

# 7 Can someone help?

## THE HOLY SPIRIT, PENTECOST AND GIFTS

### A New challenges

We often feel unsure every time we embark on a new venture or face a new challenge ... We often come face to face with a dilemma — whether to go ahead or to give up ... whether we're really up for the task ahead.

Can you think of any situations like that — when you weren't sure about the next step?



In situations like these we wish someone could help — someone to give us that little push, a bit of encouragement, a bit of advice ... someone we know we can go to if things start to go wrong or if we happen to be going through a rough patch ... a close friend ... someone who's been through it before ... teacher ... parent.

**CONFIRMATION IS A BIT LIKE THAT.** For some Confirmation is a bit like taking a step into the unknown. That is because no one knows what the future holds for us. And it is a serious thing to say you want to follow Jesus Christ. It should be. Rightly so. Not something to be taken lightly!

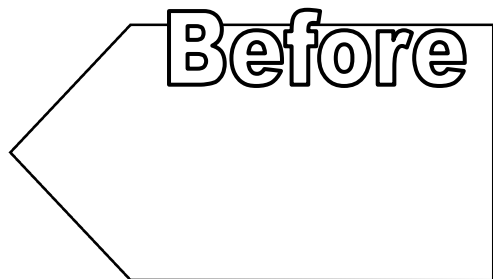
**CAN ANYONE HELP IN ALL THIS ? WHO ?**

Some time before his suffering and death Jesus was talking to his closest friends — the apostles. He knew he was soon to leave them. This is what he said to them:

When the Paraclete comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who issues from the Father, he will be my witness. And you too will be witnesses.  
*(John 15:26-27)*

### B Pentecost Sunday — Before and After

Read or listen to the Pentecost Story (Acts 2:1-11). Think about the **change** that took place. A **transformation**. In the spaces below write key words or phrases that best describe this change in the apostles.



The **same SPIRIT** will come to **YOU** when you will receive the sacrament of **CONFIRMATION**.

# C Gifts

Read / Discuss the following two passages. Think about how they are related to Confirmation. Then make some brief notes or comments about each of the seven gifts in the spaces below.

## *From the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians*

There are many different gifts, but it is always the same Spirit; there are many different ways of serving, but it is always the same Lord. There are many different forms of activity, but in everybody it is the same God who is at work in them all. The particular manifestation of the Spirit granted to each one is to be used for the general good.

To one is given from the Spirit the gift of utterance expressing wisdom; to another the gift of utterance expressing knowledge, in accordance with the same Spirit; to another, the working of miracles; to another, prophecy; to another, the power of distinguishing spirits; to one, the gift of different tongues and to another, the interpretation of tongues. But at work in all these is one and the same Spirit, distributing them at will to each individual.

(1 Corinthians 12:4-11)

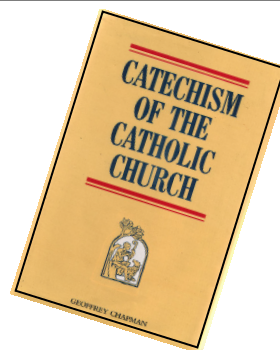


## *From the Catechism of the Catholic Church*

The moral life of Christians is sustained by the gifts of the Holy Spirit. These are permanent dispositions which make man docile in following the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

They belong in their fullness to Christ. They complete and perfect the virtues of those who receive them and make them ready to obey divine inspirations.

(CCC 1830)



Understanding

Wisdom

Right Judgement

Counsel

Knowledge

Reverence / Piety

Courage / Fortitude

Wonder / Awe

Fear of the Lord