

## Growing in the Spirit

### Engage: Page 71

- ▶ Read aloud the session title, then invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Read aloud John 20:19–23. Then say: ***The Gospel of the Lord.*** Invite your child to respond, *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*
- ▶ Explain why some people wear eyeglasses. Say: ***Glasses help us see more clearly. All of us need help with our spiritual eyesight. The Holy Spirit helps us see the presence of Jesus.*** Invite your child to read aloud the paragraphs on page 71. Ask: ***When has God helped you see things in a new way?*** (Answers will vary.)
- ▶ Say: ***Let's ask Jesus to help us be faithful Christians.*** Pray aloud the prayer. Conclude by praying *Amen.*

### Explore: Pages 72–73

- ▶ Draw your child's attention to the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes on pages 268–69 in the book. Ask: ***What lessons for living our lives can we learn from reading the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes?*** (that we should respect God and others and treat people fairly)
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud Our Mission as Christians. Ask: ***What is our mission as Christians?*** (holiness; living a life dedicated to God and to the Church's mission) Read aloud Confirmation and Our Mission. Review the seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Look up each gift in the Glossary and discuss the definitions.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Ask: ***What are other ways people might signify the coming of the Holy Spirit?*** (doves, illuminated clouds, running water)
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud page 73. Ask: ***What are two actions that occur during Confirmation?*** (laying on of hands and anointing with Chrism) Ask: ***How does the Holy Spirit help us?*** (He helps us believe, pray, love, perform good acts, and form a closer bond to Jesus. Confirmation gives us sanctifying grace.) Invite your child to review the definition of *sanctifying grace* by looking it up in the Glossary.

### Art Print: Page 74

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of the disciples joyfully receiving the Holy Spirit.
- ▶ Ask: ***Whom do you see in this picture?*** (the disciples) Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the expressions on the faces of the disciples.
- ▶ Say: ***The Holy Spirit gives us grace to believe and know the Father and Son.*** Invite your child to turn to page 74. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.

- ▶ Read aloud Given a Mission. Ask: **What is our mission as disciples of our Church?** (to live like Jesus, be dedicated to God, and help others) Say: **The Holy Spirit is present with us to help us with our mission just as the Spirit was present to help the Apostles.**
- ▶ Read aloud the activity directions and give your child time to complete it. Discuss other ways you can act out your mission.
- ▶ Remind your child about some of the symbols that represent the Holy Spirit; fire, wind, and a dove. Ask your child to think about which symbol most vividly embodies the idea of the Spirit for himself or herself. Invite your child to draw a self-portrait and include the symbol of the Holy Spirit in the picture.

### Reflect: Pages 75–76

- ▶ Together look at the picture on page 75. Suggest that your child focus on his or her meditative breathing during prayer today.
- ▶ Read aloud the introductory paragraph. Before praying the prayer, introduce children to the word *kindle*. Explain that it means “to spark or stir up” or “to brighten something.” Say: **We can use this prayer to call on the Holy Spirit when we need courage, understanding, or any of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.**
- ▶ Explain that your child should respond to the versicle lines [marked “V.”] in the prayer by praying aloud the response lines [marked “R.”]. After praying aloud the first part of the prayer together, have your child close his or her eyes. Then, in a soft voice, pray aloud the second part of the prayer. Conclude by praying *Amen*.
- ▶ Read aloud Confirmation Is a Call. Ask: **How does Confirmation deepen our baptismal commitment?** (It calls us to participate more fully in the Church’s mission.) Read aloud the activity directions and give your child time to complete the activity.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the Reading God’s Word feature. Say: **The Holy Spirit is like the wind. You may not be able to see the Spirit, but if you pay attention, you can feel his presence.**

### Respond: Pages 77–78

- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the Faith Summary on page 77. Review the Words I Learned in this session, referring to the Glossary if necessary. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Invite your child to share about a time when he or she forgave someone and discuss how he or she felt beforehand and afterward.
- ▶ Read aloud the activity directions and give your child time to complete the activity. Discuss his or her answers.
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer as your child prays along silently. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ As a family, read and discuss With My Family on page 78, then complete the activity. Pray aloud the prayer together.