

WALKING by FAITH

Grade 1 / Home Lesson

CHAPTER 14 THE SPIRIT AND THE CHURCH

Objectives

- Examine how guides lead and help.
- Explore how the Holy Spirit guides the Church.

Step 1: *We Are Invited* (Life Experience), page 84

Help your child recall a time when a special person called a *guide* took your family through a museum, park, or other place of interest. Invite your child to recall what your family learned from this person.

Pray the opening **Prayer** on page 84. Explain that in this lesson your child will learn how the Holy Spirit is our guide too.

Read aloud the title (**The Spirit and the Church**) and the text on page 84. Invite your child to identify the guides in the pictures. (a crossing guard, a park ranger, a grandparent) Be sure your child understands that the crossing guard is helping the children cross the street safely, the park ranger is showing children examples of ocean life, and the grandparent is showing how to carve traditional Inuit art.

Have your child complete the **Activity** on page 84.

Step 2: *We Explore* (Doctrine), pages 85–87

Direct your child's attention to the photograph on page 85. Ask him or her to tell you what is happening in the picture. (Parishioners are exchanging the sign of peace during the celebration of the Eucharist.)

Help your child recognize that the sign of peace is one way of sharing God's love.

Read the caption aloud. Explore your child's understanding of the word *guide* by asking for examples of what a guide does. (teaches, keeps people safe, shows people where to go and what to notice)

Read aloud **The Church's Guide** on page 85. Ask: How does the Holy Spirit guide us? (by showing us how to love God and others)

Next read aloud **Catholics Believe**. Point out that the Holy Spirit brings members of the Church closer to Jesus by helping them follow his teachings and recognize his great love for us.

Draw attention to the Scripture art on page 86. Ask your child to tell you what the flames above the heads of Jesus' followers represent. (the Holy Spirit)

Remind your child that after Jesus died on the cross, he was raised from the dead and visited his friends. Ask: What did Jesus do next? (He returned to his Father in heaven.) Explain that Jesus' return to his Father in heaven is called the *ascension*.

Read aloud the **Scripture Story: The Spirit Comes** on page 86. Ask: How did the Holy Spirit help guide Jesus' friends? (The Holy Spirit made Jesus' friends strong and brave. The Holy Spirit showed them how to spread the word of Jesus to others.)

Have your child to the **Activity** on this page.

Read aloud **Signs of the Spirit** on page 87. Use the **Language of Faith** in the back of the textbook to help clarify the term *Baptism*. Ask: What does Baptism do for us? (It makes us members of the Church.)

Draw your child's attention to the photographs on page 87. As you read each caption aloud, have the children point to the picture it describes. Ask: What is happening in each picture? (A deacon is proclaiming the gospel at Mass. A young member of the Church is reading Scripture during a children's Mass. A bishop is speaking with people after Mass. Church members are donating food to help people who are in need.)

Help your child brainstorm ways the Holy Spirit guides members of the parish. (Possible answers: teachers helping students in a classroom, priests giving homilies, and helping people get along with one another.)

Step 3: We Reflect (Integration of Faith into Everyday Life), page 88

Review the material taught in this lesson by discussing **Recall, Think and Share**, and **Continue the Journey**. Have your child complete the activity.

Read **We Live Our Faith: At Home and In the Parish**. Try to follow through on the suggestions found there.

Complete the **Faith Journal**, pages 27–28.

Step 4: We Celebrate (Prayer and Conclusion), page 89

Direct you child's attention to the top-left picture on page 89. Ask: What is being celebrated in this picture? (the Sacrament of Baptism)

Point out that the bottom picture shows two boys sharing an orange. Ask: How is the Holy Spirit with the people in the pictures? (The Holy Spirit comes to people in Baptism. The Holy Spirit helps us share and care for others.)

Point out the background picture of the people holding hands. Ask your child to imagine that the Holy Spirit is holding both of your hands, helping you, and guiding you every day.

Close the lesson by praying together the **Prayer** on this page. Take the part of the Leader. Help your child respond to each part of the **Prayer** by praying with him or her, "Come Holy Spirit!" Begin and end the prayer experience with the Sign of the Cross.

For additional activities contact your director of religious education or teacher regarding *Reproducible Activities*, pages 41–43.