



BACKGROUND

In John 14:15–17, Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit. The text reads:

“Jesus said to his disciples: If you love me, you will do as I command. Then I will ask the Father to send you the Holy Spirit who will help you and always be with you. The Spirit will show you what is true. The people of this world cannot accept the Spirit, because they don't see or know him. But you know the Spirit, who is with you and will keep on living in you.”

Here, Jesus assures His disciples that the Father will send an Advocate to be with them always. But, this promise was not only for the disciples so long ago! Jesus' promise is as real for us today and is fulfilled in our lives, and in the life of the Church, through Confirmation.

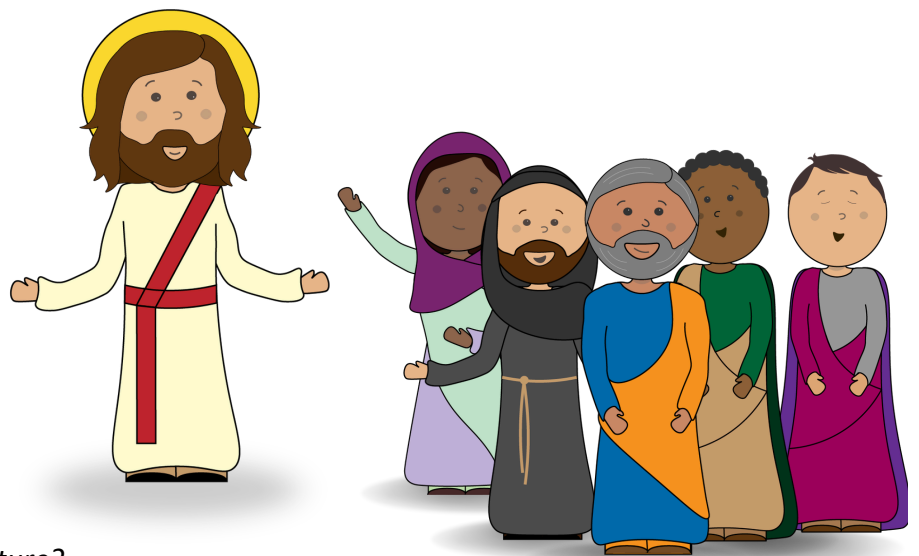
INTRODUCTION

In this activity, we reflect on Jesus' promise that the Holy Spirit will help us and be with us. In the Christian life, reflecting on these promises helps to create a strong foundation for faith. As we come to know them more deeply, we learn to recognise the presence of the Holy Spirit and call on the Spirit's help through all the highs and lows in life.

Begin this activity by reading the scripture with the children. Then discuss the words that Jesus says. There are some questions below to get the conversation started. Then introduce the bookmark activity as a way for the children to remember these promises of Jesus.

THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - JOHN 14:15-17

Jesus said to his disciples:
If you love me, you will do as I command. Then I will ask the Father to send you the Holy Spirit who will help you and always be with you. The Spirit will show you what is true. The people of this world cannot accept the Spirit, because they don't see or know him. But you know the Spirit, who is with you and will keep on living in you.



Questions for discussion

- What does Jesus tell us in the scripture?
- What does this scripture help us to understand about the Holy Spirit?
- Why do you think Jesus wants to give us the Holy Spirit?
- Do you every have things happen in your life when you could use the help of the Holy Spirit?
- How can we ask the Holy Spirit for help?



PROMISE BOOK MARKS

YOU WILL NEED:

- Bookmark templates
- Scissors
- Coloured markers/pencils
- Glue
- Pink or red coloured paper

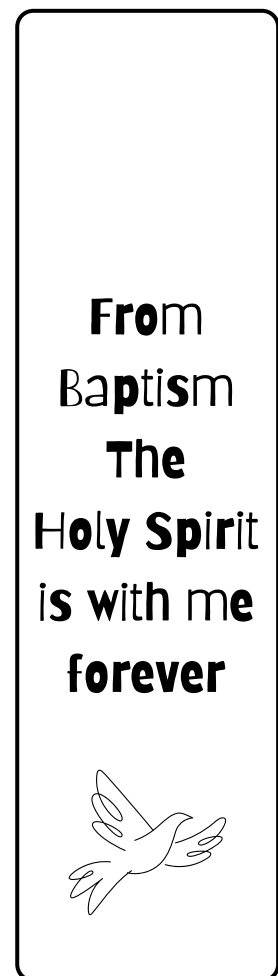
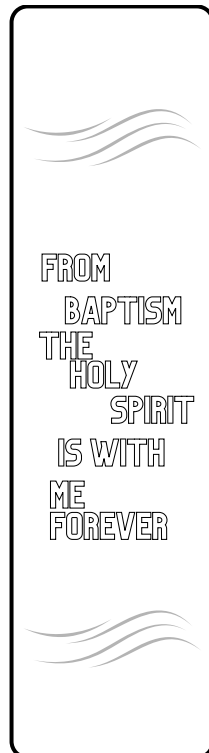
INSTRUCTIONS

Prepare before the session:

- Print out each bookmark template
- Print out heart templates
- Pre-cut for ease

At the session:

1. Invite children to choose and decorate their bookmark.
2. Tell the children that the quote 'From Baptism, the Holy Spirit is with me forever', is to remind them that at Baptism they were filled with the gift of the Holy Spirit.
3. The heart is to remind them of their love for God and God's love for us.
4. Glue the heart to the top of the bookmark.



FROM
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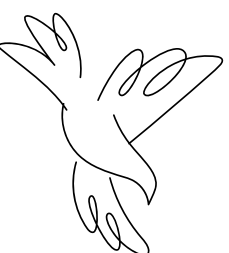
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