

Fifth Grade: Lesson 10

Confirmation Empowers Us

Lesson Objective:

This lesson is an in-depth study of the sacrament of Confirmation. Catechists are encouraged to lead children in a reflection on the change that took place in the apostles before and after Pentecost. Before the coming of the Spirit, the apostles were fearful, but when the Spirit fell upon them, their hearts were set ablaze with the fire of God's love and they could no longer keep the good news of Christ to themselves. This same Spirit is given at Confirmation to equip the children to continue Christ's work on earth.

Learning Outcomes: Students will ...

- Explain Confirmation as the liturgical event that strengthens and completes the grace of Baptism (CCC 1285).
- Relate the account of Pentecost to Confirmation (Acts 2).
- List and explain the signs and symbols of Confirmation (CCC 1293, 1299-1300).
- List the gifts and the fruits of the Holy Spirit (Isaiah 11:2, Gal 5:22-23, CCC 1830-1832).
- Discuss how the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit help us to lead a holy life (CCC 1830-1832).

Materials Needed:

- Prayer space items, Bible, pencils, crayons, colored pencils, construction paper, scissors, and glue
- Copies needed: Printable Amina Christi Prayer Card (if you choose to open class with that prayer), Confirmation Symbols Art Response, Pentecost and Confirmation Activity (if you are doing it in writing), Gifts of the Holy Spirit Coloring Sheet, Confirmation board game if you have time.

As Students Enter Class:

- Provide a sheet of plain paper or use your prayer journals. Pose the following question: List the gifts you have been given by God and write a prayer of thanks for your gifts.
- Provide time to share after opening prayer.

Opening Prayer:

- Invite students to gather around your prayer space and pray the Amina Christi. Please refer to the link below for a printable card you can give each student.
- [Printable Amina Christi Prayer Card](#)

Lesson Order	Implementation Ideas
Lesson 10 Video	<p>This video is 10:29 in length.</p> <p>Highlights: Last session we learned about the Sacrament of Baptism, our first Sacrament of Initiation. Today we are going to study another Sacrament of Initiation, Confirmation. Confirmation is the liturgical event that strengthens and completes the grace of Baptism.</p> <p>The first Confirmation occurred at Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came upon the Apostles. Carla reads from Acts 2: The Coming of the Holy Spirit. Very nice pictures accompany this reading.</p> <p>What did you hear? The Apostles were fearful. They didn't fully understand Jesus' death and resurrection. But, even with the uncertainty the Apostles had after Jesus' death, the blaze of the Holy Spirit came upon the Apostles and their hearts were set ablaze with the power of God's love. They could not keep the good news to themselves! They even had the ability to speak in different languages. The Apostles received the abilities they needed to share the good news.</p> <p>Just like the Apostles, God wants to continue His mission in you. In Mark 16:15, Jesus said: "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature."</p> <p>St. John Paul II stated: The Church exists in order to evangelize.</p> <p>Evangelization is all of our responsibilities. Confirmation is our personal Pentecost, where God wants to bestow His gifts of the Holy Spirit onto you.</p>

<p>Analogy connecting the fruits of the Holy Spirit to unwrapping presents:</p>  <p>Suggestions: Purchase pebbles with the gifts of the Holy Spirit written on them; wrap and give them to students.</p> <p>Cost free suggestion: Write the gifts of the holy spirit on a card and hand them out to students. Put a ribbon or wrap them.</p> <p><u>Free Mobile Craft Activity</u></p>	<p>Evangelization is telling others of the good news. This is done through our words and actions. What we say and do really matters!</p> <p>The gifts of the Holy Spirit cannot help us if we don't know what they are. Let's unwrap them. Carla reads from 1Corinthians 12: The Gifts of the Holy Spirit:</p> <p>Quick summary of this passage:</p> <p>Paul wrote about various spiritual gifts that can be received through the Holy Ghost. Each member of the Church is to contribute to the body (Church) of Christ. Apostles, prophets, teachers, miracles, and spiritual gifts are all part of God's Church. Paul admonished his readers to strive earnestly for the best gifts.</p> <p>What are the gifts of the Holy Spirit?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wisdom: To love spiritual things more than material ones. 2. Understanding: To comprehend how we need to live as followers of Christ. 3. Counsel/Right Judgment: to know the difference between right and wrong and to choose what is right. 4. Fortitude/Courage: To overcome fear and to be willing to take risks as followers of Christ. 5. Knowledge: To be able to learn more and more about God. 6. Piety/Reverence: To have a deep sense of respect for God and the Church.
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<p>Time for discussion and reflection!</p> <p>Another Analogy:</p>	<p>7. Fear of the Lord/Awe and Wonder: To be aware of the glory and majesty of God.</p> <p>We need to know and use these gifts.</p> <p>QUESTION: How will do discovery your special gifts?</p> <p>Guide students to understanding through prayer, we can ask God and the Holy Spirit to show you your gifts. When you ask, the Holy Spirit will guide you.</p> <p>Clue: If you start to see the fruits of the spirit in your life, you will know you are using your gifts.</p> <p>An analogy is made to connect the ideas that plants need certain things to grow and just like plants, we need to do certain things in order to bear the fruit of God.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pray • Go to Mass • Read Scripture
<p>The Fruits of the Spirit Song</p>	<p>This video is 2:21 and it sings about the fruits of the Holy Spirit. This video is fast paced and a little silly. If you are concerned about time, this is one you may want to omit.</p> <div style="background-color: #00aaff; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS, SELF-CONTROL</p> </div>

	<p>Take a moment to make sure students understand the difference between the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit.</p>
<p>Discover the Fruits of the Holy Spirit Video</p>	<p>This video is 4:12 in length. It reviews the fruits of the Holy Spirit, using real life examples in photos, along with explaining the beauty of each fruit.</p> <p>The following quote from the beginning of the video is an important one for students to understand:</p> <p style="color: red;">By making the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit a part of your everyday life, you will receive the fruits of the Holy Spirit, which are perfections that the Holy Spirit forms in us, as the first fruits of eternal life.</p> <p>Example of how this video is arranged</p> <p>Charity: We abide in God's love as we follow his Commandment, love one another, as I have loved you. The video shows people doing charitable works.</p>
<p>The Holy Spirit</p>	<p>This video is 4:11 in length. This explanation also has pictures that accompany that will help students understand the concepts. Now this video is "heady" and students will need to focus. Consider stopping and discussing throughout the video, as this could help your students ask questions and clarify as the material is presented.</p> <p>Highlights: On page 1 in the Bible, the uncreated world is pictured as a dark, chaotic place, but above the darkness is God, ready to bring about life, order and beauty.</p> <p>What is God's Spirit? The Spirit is God's personal presence, His energy. This is related to invisible energy that makes clouds</p>

	<p>move and branches sway. Take a deep breath; feel the vitality, the energy in your body that you get from breathing deeply? This is the Hebrew word Ruakh – God in Action. It is used in the Bible to describe God's presence. Just like our own breath is powerful, God's breath is very powerful. Since breath keeps us alive, God's spirit sustains all of life.</p> <p>As we read through the Bible, we see God's Ruakh (breath) giving special empowerment to people for big tasks. Three such examples are shared.</p> <p>However, mankind has put chaos and disorder back on Earth and the prophets have said that the Spirit will come, but now to TRANSFORM the human heart and to empower people to truly love God and others.</p> <p>So, God sends Jesus and when He is being baptized by John the Baptist, the sky opens up and God's spirit comes and rests on Him, like a bird. This action says that God's spirit is inspiring Jesus to begin the new creation. This is also demonstrated through Jesus' healing of people and forgiving sins.</p> <p>Jesus' actions create life where there once was death. The video then moves into Jesus's death, resurrection, and Pentecost.</p> <p>This is still happening today: the Spirit is hovering in dark places, inviting others to love God.</p>
The 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit Song	<p>This Christine in Action is 1:43 in length. Words and cute graphics accompany her singing.</p> <p>Invite students to join in!</p>

	<p>If you are concerned about running short on time, you can omit this video as well.</p>
Why is Confirmation Important?	<p>This video answers the question posed. Narrated by a priest, it is succinct, 2:17 in length.</p> <p>Highlights: Confirmation is the completion of Baptism. Most of us were baptized because our parents made that decision for us. Confirmation is our opportunity to say yes, I want to live my Catholic Faith. Confirmation is the beginning, an opening, of Christ entering our lives.</p>
Why We're Confirmed Video	<p>This video is 5:58 in length, but is done at 5:53. It has good visuals too.</p> <p>A priest narrates and opens with a reference to a two-legged stool and how it wouldn't work. We need at least three legs. Confirmation is the third Sacrament of Initiation and without confirmation, you will not have the support you need to sustain your journey of faith.</p> <p>At Pentecost, when the Disciples were confirmed, they no longer were receivers of God's word, but doers. Confirmation is a personal Pentecost for each of us and is the beginning of our mission – of being doers for Christ.</p> <p>The video then reviews the gifts of the Holy Spirit and provides a brief explanation.</p> <p>The video ends with an explanation of what we do to prepare for Confirmation.</p>
Confirmation Symbols Art Response	Students draw and label the symbols used for Confirmation.
Pentecost and Confirmation	Students can do this activity in writing; however, you can do it orally by posing it as a discussion question.
Gifts of the Holy Spirit Coloring Sheet	This could be implemented a few ways:

	<p>One is to give students a chance to color and take it home. Another, is to have them color and glue on construction paper and take it home as a poster.</p> <p>Yet another is to use it creatively and make one large classroom poster that all students color and contribute.</p>
Confirmation Board Game	If you choose to play the game, you will want to assemble the pieces ahead of class.

LINK TO GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT COLORING SHEET

[GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT COLORING PAGE](#)