

**This session's objectives:**

- To encounter the Mystery of the Trinity and use symbols to experience mystery on a human level
- To explore and explain the symbols of the Holy Spirit (wind, breath, water, fire, anointing with oil, sealing, dove) through the Scriptural tradition and personal experiences of what these symbols mean

**This session's program:**

1. **Name-tag pick-up; turn in late Discipleship Commitment forms** <5 min, **to icebreakers** 6:45
2. **Secret Identity Icebreaker - introduce self to those at your table you don't know!** 10 min 6:50  
 - *if you had superpowers and a secret identity (like the comic book hero of your choice), what would you do with those powers that you do not ordinarily do?* **If time: share textbook p. 17**
3. **Opening Prayer** *Glory Be (inside fr. cover of textbk) as embodied prayer* (Rachel) 5 min 7:00
4. **The Holy Spirit in the Trinity / What is a Symbol?** (Rachel) 10 min 7:05  
 - *three persons in one God – different actions by different persons (connect to icebreaker)*  
 - *Father creates, Son saves, Holy Spirit moves, etc. – but triune as one God*  
 - *images from writings of different saints: rose, 3-leaf clover, loving relationship, music, light*  
 - *images of Holy Spirit (textbk, pp. 3, 6-7): water, anointing, fire, dove, wind, [breath, seal, finger]*  
 - *symbols/images mean different things according to context (+ as plus sign, cross, intersection)*  
 - *symbol is a representation, not the thing itself → the Holy Spirit is not literally a white pigeon eating birdseed, but there are some things about the Holy Spirit that are like a dove*  
 - *a Sacramental sign is more than just a symbol – touchable, accomplishes the work of God*  
 - *bread & wine → Body & Blood of Christ - Chrism → indelible seal of the Holy Spirit*
5. **Breakout Session (At Tables)** 55 min 7:15  
 - *each table group has a different aspect of the symbols of the Holy Spirit:*  
     *Example: finger (carrying will of God)    Red: water (nourishing)    Green: dove (lightness)*  
     *Orange: fire (light)    Yellow: fire (powerful change)    Pink: breath (spark of life)*  
     *Black: wind (creating/shaping)    Purple: oil (perfume/purity)    Blue: oil (protection)*  
     *White: water (refreshing)    Brown: seal (preservation/security)*  
 - *each table will have four kinds of tools to discuss the aspect:*  
 - *tangible, modern-day examples of the aspect    - a question sheet to guide discussion*  
 - *pictures/videos/samples that place the aspect in a larger context*  
 - *Scripture passages of that aspect's meaning in the Biblical tradition*  
 - *each table should:*  
 - *select notetaker(s) and spokesperson(s) to report their findings to the bigger group*  
 - *make poster(s) (pairs or trios of youth) about their Spirit symbol to demonstrate its meaning*  
 - *choose one of the posters to represent your table's work*  
 - *each table should be able to **report on their symbol** (oil, water, fire, dove, breath, wind, seal):*  
 - *summarize what this symbol tells us about the Holy Spirit in light of what they saw/read/talked/thought about*  
 - *share chosen poster representing that symbol (if not finished, should explain plan)*
6. **Tables Report to the Larger Group** (~2 minutes each) 15 min 8:10
7. **Prayer & Homework** (Rachel) 5 min 8:25  
*Prayer of the Holy Spirit (from the textbook, p. iv)*

**Homework & Reminders for Candidates:**

- **Rise Up retreat** in a few weeks on **Tuesday, November 5**, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- **read/do textbook pp. 6-7** and **journal pp. 44-47**, due at next class:
  - o Track A Mon. evening 10/28; Track B Tues. 10/29 & Wed. 10/30 in Religion class
  - o **bring back to next class** your folder, Bible, textbook, & journal

## PREPARATION SUMMARY BY TABLE

### EXAMPLE (Ms. Rachel Hohner) WITH WHOLE CLASS

**Spirit Theme:** Finger which carries out the will of God

**Token(s):** finger-puppets

**Tangible Object(s):** finger-puppets, foam finger from pep rally, hand classroom pointer

**Photograph(s):** finger pressing an elevator button; hands playing a piano

**Scripture Passage(s):** [Pharaoh's magicians react to the third plague], "tablets inscribed by God's own finger," writing on wall, "**it is by the finger of God that I drive out demons**"

### BLACK TABLE (Mr. James Hohner for Ms. Pascale Larre Vargas)

**Spirit Theme:** Wind as the shaper of life

**Tangible Object(s):** electric fan

**Photograph(s):** wind-swept tree, sand dunes

**Scripture Passage(s):** Genesis 1:1-2

"a mighty wind sweeping over the waters"

Genesis 7:24-8:1

winds blowing away Flood water

John 3:3-8

"the wind blows where it wills"

**Acts 2:1-4**

**Pentecost**

**Take-home Token(s):** folding fan

### BLUE TABLE (Mrs. Stella Peters)

**Spirit Theme:** Oil as Scent **Tangible Object(s):** Glade™ scented oil refills, perfume samples

**Photograph(s):** priest incensing an altar, woman spraying perfume

**Scripture Passage(s):** Ruth 3:3

Ruth puts on perfume

Psalms 45:8-9

"anointed... with the oil of gladness"

Proverbs 27:9

"perfume and incense bring joy"

**1 Samuel 16:1-13**

**Samuel anoints David as king**

**Take-home Token(s):** car air fresheners; breath-freshening mints infused with peppermint oil

### BROWN TABLE (Mrs. Jamie Mocariski)

**Spirit Theme:** Seal as preservation/security

**Tangible Object(s):** #10-sized envelopes, parish seal, tamper-evident bag, zip-ties

**Photograph(s):** safety seal on a bottle cap; bride & groom hands wearing wedding rings

**Scripture Passage(s):** Song of Songs 8:6-7

"set me as a seal on your heart"

Revelation 5:1-5

the Scroll sealed with seven seals

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

"he has also put his seal upon us"

**Ephesians 4:30**

**"sealed for the day of redemption"**

**Take-home Token(s):** gold certificate seal stickers, zip-tie

### GREEN TABLE (Ms. Rachel Hohner)

**Spirit Theme:** Dove as lightness

**Tangible Object(s):** dove figurine and white feathers

**Photograph(s):** dove in flight

**Video(s):** doves leaving a dovecote & flying away

**Scripture Passage(s):** Psalm 55:6-7

"wish I had wings like a dove"

Matthew 10:16

"be gentle as doves"

**Matthew 3:16-17**

**Baptism of Jesus**

**Take-home Token(s):** feather and Dove™ chocolate candy

### ORANGE TABLE (Mr. Joe Rosales)

**Spirit Theme:** Fire as light

**Photograph(s):** Lit candles in a dark room, campfire

**Tangible Object(s):** Lighter/matches and a candle to light (*please be careful with these!*)

**Scripture Passage(s):** Isaiah 9:1-3

"The people who walked in darkness"

Exodus 13:21-22

Columns of Cloud & Fire

**Acts 2:1-4**

**Pentecost (see box p. 1443)**

**Take-home Token(s):** Candle in candle-holder

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### **PINK TABLE (Mrs. Jamie MocarSKI)**

**Spirit Theme:** Breath as the spark of life

**Tangible Object(s):** one bottle of bubbles

**Photograph(s):** checking for breath while giving CPR, blowing dandelion seeds

**Scripture Passage(s):** Genesis 2:7                      God breathes life into Adam  
1 Kings 19:11-13                      Elijah finds God in the tiny whispering sound  
Luke 8:40-42, 49-55                      Jairus' daughter returns to life  
**John 20:19-23**                      **"receive the Holy Spirit"**

**Take-home Token(s):** party blowers

### **PURPLE TABLE (Mr. Dam Richlen for Mrs. Melissa Richlen)**

**Spirit Theme:** Oil as protection

**Photograph(s):** car engine, hands with lotion

**Tangible Object(s):** bottle of motor oil, bottle of hand lotion

**Scripture Passage(s):** 1 Samuel 10:1                      Samuel anoints Saul as king  
2 Chronicles 28:14-15                      prisoners' wounds are tended  
**1 Samuel 16:1-13**                      **Samuel anoints David as king**

**Take-home Token(s):** lip balm

### **RED TABLE (Ms. Leticia Solache)**

**Spirit Theme:** Water as life-giving and nourishing

**Tangible Object(s):** seashells                      **Photograph(s):** life in a coral reef, forest brook ecosystem

**Scripture Passage(s):** Genesis 1:20-22                      "let the water teem with an abundance"  
2 Kings 5:13-14, (1-12)                      Naaman washes in the River Jordan  
Psalm 36:8-10                      "the fountain of life"  
**John 7:37-39**                      **"rivers of living water will flow from him"**

**Take-home Token(s):** pretty seashells

### **WHITE TABLE (Mr. Jack Recinto)**

**Spirit Theme:** Water as refreshment

**Tangible Object(s):** ice-water and cups

**Photograph(s):** desert landscape, child playing in a lawn sprinkler

**Scripture Passage(s):** Psalm 42:2-3                      "as the deer longs for streams of water"  
Ezekiel 36:24-25                      "I will sprinkle clean water over you"  
Matthew 10:42                      "whoever gives... a cup of cold water"  
**John 7:37-39**                      **"let anyone who thirsts come to me and drink"**

**Take-home Token(s):** tiny bottles of water

### **YELLOW TABLE (Ms. Isabel Lopez)**

**Spirit Theme:** Fire as Powerful Change

**Tangible Object(s):** dish of ashes                      **Photo(s):** muffins being baked, burgers being grilled

**Scripture Passage(s):** Exodus 3:1-6, (7-12)                      Moses and the burning bush  
2 Kings 2:9-11, (12-15)                      Elijah, Elisha & the Fiery Chariot  
**Acts 2:1-4**                      **Pentecost**

**Take-home Token(s):** home-baked blueberry muffins