



# “Spirit Alive!” – Resources for Catechetical Leaders

## Grade 3 and 4

Scriptural References For Use:

Joel 2:28-29

Luke 4:1-13

John 16:4b-13

Concept: To introduce children of the Grade 3 and 4 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 of the gifts of the Holy Spirit that are given to us and empower us to become filled with the Spirit.

† All make the Sign of the Cross

*In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

*Amen.*

*May the Spirit of God rest upon me,  
may I be filled with the awesome and Holy Spirit of Jesus!*

*A Spirit of Wisdom... to see myself and others with the eyes of God.*

*A Spirit of Understanding...to see the heart of people and things.*

*A Spirit of Counsel...to listen to the goodness within me and around me.*

*A Spirit of Courage...to deal with the darkness and fears around me.*

*A Spirit of Knowledge...to know what is truly valuable.*

*A Spirit of Holiness...to live a humble life.*

*A Spirit of Reverence...to walk, talk, and act in the footsteps of God.*

† All make the Sign of the Cross

*In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

*Amen.*

(based on “Prayer for the Gifts of the Spirit” From “Retreat Ideas for Ministry with Young Teens”

Spirit Story: Read the scripture story, Luke 4:1-13, to help the children develop an understanding of the Holy Spirit’s ability to come to us and guide us and help us grow to make the right choices in life.

Spirit Story Follow-Up: Ask the children “What do you think it would be like to be tempted?”

Ask the children how they think Jesus made it through his temptations.

Remind the children, that by his baptism, Jesus was made strong by the Spirit.

Using the gifts named in the prayer above, invite the children to say what they think one of their gifts is.

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

Song One: "I Send You Out" – John Angotti

Song Two: "Go Make a Difference" –Steve Angrisano

Song Three: "Come, Holy Spirit" (*Vene, Sancti Spiritus*)  
(A More Traditional Song)

Spirit Action: A follow-up activity designed to foster an understanding of individual spirituality.

"The Flame Thrower!"

Materials: Red/Yellow Paper Strips or Tissue Paper  
A shoebox (preferably red)  
Tape  
Strips of paper with the Gifts of the Spirit written on them  
(one for each child, you can repeat if needed)  
Hair dryer or small fan  
Bible

Procedure: Attach the strips of paper or tissue to the shoebox using tape/staples, etc. "Flames"  
Fold the Gift-Strips into crinkle patterns or something similar  
Cut a Hole in the shoebox allowing the air of the fan or dryer to blow the "flames"  
Drop in the crinkle strips.  
Take Turns with the children; turn on the "Fire of the Spirit" so all the crinkle strips blow out, allow one child to pick one. Return the others to the box.

Ask the child to share a thought or feeling about that particular gift.  
Ask them what they think that gift means to a person.

To conclude, read the children John 16:13.  
(Make sure to tell them that the Spirit will work in each of them in a unique way. They have to pay attention for the power of the spirit in their lives!)