



## “Spirit Alive!” – Resources for Catechetical Leaders

### Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2

Scriptural References For Use:  
Gen. 41:1-36  
Mark 8:1-10

Concept: To introduce children of the K, 1, and 2 ages to the Diocese of Rochester's ongoing *Spirit Alive!* spiritual renewal initiative through prayer, reflection, and interactive learning. This is accomplished through “Spirit Prayer”, “Spirit Story”, “Spirit Song,” and “Spirit Action.”

Spirit Prayer: Use this prayer to foster an understanding that all of us are called through the power of the Holy Spirit to be followers of Christ and the Holy Spirit guides and helps us as we grow with God throughout our lives.

† All make the Sign of the Cross  
*In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.*

*Holy Spirit, You give us life.  
Guide us in the path of Christ's footsteps.  
Help us make straight the way of the Lord,  
And help us to grow with God.  
Help protect us, cleanse us  
And  
Help bring us bring peace to all.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ.  
Amen.*

† All make the Sign of the Cross  
*In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.*

Spirit Story: Use this story, based on Genesis 41:1-36, to help the children develop an understanding of Stewardship and Discipleship in serving others and how the Holy Spirit can help them in this mission.

“Joseph was the son of Jacob, the man who founded the nation of Israel. Joseph had the ability to tell people the meaning of their dreams. Joseph used to tell his brothers about how wonderful his dreams were. Joseph's brothers got jealous of Joseph. They decided to sell Joseph into slavery and tell their father that Joseph had died.

Joseph was sold to a man named Potiphar. Joseph worked hard for Potiphar. Mrs. Potiphar fell in love with Joseph. Potiphar became angry. Joseph was thrown into prison. In jail, Joseph met some new friends. One of them was a wine steward to the Pharaoh of Egypt. When the steward was let

out of jail, he told Pharaoh that he knew a man that could interpret Pharaoh's bad dreams. Joseph was brought to the palace.

Pharaoh told Joseph his dreams. Joseph thought about what he had said and told Pharaoh that seven years of bounty harvests were coming, followed by seven years of drought. Joseph offered to help Pharaoh through the hard times by storing grain and food and making the most of what they had. Joseph helped Pharaoh take care of the land, and save Egypt from starving!

Spirit Story Follow-Up: Ask the children "What do you think it would have been like to be Joseph?"  
Share ways they could help others like Joseph helped Pharaoh.  
What is one way we can help the earth?

*Spirit Song:* These songs will help the children express their spirituality through music.

Song One: "Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord"

From the musical *Godspell*. Hint: Use this song as a part of your "spirit prayer."

Songs Two and Three: "Song of the King" and "Pharaoh's Dreams Explained"

From the musical *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.

*Spirit Action:* A follow-up activity designed to foster Discipleship and Stewardship.

"Sowing the Seeds of the Spirit"

Our Spirit Story taught us about harvesting our crops and putting them to good use. This activity reminds us of that.

Materials: Brown Paper Lunch Bags

1 large bag of wildflower seeds or assorted packages of veggie or flower seeds

Cut-Out Stencil of a Dove

Ribbon or Yarn

Hole-Punch

White Paper

Scissors

Markers, crayons, or other decorating items

Bible

Procedure: Read the Children Mark 8:1-10.

Remind them of the Spirit Story and tell them about how Jesus was like Joseph by using what he had.

Using the Stencil and White Paper, trace doves, one for each child. Cut them out.

Using the hole-punch, punch a hole in the cut out. Punch a hole in the lunch bag.

Attach the Dove to the Lunch Bag using yarn or ribbon.

(The children can write a special prayer on the dove if they wish.)

Decorate the lunch bags using images of helping others and using our resources.

Help the children fill their bags with seeds.

As you help them, tell the children:

*"These bags will help you sow the seeds of the faith! Just like how Joseph helped Pharaoh, and just like Jesus fed all those people, your bags of seed will help grow plants for others to use as food and help make our earth a better place!*

*Amen!"*

(The children can give their bag away to someone in need, or sow the seeds in a garden, or sow the wildflower seeds as they wish!)