

St. John Neumann Youth Faith Formation - 2021-2022  
**Grades 1, 3, 4, and 5 Lessons**  
**A Family of Faith: The Profession of Faith**

**March – Lessons for Home Study**

(Also use this packet if you are registered for onsite, hybrid lessons and miss the onsite session for the month.)

| <u>Dates</u>                                  | <u>Activity</u>                      | <u>Lesson</u>   |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| Week of March 6, 2022                         | Family Service Week for Lower Grades | Families are invited to sign up for one service project to complete this week. Please visit this Sign-up Genius form to see these options: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/5t2ty2rf">https://tinyurl.com/5t2ty2rf</a> .  |
| Before beginning lessons with your child(ren) | Parent video                         | View parent video for March at: <a href="https://vimeo.com/channels/1730471">https://vimeo.com/channels/1730471</a> (Note: this will be posted on the first of the month)<br><br>Supplemental videos: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bishop Donald Hying on receiving the Holy Spirit: <a href="https://vimeo.com/191027751">https://vimeo.com/191027751</a> (content begins at the 1:42 mark)</li> <li>• Bishop Hying on the Church reflecting the light of Christ: <a href="https://vimeo.com/191727679">https://vimeo.com/191727679</a> (content begins at the 1:50 mark)</li> </ul> |
| Before beginning lessons with your child(ren) | Parent reading                       | Read the background to the chapter on pages 259-263 of the <i>Parents' Guide</i> .  |
| Throughout month                              | Complete chapter at home             | Lessons 10 and 11 in the March Chapter in the purple <i>A Family of Faith</i> books   |
| Wednesday, March 23, 2022, 7pm                | Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service | Please bring your family to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the parish   |
| Sunday, March 27, 2022, 5pm                   | Family Mass and Potluck              | Register for our Family Mass and Potluck at: <a href="http://www.sjnstcharles.org/events-registrations/">www.sjnstcharles.org/events-registrations/</a> .   |
| By 3/31/2022                                  | Monthly Reflection Due               | Visit this link with your child to complete the reflection: <a href="https://forms.gle/P752qTisbhYD42Eo6">https://forms.gle/P752qTisbhYD42Eo6</a> .   |

*Note: Therese will no longer be working at the parish as of 2/11/2022. For youth faith formation questions and concerns, please contact Kristi Loar, our faith formation coordinator, at [kloar@sjnstcharles.org](mailto:kloar@sjnstcharles.org).*

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**Prayers to Memorize throughout the Year:** Sign of the Cross, the Lord’s Prayer, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Prayer to One’s Guardian Angel, Blessing Before a Meal, Act of Contrition, Apostles’ Creed.

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## Key Ideas for the Month

**Key Ideas of our March Lessons:** (see page 203)

- Lesson 10: “I Will Not Leave You as Orphans”
    - The Holy Spirit is the Third Divine Person of the Trinity.
    - Jesus established His Church and made St. Peter the first pope.
    - The Church was born when the Holy Spirit was poured out at Pentecost.
    - The Holy Spirit guides the Church today.
  - Lesson 11: “I Believe in the Holy Catholic Church”
    - The People of God are not defined by race, ethnicity, or culture, but by our faith in Jesus and obedience to His commands.
    - Every baptized Christian shares in Christ’s office as priest, prophet, and king.
    - Members of the Church make up the Mystical Body of Christ.
    - Christ gave the Apostles and their successors the mission of teaching, sanctifying and governing in His name and by His power.
  - To work on all month:
    - Scripture verse of the month, saint of the month, Apostles’ Creed memorization, Words to Know for the month, and Car Conversations.
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## Lesson 10 Activities

*Parents, choose two to three activities in this lesson to present to your children at home. Communicate the lesson’s key ideas, listed above.*

*We encourage you to complete Activity 5, “Symbols of the Holy Spirit,” which will add a page to your Family Storybook/white binder.*

### **Activity 1:** ‘I Will Not Leave You as Orphans’

**Ages:** All ages

**Focus:** Jesus said He would send the Holy Spirit to His disciples

**“Parent’s Guide” pages:** pages 173-174

**“Children’s Activity Book” pages:** n/a

**Activity:** Discuss as a family the role of the authorities in our lives, including parents, coaches, and teachers. Discuss the kind of guidance and leadership that Jesus provided to us while he

was on earth and that he sent his Holy Spirit to be our guide after he ascended into Heaven. Discuss the idea that Jesus did not want to leave us orphans, in the context of John 14:16-18.

**Key ideas to communicate to the children:**

- Jesus wanted us to still have His guidance and leadership after he Ascended into Heaven
  - Because of this, He sent us the Holy Spirit and establishes a Church to carry on His mission.
  - Jesus did not want to leave us as orphans.
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## **Activity 2: Who Is the Holy Spirit?**

**Ages:** All ages

**Focus:** We can see the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament; He is more fully revealed in the New Testament.

**“Parent’s Guide” pages:** pages 175-177

**“Children’s Activity Book” pages:** pages 123-125

**Activity:** For younger children, have them color the picture on page 124 of the children’s activity book. As they color share the information on page 177 of the parents’ guide about the Holy Spirit in the Old and New Testaments. For older children, read with them the essay “Who is the Holy Spirit?” on page 123 of the children’s activity book. Discuss the questions on page 177 of the parents’ guide.

**Key ideas to communicate to the children:**

- Communicate the key ideas of the Holy Spirit in the Old and New Testaments listed on the top of page 177 of the Parents’ Guide.

**Bible Stories:**

- For younger children, read “The Day of Pentecost,” on pages 244 to 247 in the *Book of Bible Stories*.
  - For children in Grade 5, read Acts 2:1-13, and complete the “Catholic Connections: Confirmation” box on those pages of the *BreakThrough Bible*.
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## **Activity 4: The Birthday of the Church**

*(Note: The activities are misnumbered for this lesson; there is no activity 3.)*

**Ages:** Ages 5 to 8; supplement is for all ages

**Focus:** Pentecost was the birthday of the Church

**“Parent’s Guide” pages:** pages 145 and 146

**“Children’s Activity Book” pages:** page 126

**Activity:** Discuss with your children how the feast of Pentecost is the birthday of the Church. Read the Bible account, and then compose a birthday song for the Church.

**Key ideas to communicate to the children:**

- Pentecost is the Birthday of the Church because that is when Jesus’ promise to send His Spirit to earth was fulfilled.

**Supplement:**

- Vide the Sophia SketchPad Confirmation video at [sophiasketchpad.org](http://sophiasketchpad.org); scroll down to “Confirmation” on the page. This video should be free to watch.

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## **Activity 5:** Symbols of the Spirit *Storybook Activity*

**Ages:** All ages.

**Focus:** Symbols of the Holy Spirit include wind, tongues of flame, water, and more

**“Parent’s Guide” pages:** page 181-183

**“Children’s Activity Book” pages:** page 127

**Activity:** Create with your children a storybook page on the symbols of the Holy Spirit. Read the Scriptures together that focus on these symbols. Older children can complete the worksheet on page 127 of the Children’s Book.

**Key ideas to communicate to the children:**

- Symbols given to us in Scripture of the Holy Spirit can help us understand the role of this Third Person of the Trinity in our lives.

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## Lesson 11 Activities

*Parents, choose two to three activities in this lesson to present to your children at home.  
Communicate the lesson’s key ideas, listed above.*

*We encourage you to complete Activity 1, “The Holy Spirit in Our Lives,” which will add a page to  
your Family Storybook/white binder.*

## **Activity 1: The Holy Spirit in Our Lives** *Storybook Activity*

**Ages:** All ages.

**Focus:** The presence of the Holy Spirit is made known to us in many ways, including by the fruit that is produced.

**“Parent’s Guide” pages:** pages 188-190

**“Children’s Activity Book” pages:** page n/a

**Activity:** Read about the fruits of the Holy Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23 and create a storybook page on how your family can live out each fruit. Conclude with a prayer to the Holy Spirit for guidance.

### **Key ideas to communicate to the children:**

- The Holy Spirit first moves in our hearts, reveals Jesus as Lord, and gives us the gift of faith and new life in Jesus.
- We need the Holy Spirit to live as Jesus’ disciples—without Him, we can do nothing, but with Him all things are possible.
- The Holy Spirit is God. God is all-good, and He gives us virtues so we can become like Him. Virtues are habits to choose good actions. When we cooperate with these graces of God, they “bear fruit” or become real in our lives.

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## **Activity 2: The Church Has Jesus’ Authority**

**Ages:** All ages.

**Focus:** Jesus founded the Church to be the visible sign of His Kingdom on earth.

**“Parent’s Guide” pages:** pages 191-193

**“Children’s Activity Book” pages:** pages 128-130

**Activity:** Discuss the structure and authority of the Church. Talk about the meaning of the papal insignia. The optional activity on page 130 of the Children’s Book will help your family further understand these ideas. Be sure to discuss the questions on pages 192 and 193 of the Parents’ Guide with your children.

### **Key ideas to communicate to the children:**

- Jesus gave the Church a structure with the Apostles as the first bishops and Peter as the first Pope.
- Jesus gave the Apostles His own authority to carry on His mission when he gave them the “keys to the Kingdom of Heaven.”

- Like all important leaders, the pope has special symbols of his office that have meaning. One is the papal insignia.

**Bible Stories:**

- For younger children, read “The Life of the Early Christians,” on pages 260-264 in the *Book of Bible Stories*.
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## **Activity 4: The Church Is the Body of Christ**

*(Note: The activities are misnumbered for this lesson; there is no activity 3.)*

**Ages:** All ages.

**Focus:** The body of believers united with Christ and each other is the Mystical Body of Christ.

**“Parent’s Guide” pages:** pages 196-197

**“Children’s Activity Book” pages:** n/a

**Activity:** After reading St. Paul’s description of the Mystical Body of Christ in 1 Corinthians 12:13-21, 27, and St. Theresa of Avila’s prayer that begins “Christ has no body now but yours,” your family will discuss ways how you are each a member of Christ’s body.

**Key ideas to communicate to the children:**

- In the phrase, “the mystical body of Christ,” we understand the word “body” to mean the body of believers united with Christ and with each other.
  - We are one body in Christ. We know this because Jesus spoke of both a spiritual and physical communion between Him and His disciples. And in the Eucharist, we participate in the one eternal Holy Mass in Heave and receive the Body of Christ.
  - When we are baptized, we join the People of God, spiritually and physically united with God and with each other.
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## **Activity 5: The People of God**

**Ages:** All ages.

**Focus:** The People of God are baptized Christians from all over the world who believe in God and follow His commands.

**“Parent’s Guide” pages:** pages 198-199

**“Children’s Activity Book” pages:** pages 134-137

**Activity:** Discuss with your children the meaning of being part of the People of God. Children will do drawing activities in the children’s book to help them understand the concepts.

**Key ideas to communicate to the children:**

- The word “Church” refers to the building that we go into on Sundays. The word also means the people gathered in the Church.
  - The People of God are baptized Christians from all over the world who believe in God and follow His commands.
  - Belonging to the People of God means we are members of the Church and share in Christ’s office as priest, prophet, and king.
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**Activity 6:** The Mission of the Church

**Ages:** All ages.

**Focus:** The Church governs, teaches, and sanctifies in Christ’s name.

**“Parent’s Guide” pages:** pages 200-201

**“Children’s Activity Book” pages:** n/a

**Activity:** Discuss with your children the three-fold mission of the Church: to teach, to sanctify, and to govern. Come into the parish to do a walking tour that highlights these three duties. Note: St. John Neumann has evening hours on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. We have Saturday hours from 8:30am to 4:30pm. Please check in at the front office to go on the walking tour. Perhaps you can end your self-led tour by lighting a candle in the Guadalupe Chapel and praying for your special intentions. We do ask that a small donation for the candles be placed in the box near the Guadalupe image.

**Key ideas to communicate to the children:**

- The Church teaches by preaching the Gospel and the faith that was handed down from the Apostles. (See the stained-glass windows in the Guadalupe Chapel, which highlight the Holy Spirit.)
  - The Church sanctifies, which means to make holy, by offering the grace of God through the sacraments. (See the Altars and the Tabernacle in the Guadalupe Chapel or in the Church. Also see the Reconciliation Room in the Guadalupe Chapel. Holy Water fonts are in both locations as well.)
  - The Church governs by leading with service. (See the offices in the building where the pastor and the staff work. Also see the Food Pantry in Room 214 where the People of God help the hungry in our community.)
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**Activity 7:** Our Mission in the Church and the World

**Ages:** All ages.

**Focus:** At your Baptism, you were anointed priest, prophet, and king, sharing in the roles of Christ.

**“Parent’s Guide” pages:** pages 202

**“Children’s Activity Book” pages:** pages 138

**Activity:** Discuss the roles each person serves in life and then the roles that the God gives to every member of His Church: priest, prophet, and king. Help your child generate ideas on how he or she can live out these God-given roles.

**Key ideas to communicate to the children:**

- We have our own mission in the Church and in the world – just as the Apostles and their successors have.
- The roles that God gave us at our Baptism are:
  - Priest: To offer sacrifice.
  - Prophet: To proclaim God’s word to others.
  - King: To rule and govern his life

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## Additional Activities for the Month

*Explore the additional activities: Saint of the Month, Verse of the Month, Car Conversations, etc.*