

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*
 Show short **video segment** from Alpha Youth “Who Is the Holy Spirit?” (3:58-5:27)
5. **Instructions/Example (Rachel) & 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) Blue: oil (perfume/purity) Purple: 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, 3-4 posters per table)** about their Spirit symbol to demonstrate meaning; **choose one of the posters** to share with class as sample of your 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:

- upcoming Sponsor & Parent Night Mon 11/10 & Retreat 1 Sat. 11/ 15
- read/do **textbook pp. 6-7** and **journal pp. 44-47**, due at next class:
 - o Track A Mon. evening 10/27; Track B Wed. 10/29 & Thurs. 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 (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 (sub Mrs. Josie Gorgis for 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 (Mr. John Kyle)

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 & Mr. Alexis Hernandez)

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. Jack Recinto)

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 (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. Isabel López)

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 (Mrs. Karyn McGovern)

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. Justine Kessler)

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