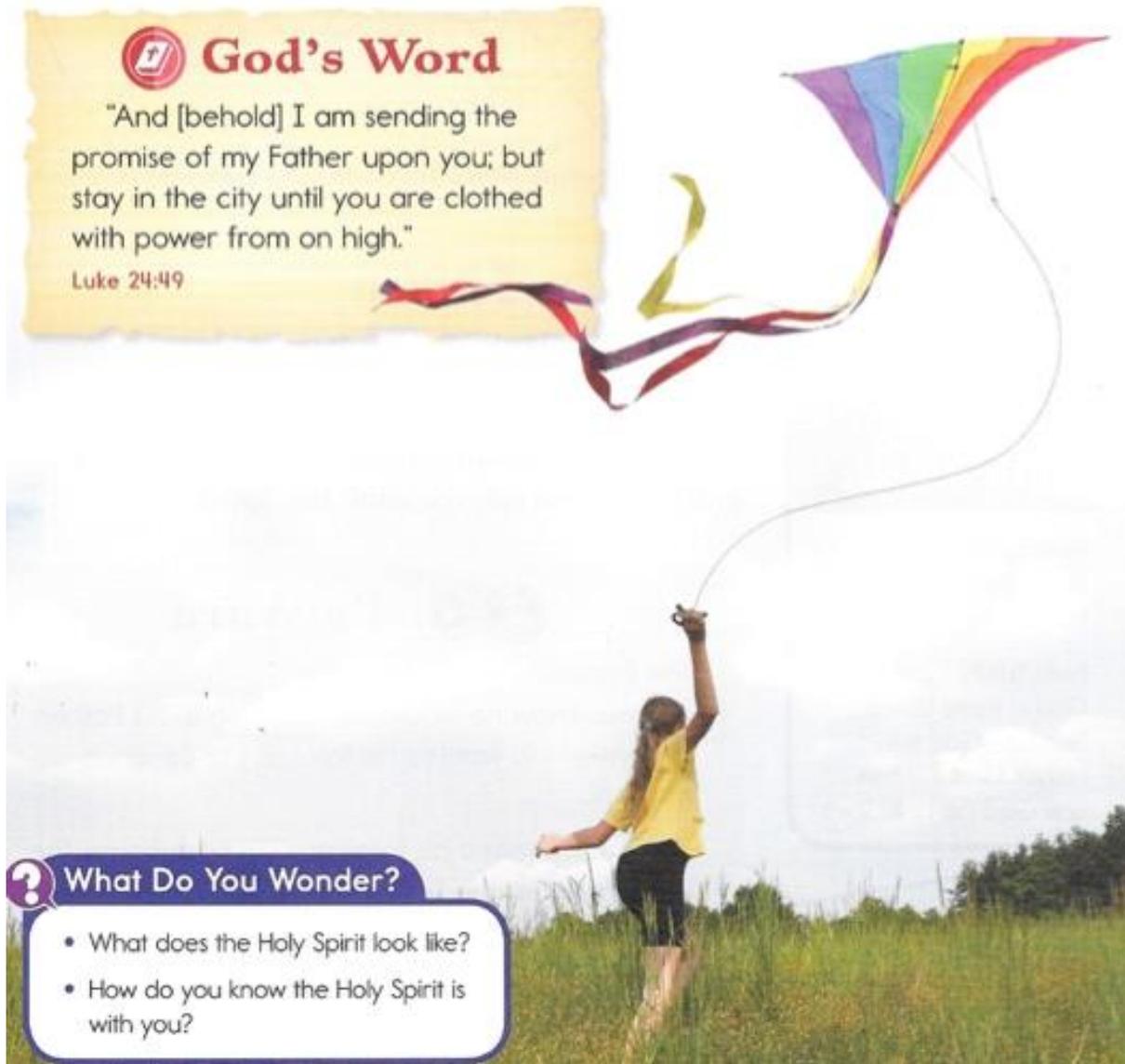
**Say:** It was Fall and Betsy and her mom were walking down a sidewalk on their street. Suddenly, some leaves that had been in a pile lifted up in the air and swirled around. It looked like they began running down the street together.

Betsy asked "Did the wind do that to the leaves?"

Her mom answered, "Yes. We can't really see the wind. We can only see what the wind moves.

**Say:** The Holy Spirit is like the wind; we cannot see the wind, but we know that the wind has caused some movement. So, every time we make good choices and show our love for God, the Holy Spirit is present and working within us.

**Display and Read the following.**



**God's Word**

"And [behold] I am sending the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Luke 24:49

**What Do You Wonder?**

- What does the Holy Spirit look like?
- How do you know the Holy Spirit is with you?

**Ask:** What did you hear God say to you in the Sacred Scripture reading? (Engage the children to respond.)

**Say:** In today's passage, Jesus says he is sending the promise of his Father to give the Apostles "power from on high." He's talking about the Holy Spirit.

**Say:** Before Jesus returned to his Father, he wanted to prepare his disciples to carry out his mission. The Holy Spirit serves two very important roles: to teach the disciples, and to give them the strength to live up to his teachings. Although Jesus was no longer physically present, God would continue to be among them in the Holy Spirit.

**Say:** Let's respond to the questions in the "What Do You Wonder?" section.

**Ask:** What else might you wonder about the Holy Spirit? (Engage the children to respond.)

### **Faith Activity: God the Holy Spirit**

Supplies: You'll need four flash/vocabulary cards, each with one of the following phrases: *God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, Holy Trinity*

The Church teaches that the Holy Spirit is the Third Divine Person of the Holy Trinity (see CCC, 285, 685). Present the concepts of Holy Spirit and Holy Trinity in this way:

**Ask:** Who is the Holy Trinity?

**Say:** We've already talked about the fact that you cannot see the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the Third Divine Person in the Holy Trinity.

Show the card for *God the Father*.

**Say:** Who can tell me something about God the Father? (Allow time for a response.)

Show the card for *God the Son*.

**Say:** Who can tell me something about God the Son? (Allow time for a response.)

Show the card for *God the Holy Spirit*.

**Say:** Who can tell me something about the Holy Spirit? (Accept and affirm all appropriate responses.)

**Say:** When Jesus went back to the Father, he promised to send the Holy Spirit as a helper and a guide for us. The Holy Spirit helps us know Jesus and the Father better. The Holy Spirit helps us make good choices!

If you have at least three people present, distribute the three cards (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit) to three volunteers, instructing them to hold the cards where the words are visible, and have them stand together.

**Show** the card for *Holy Trinity* and read the words aloud. Ask the three people to put the cards down and join hands in a circle.

**Say:** These three Persons are one. The Holy Trinity is the Church's name for the three Persons in one God.

## Discover (1)

### Objectives

- Define the Holy Trinity as one God in three Divine Persons.
- Identify the Holy Spirit as the Third Divine Person of the Holy Trinity who helps and guides us.
- Identify Jesus as the Second Divine Person of the Holy Trinity.

**Display, read, and discuss the following:**

# One in Three

## Who is the Holy Trinity?

You cannot see the wind, but you know that it is there. You cannot see God the **Holy Spirit** either, but you can see what the Spirit does.



## God's Word

### The Promise

Jesus knew he would be returning to his Father in Heaven. He wanted his followers to continue his work.

Jesus promised his followers, "The Advocate, the holy Spirit that the Father will send in my name—he will teach you everything and remind you of all that [I] told you." *Based on John 14:15–26*

**Ask:** What did Jesus promise his followers? *the Holy Spirit*

## Work with Words

### Review the Catholic Faith Words:

#### Catholic Faith Words

**Holy Spirit** the Third  
Divine Person of the  
Holy Trinity

**Holy Trinity** the one  
God in three Divine  
Persons—God the  
Father, God the Son,  
and God the Holy Spirit

**Ask:** Which word is part of both new words? *Holy*

**Ask:** Which words are different? *Spirit and Trinity*

**Explain** to the children that what they are going to learn next is one of the most important parts of their faith.

### Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Jesus teaches you that God is the Father of all. Jesus is the Son of God. And the Holy Spirit, sent from the Father and the Son, is also God.

But there are not three gods. There is only one God, who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Church's name for the one God in three Divine Persons is the **Holy Trinity**.

God the Father is the First Person of the Holy Trinity. God the Son became man in Jesus Christ. He is the Second Person of the Holy Trinity. God the Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Holy Trinity.

Believing in the Holy Trinity is the most important part of your faith and you show your belief when you make the Sign of the Cross.



**Read aloud** the first paragraph. **Stress** that Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are one God.

**Say:** Jesus' teachings helped us understand that there is one God in three Divine Persons.

**Read aloud** the remaining paragraphs.

**Ask:** Who is the First Divine Person of the Holy Trinity? *God the Father*

**Ask:** Who is the Second Divine Person of the Holy Trinity? *God the Son*

**Ask:** Who is the Third Divine Person of the Holy Trinity? *God the Holy Spirit*

**Ask:** How do we show our belief in the Trinity. *by making the Sign of the Cross*

### Quick Review

**Say:** After Jesus' Ascension, God sent the Holy Spirit to Jesus' followers. The Holy Spirit is the Third Divine Person of the Holy Trinity and the guide that Jesus promised.

### Discover (2)

#### Objectives

- Recognize the Holy Spirit's role in helping the Apostles understand and spread the teachings of Jesus.
- Understand that the Holy Spirit is with the Church today, helping us in many ways.

**Ask & Say:** How is the Holy Spirit with us today? Let's begin to explore this answer by reading Scripture about how Jesus told his followers, the disciples, about his plan.

**Display, read, and discuss the following:**

## God's Word



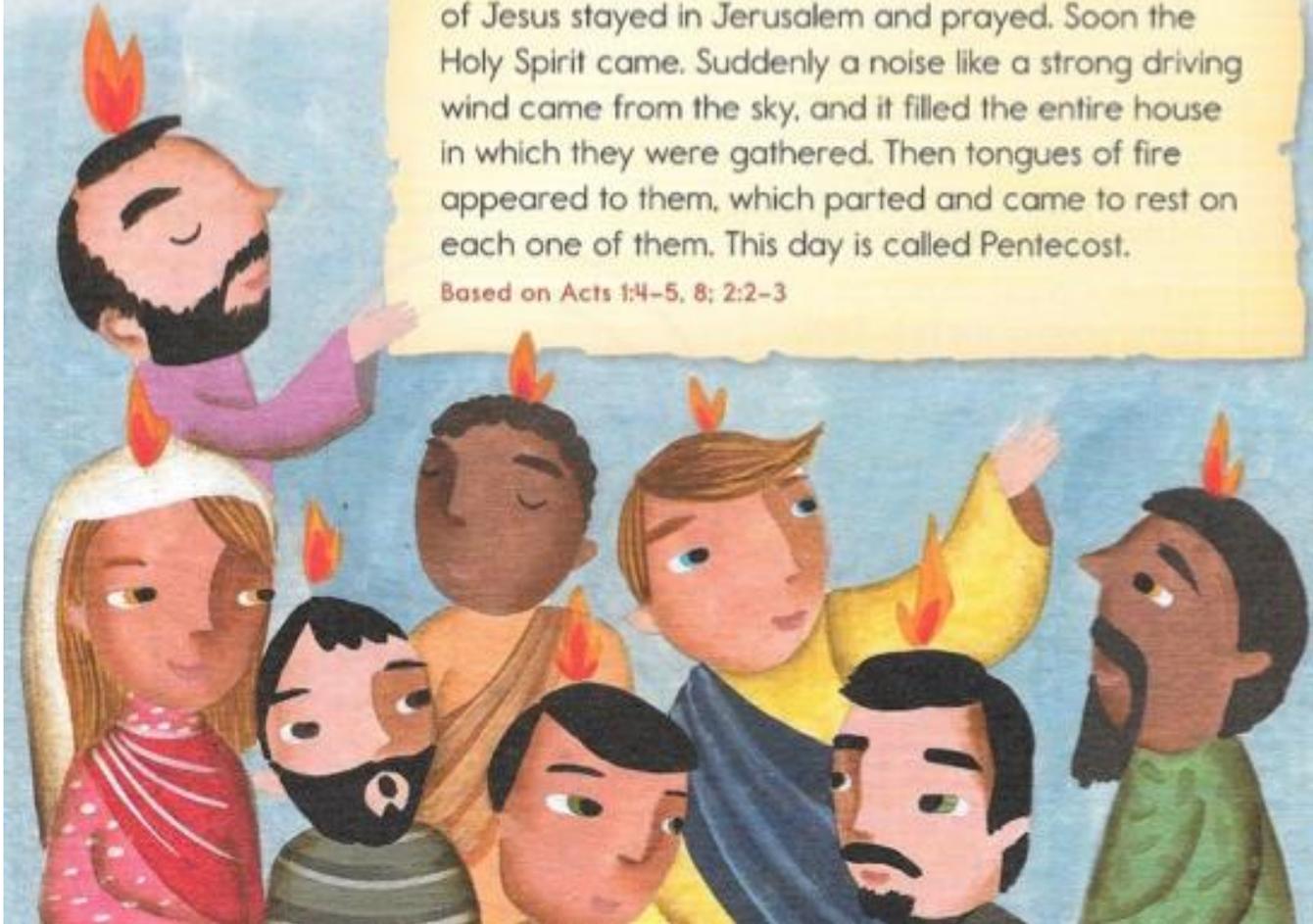
Underline the ways the Holy Spirit came to the disciples on the day of Pentecost.

### The Spirit Comes

Jesus told his disciples to wait for the promise of the Father that he had told them about. He said, "You will receive power when the holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem . . . and to the ends of the earth."

The Twelve disciples and some other followers of Jesus stayed in Jerusalem and prayed. Soon the Holy Spirit came. Suddenly a noise like a strong driving wind came from the sky, and it filled the entire house in which they were gathered. Then tongues of fire appeared to them, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. This day is called Pentecost.

Based on Acts 1:4-5, 8; 2:2-3



**Say & Ask:** Before Jesus returned to Heaven, he made a special promise to the Apostles. What was the special promise?

**Proclaim** the Scripture story.

**Ask:** What did Jesus tell the disciples to do? *He told them to go to Jerusalem.*

**Ask:** What happened when the disciples were waiting? *There was a noise like a driving wind, and it filled the place where they were staying.*

★ Have the young people identify (instead of underlining) the ways the Holy Spirit came to the disciples in the scene shown on page 7.

Show the YouTube video: [https://youtu.be/lqG\\_lvZhU-A](https://youtu.be/lqG_lvZhU-A)

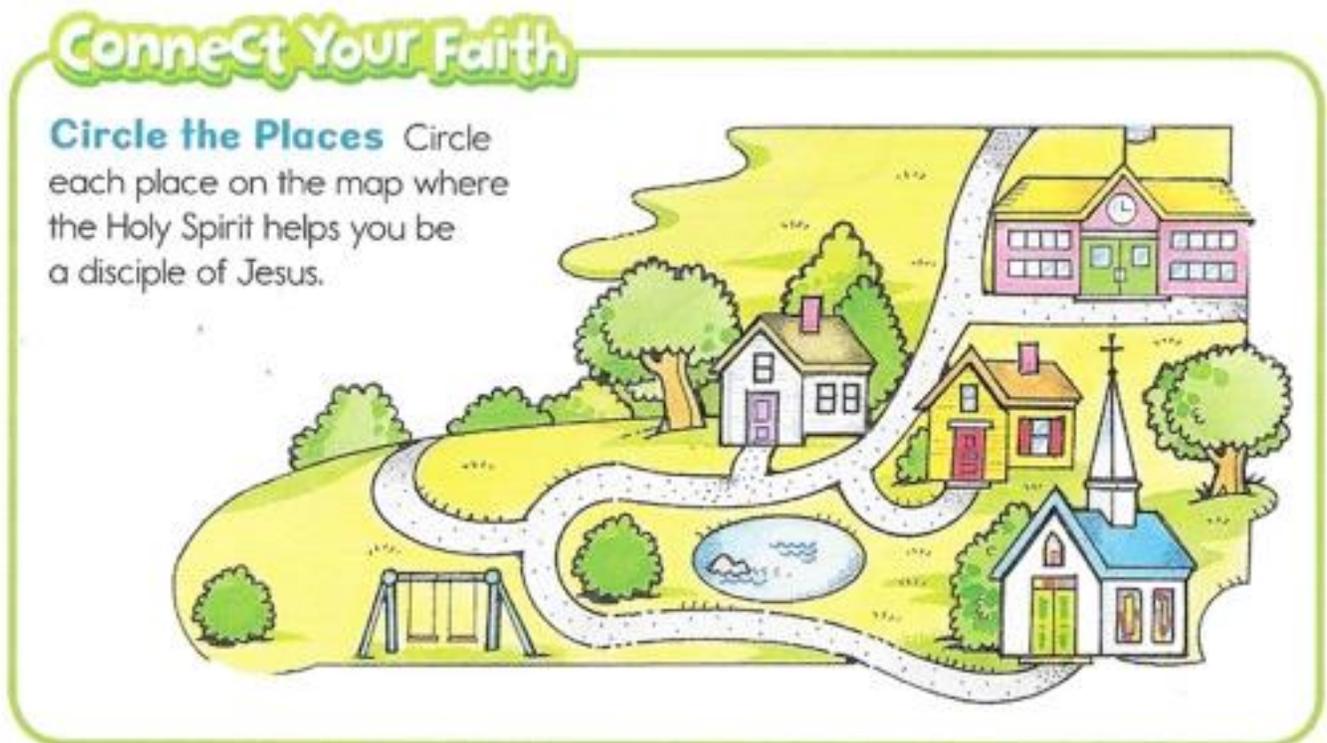
**Say:** After the Holy Spirit came to them at Pentecost, Jesus' Twelve closest disciples were guided to continue his work. They became known as his Apostles.

**Say:** The Holy Spirit comes today through the Church's Sacraments, prayer, and in God's Word. The Holy Spirit guides the Church and makes Jesus' disciples holy. He helps you make good decisions and grow more loving. You are learning to be a disciple of Jesus.

**Say:** Repeat after me the four things that the Holy Spirit does. *The Holy Spirit guides the Church (allow time for the young people to repeat), helps you and me follow Jesus (allow time for the young people to repeat), guides you and me in the decisions we make (allow time for the young people to repeat), and helps us to become more loving people (allow time for the young people to repeat).*

**Say:** Let's look at the illustration below and discuss where on the map the Holy Spirit helps us be disciples of Jesus. Be prepared to give an example of how the Holy Spirit might help you be a good disciple of Jesus in the settings on the map.

**Display and discuss the following:**



**Work with Words**

**Review the Catholic Faith Words:**

## Catholic Faith Words

**disciples** followers of Jesus who believe in him and live by his teachings

**Pentecost** fifty days after the Resurrection when the Holy Spirit first came upon the Twelve disciples and the Church

**Apostles** the Twelve disciples Jesus chose to be his closest followers. After the coming of the Holy Spirit, they shared in his work and mission in a special way.

### Quick Review

**Say:** The Holy Spirit came to the disciples of Jesus on Pentecost. We find the Holy Spirit in the Church's Sacraments, in prayer, and in God's Word. The Holy Spirit helped the Apostles and still guides the Church today.

### Live: Our Catholic Life

**Say:** Just like Jesus' first friends, his disciples, we, too, try to follow Jesus' example of the way he lived. Let's look at the chart entitled, "Ways to Follow Jesus" for examples of how we strive to live like Jesus.

**Display, read, and discuss the following:**

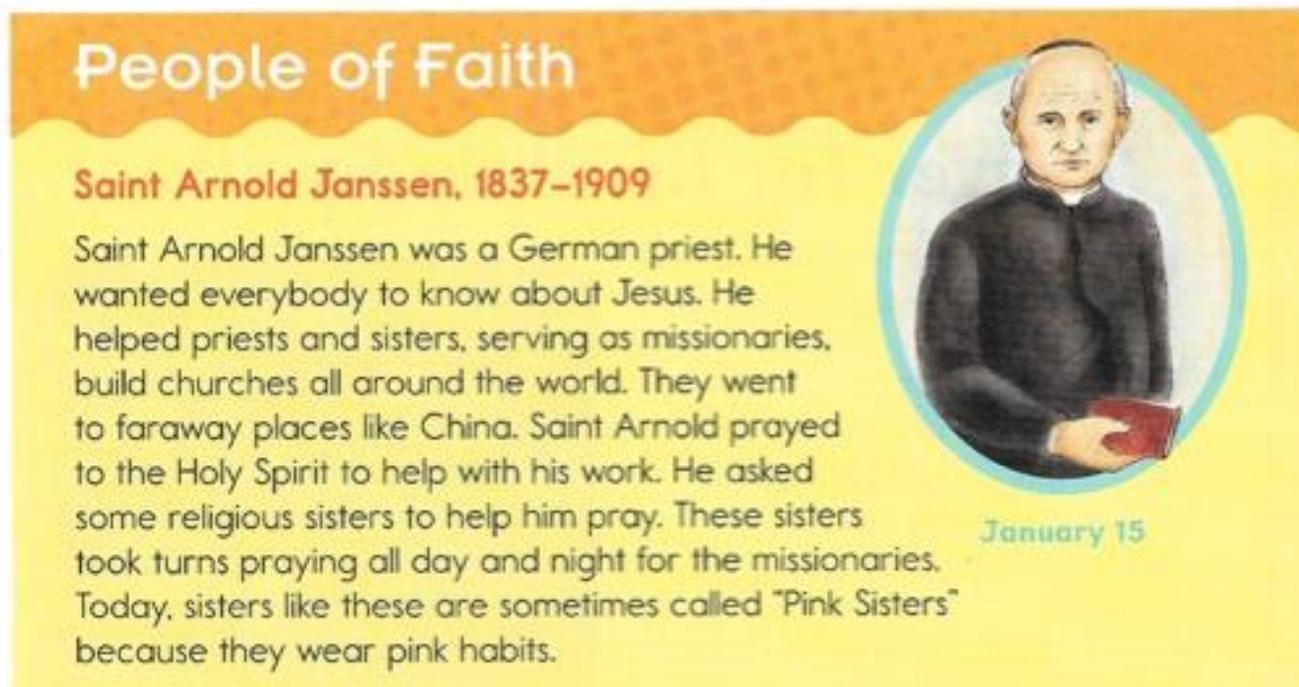
#### Ways to Follow Jesus

- Pray to God the Father.
- Ask God the Holy Spirit to guide you.
- Think of other people, not only of yourself.
- Be fair to your family members and friends.
- Help people who are in need.

## People of Faith - Saint Arnold Janssen, 1837-1909; Feast Day - January 15

**Say:** Saint Arnold started a printing press to get funding for missionaries. Thousands of lay persons helped him distribute the magazines. His whole life, he constantly searched for God's will. The missionary communities he founded are active in 63 countries.

**Display, read, and discuss the following:**



**People of Faith**

**Saint Arnold Janssen, 1837-1909**

Saint Arnold Janssen was a German priest. He wanted everybody to know about Jesus. He helped priests and sisters, serving as missionaries, build churches all around the world. They went to faraway places like China. Saint Arnold prayed to the Holy Spirit to help with his work. He asked some religious sisters to help him pray. These sisters took turns praying all day and night for the missionaries. Today, sisters like these are sometimes called "Pink Sisters" because they wear pink habits.

January 15

**Ask:** What do you ask when you pray to the Holy Spirit? (Engage the young people to respond.)

**Say:** Let's pray the following "Prayer to the Holy Spirit" together, beginning with the Sign of the Cross, demonstrating that we believe in the Holy Spirit.

**Display and recite together.**

### 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 will be created.

And you will renew the face of the earth.

## What the Children Should Know

- The Holy Trinity is one God in three Divine Persons. (CCC, 253-255)
- The Holy Spirit is the Third Divine Person of the Holy Trinity who helps and guides us as Jesus promised. (CCC, 683-684)
- Jesus is the Son of God who became man, the Second Divine Person of the Holy Trinity. (CCC, 258-259)
- The Holy Spirit helped the Apostles understand and spread the teachings of Jesus and is with the Church today, helping us in many ways. (CCC, 767-768)

**Print page 12 and distribute to the young people**

**along with crayons or colored pencils:**

## Faith Activity 1: Images

**Say:** In today's lesson, we've compared the Holy Spirit to the wind—we cannot see it, but we can feel the Holy Spirit working in our lives. The Holy Spirit is also often depicted as a **white dove**.



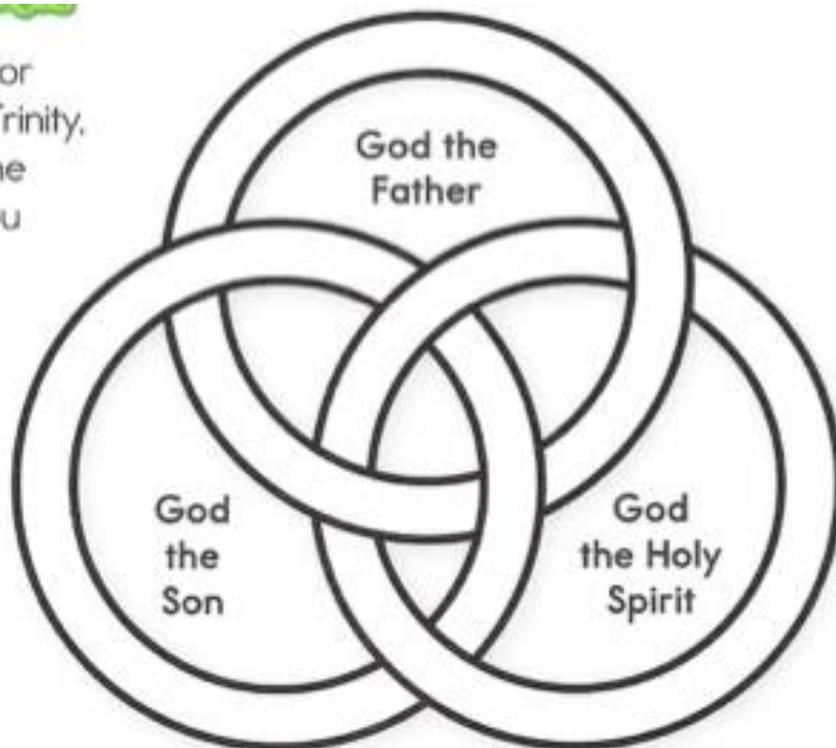
Color in the stained glass frame around the image of the Holy Spirit.



**Say:** Here's an illustration one might use to explain the Holy Trinity.

**Think** Choose a color for each Person of the Holy Trinity, then color or decorate the circles using the colors you have chosen.

**Share** Talk about your picture with a partner.



## Faith Activity 2: Disciples Serve

Supplies: 3 x 5 cards

Write one of the following words or actions on each card. Make enough so each child can have a turn.

- rake or raking
- snow shovel or shoveling
- soup or serving soup
- skating
- playing tennis
- grocery shopping
- watching a movie
- making a meal
- ice cream cone
- juggling
- doing a magic trick
- eating
- watering the garden
- reading a book singing
- playing the piano (*You could have separate cards for a wide variety of instruments.*)
- planting
- bowling
- walking the dog
- washing windows
- making a bed
- vacuuming
- talking on the phone

**Introduce** the activity by **saying**, We are going to play charades that show how we can act as Jesus' disciples. All the words have to do with serving others. One word might be a tool you use to help someone. Another word might be the thing you do, like helping a person across the street. Everyone will get a turn to play.

**Say:** Jesus asks us to serve others. Sometimes people think that means we just have to do work. But service comes in many forms, including playing games, going on a trip, and preparing a meal. Think about how you can help someone as you guess. Sometimes we don't want to serve. That's when we pray to the Holy Spirit to help us do the right thing.

Distribute cards to children. Give them a few minutes to think about how they will act their charade out. Help children who may need assistance.

At the conclusion of the game, ask children to choose one thing they will do during the next few days to serve someone else.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. The closest followers of Jesus, \_\_\_\_\_, shared in his work and mission in a special way.
  - a. the disciples
  - b. priests and sisters
  - c. the Apostles
2. Pentecost took place \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. soon after Jesus began to teach
  - b. a few weeks after the Death and Resurrection of Jesus
  - c. in Nazareth where Jesus grew up
3. While waiting for the Holy Spirit, the disciples of Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ and prayed.
  - a. stayed in Jerusalem
  - b. spread the Gospel all over Galilee
  - c. went to be baptized in the Jordan River
4. We show belief in the Holy Trinity when we \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. say the *Hail Mary*
  - b. are nice to everyone
  - c. make the Sign of the Cross
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is a good symbol for the Holy Trinity.
  - a. A cross
  - b. A tall tree
  - c. Three interlocking circles
6. \_\_\_\_\_ appeared, parted, and rested on each of the disciples of Jesus at Pentecost.
  - a. Doves
  - b. Tongues of fire
  - c. Bright clouds
7. The Holy Spirit is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Trinity.
  - a. Most Powerful Person
  - b. Teacher
  - c. Third Divine Person
8. Jesus said that when the Spirit came, his disciples would receive \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. power
  - b. sunlight
  - c. heavenly garments

9. The Holy Trinity is one \_\_\_\_\_ in three Divine Persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

- a. faith
- b. God
- c. promise

10. \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus is anyone who follows, believes in, and lives by his teachings.

- a. A disciple
- b. An Apostle
- c. The family

11. Saint Arnold Janssen prayed often to the Holy Spirit for \_\_\_\_\_ around the world.

- a. German people
- b. lepers
- c. missionaries

12. Pentecost was the coming of \_\_\_\_\_ to the followers of Jesus in Jerusalem.

- a. holiness
- b. the Holy Spirit
- c. angels

13. The Holy Spirit is like \_\_\_\_\_, which we can feel but can't see.

- a. wind
- b. fear
- c. prayers

14. Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit, "the \_\_\_\_\_," would come to guide and teach his followers.

- a. Trinity
- b. Father
- c. Advocate

15. Match each option with its appropriate term.

**Options**

- 1. (\_\_\_\_) Holy Spirit
- 2. (\_\_\_\_) Pentecost
- 3. (\_\_\_\_) disciples
- 4. (\_\_\_\_) Apostles
- 5. (\_\_\_\_) Holy Trinity

**Terms**

- f. the Holy Spirit's first coming to Jesus' followers in Jerusalem
- g. followers of Jesus who believed in him and lived by his teachings
- h. Third Divine Person of the Holy Trinity
- i. one God in three Divine Persons
- j. the Twelve closest followers of Jesus who shared his mission

**16. Fill in the blank in the sentence below.**

The Holy Spirit is the \_\_\_\_\_ Divine Person of the Holy Trinity.

**17. Fill in the blank in the sentence below.**

The Holy Spirit came to the Apostles on \_\_\_\_\_.

**18. Fill in the blank in the sentence below.**

A \_\_\_\_\_ is anyone who follows Jesus, believes in him, and lives by his teachings.

**19. Fill in the blank in the sentence below.**

The Holy \_\_\_\_\_ is like the wind, which we can feel but cannot see.

**20. Fill in the blank in the sentence below.**

Jesus wanted the Holy Spirit to strengthen his friends because he was returning to his Father in \_\_\_\_\_.

**21. Fill in the blank in the sentence below.**

When the Holy Spirit came, the disciples felt wind and saw tongues of \_\_\_\_\_.

**22. Fill in the blank in the sentence below.**

We don't believe in three gods, but in one God in three \_\_\_\_\_ Persons.

**23. Fill in the blank in the sentence below.**

Jesus told his disciples that they would be his \_\_\_\_\_ in Jerusalem and "to the ends of the earth."

**24. Fill in the blank in the sentence below.**

The most important belief of our faith is belief in the Holy \_\_\_\_\_.

**25. How does the Sign of the Cross show belief in the Holy Trinity? What words and gestures do we make?**

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## Answer Key

1. The closest followers of Jesus, \_\_\_\_\_, shared in his work and mission in a special way.
  - a. the disciples
  - b. priests and sisters
  - c. the Apostles
2. Pentecost took place \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. soon after Jesus began to teach
  - b. a few weeks after the Death and Resurrection of Jesus
  - c. in Nazareth where Jesus grew up
3. While waiting for the Holy Spirit, the disciples of Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ and prayed.
  - a. stayed in Jerusalem
  - b. spread the Gospel all over Galilee
  - c. went to be baptized in the Jordan River
4. We show belief in the Holy Trinity when we \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. say the *Hail Mary*
  - b. are nice to everyone
  - c. make the Sign of the Cross
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is a good symbol for the Holy Trinity.
  - a. A cross
  - b. A tall tree
  - c. Three interlocking circles
6. \_\_\_\_\_ appeared, parted, and rested on each of the disciples of Jesus at Pentecost.
  - a. Doves
  - b. Tongues of fire
  - c. Bright clouds
7. The Holy Spirit is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Trinity.
  - a. Most Powerful Person
  - b. Teacher
  - c. Third Divine Person
8. Jesus said that when the Spirit came, his disciples would receive \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. power
  - b. sunlight
  - c. heavenly garments

9. The Holy Trinity is one \_\_\_\_\_ in three Divine Persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
- faith
  - God
  - promise
10. \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus is anyone who follows, believes in, and lives by his teachings.
- A disciple
  - An Apostle
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- German people
  - lepers
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- holiness
  - the Holy Spirit
  - angels
13. The Holy Spirit is like \_\_\_\_\_, which we can feel but can't see.
- wind
  - fear
  - prayers
14. Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit, "the \_\_\_\_\_," would come to guide and teach his followers.
- Trinity
  - Father
  - Advocate
15. Match each option with its appropriate term.
- 1 = Third Divine Person of the Holy Trinity
  - 2 = the Holy Spirit's first coming to Jesus' followers in Jerusalem
  - 3 = followers of Jesus who believed in him and lived by his teachings
  - 4 = the Twelve closest followers of Jesus who shared his mission
  - 5 = one God in three Divine Persons
16. The Holy Spirit is the \_\_\_\_\_ Divine Person of the Holy Trinity.  
Third
17. The Holy Spirit came to the Apostles on \_\_\_\_\_.  
Pentecost

18. A \_\_\_\_\_ is anyone who follows Jesus, believes in him, and lives by his teachings.  
disciple

19. The Holy \_\_\_\_\_ is like the wind, which we can feel but cannot see.  
Spirit

20. Jesus wanted the Holy Spirit to strengthen his friends because he was returning to his Father in \_\_\_\_\_.  
Heaven

21. When the Holy Spirit came, the disciples felt wind and saw tongues of \_\_\_\_\_.  
fire

22. We don't believe in three gods, but in one God in three \_\_\_\_\_ Persons.  
Divine

23. Jesus told his disciples that they would be his \_\_\_\_\_ in Jerusalem and "to the ends of the earth."  
witnesses

24. The most important belief of our faith is belief in the Holy \_\_\_\_\_.  
Trinity

25. How does the Sign of the Cross show belief in the Holy Trinity? What words and gestures do we make?

Answers will vary but should say that Catholics begin and end prayer with the Sign of the Cross. It shows our belief in three Divine Persons in one God - God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.