



### Session Objectives

- Begin the session with a familiar prayer suggested by one of the children and then say together the Parish GIFT opening prayer – ‘Help me to Love.’
- Read 1Cor 12 and think about working together as a team, all different parts of the same body.
- Work together as a team to win points
- Become more aware of our skills and acknowledge that during the games session we might be better or less good than others in the group, just like other situations in life.
- Enjoy refreshments together.
- Pray, sing, study, learn about our Saint of the Week.
- Become familiar with the Gospel of the following Sunday through Lectio Divina.
- Agree the weekly ‘Call to Action’.

### Faith Message

- Parish GIFT 1 Theme – ‘Welcome to the Holy Spirit’
- Session Focus – Working as a Team – 1Cor 12 – Wisdom and Understanding
- Saint of the Week – St Therese of Lisieux
- Call to Action - Every morning ask God for wisdom and understanding and invite Him to be a part of your day.

### Session Timetable

<b>7:00pm</b>	Welcome, Registration & Badges
<b>7:15pm</b>	Welcome & Session Overview
<b>7:20pm</b>	Opening Prayers, Scripture Reading & Meditation
<b>7:35pm</b>	<b>Activity 1:</b> Team Games
<b>8:00pm</b>	Refreshments
<b>8:10pm</b>	<b>Activity 2:</b> Worksheet 'What do You Bring'
<b>8:25pm</b>	Prayer & Singing
<b>9:00pm</b>	Collection of Children & Tidy Up

# Session 4 - Working as a Team

Parish GIFT 1 - Welcome to the Holy Spirit

## Session Resources

### Weekly Resources

Please see the PG1 Coordinators' Guidance for the full list of Resources you need every week.

#### **This week you will need:**

'Session 4 - Working as a Team' session guide (also available online)

#### Pre-arrival Set-up

- Toilet Signs
- First Aid Kit
- Speaker & Music

#### Admin Folder

- Parental Consent Forms (Blank and Completed)
- Accident/Incident Report Forms
- Weekly Registration Forms for Young People and Leaders

#### Welcome, Registration & Badges

- Name Badges & Lanyards
- Song Sheets
- PG Candle & Matches/Lighter
- Items for focal point (Cross, Rosary Beads etc)
- PG 'Help Me to Love' & 'Prayer of Thanks' Cards
- 'Saint of the Week' & 'Call to Action' cards

#### Activity 1 – Team Games

- 2p coins
- Beanbags
- A4 Paper (1 sheet per person)
- 3 sets of A4 laminated letters
- 5 x 5 grid

#### Activity 2 – Worksheet 'What do You Bring'

- 1 x 'What do you Bring' worksheet for each participant

#### Refreshments

# Session 4 - Working as a Team

Parish GIFT 1 - Welcome to the Holy Spirit

## Session Plan

### 6:30pm Pre-arrival Set-up

- ARRIVE at venue to set up – volunteer team.
- DISPLAY session timetable, roles & responsibilities, toilet signage, list of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, Code of Conduct.
- ASSESS venue for risk to children and volunteers and agree required actions with team.
- CHECK/bring first aid kit - 'first aider'.
- ORGANISE furniture.
- PREPARE snacks.
- MUSIC (liturgical) playing.
- 6:45pm - 2 volunteers' (one male and one female) at the door to greet parents and children.
- Ensure only adults who are volunteers have access to venue.

### 7:00pm Welcome, Registration & Badges

- Volunteers register adults and children.
- Check new consent forms.
- Children who use EpiPen's for nut allergy **MUST** bring 2 to each session and collect them when leaving. If no one on the team is trained to use EpiPen's, the parent will need to stay.
- Volunteers lead group games until session begins.
- Head count of children and confirm number with register.

# Session 4 - Working as a Team

## Parish GIFT 1 - Welcome to the Holy Spirit

### 7:15pm Welcome & Programme Overview

- Welcome children and volunteers back to the Parish GIFT programme and outline the session:
  - Prayers, singing, Lectio Divina, Team Games, gifts of the Holy Spirit – Wisdom & Understanding, Saint of the Week and Call to action.

### 7:20pm Opening Prayer, Scripture Reading & Meditation

- Welcome children and volunteers to the Parish GIFT programme and distribute the 'Help Me To Love,' prayer cards to everyone.
- Invite everyone to join in the prayer by making the sign of the cross, pray the 'Help Me To Love,' prayer together then pray a simple familiar prayer, prayed aloud together e.g. Our Father, Hail Mary, parish prayer.

#### Help me to Love

O My God help me to love you with  
all my heart, with all my soul, with all my  
mind and with all my strength.

Help me to love you above all else, all  
created things here on earth including my  
possessions and achievements, my  
pleasures and enjoyments.

Help me to understand who you are and  
to draw closer to you in love, in my  
thoughts and in prayer.

Help me to look to you and to seek your  
love every day and particularly in times of  
trouble. Light in me the pure flame of  
your love and give me the strength and  
courage to help your light shine on others.

**Amen**

# Session 4 - Working as a Team

## Parish GIFT 1 - Welcome to the Holy Spirit

### Scripture Reading

- This evening's prayer is about working together as a team, God's team. With the help of the gifts of Wisdom and Understanding from the Holy Spirit
- Read aloud the extract from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, 'One Body with Many Members': 1 Cor 12:12-27

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slave or free – and we were all made to drink of one spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

The word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

# Session 4 - Working as a Team

## Parish GIFT 1 - Welcome to the Holy Spirit

### Meditation & Discussion

- Take a moment to be still and to close your eyes.
- Do you feel like you are part of God's team?
- How could you work better with others to be part of God's team?
- How can the Gifts of the Holy Spirit help us with this?
- If we think about Wisdom and Understanding, this week's gifts of the Holy Spirit, how can they help us? Wisdom helps us to see things as God sees them. Sometimes we find ourselves in situations when we need to stop and ask God for help to understand what is going on and for the wisdom to see things as He does.
- If you find yourself in a very tough situation do you ever stop and ask a friend for help? Do you ever ask for God's help?
- Think of a tough situation you found yourself in this week and for a moment ask God to help you understand what was happening. Ask Him for the wisdom to see it as he does and then place the situation in His hands.

### 7.35pm Activity 1 - Team Games

- In advance of this session choose a selection of games that will give the children the opportunity to work in a team. If you know a good team game that isn't on our list, use it and then share it with Living Youth.
- Keep a score sheet to encourage participation and competition. Give out points for things like, including everyone, enthusiasm, having most fun and for winning.

#### Game 1 - 2p Elbow Game

- RESOURCES – 2ps.
- Place a 2p piece on your elbow and catch with the same hand.
- Repeat with 2 X 2ps.
- Then 3 X 2ps etc etc etc.
- Each team picks their 2 best players who represent the team in the final.

#### Game 2 - Human Knot

- RESOURCES – Large Open Space
- Ask the young people to stand in a circle in their teams.
- Tell them to reach across the circle with their right hand and take a hold of someone's hand who is not standing beside them.
- Tell them to reach across the circle a second time with their left hand and take a hold of a different person's hand who is not standing beside them.
- Explain that without letting go of each other's hands, they have to try and unravel their 'Human Knot'
- The team who does it first is the winning team.
- The groups may need some guidance from the leaders to help get them started
- It is worth doing a practice round first so everyone understands the rules.

# Session 4 - Working as a Team

## Parish GIFT 1 - Welcome to the Holy Spirit

### Game 3 - Pass the Cushion

- RESOURCES – 1 cushion or beanbag per team.
- Team line up behind the starting line.
- 1st player has a cushion/bean bag and passes it over their head to the child behind them, 2nd child passes it to 3rd in same way until the last child in the line receives the cushion/bean bag. This child runs to the front of the line (starting line), the rest of the team take a step back and the race continues passing the cushion/bean bag over head to the next child.
- The team who is first finished win the points.

### Game 4 – Paper Aeroplane Competition

- RESOURCES – 1 sheet of A4 paper per person.
- Invite everyone to make a paper plane of their own design by folding an A4 page
- Line everyone up at the same time on a line facing the same direction.
- On the count of 3 have everyone throw their paper aeroplanes as far as they can.
- The winning paper aeroplane is the one that travels the furthest.
- Ensure that planes are not thrown in the direction that anyone is standing.

### Game 5 - Letters

- RESOURCES – 3 sets of A4 laminated letters with extras of vowels and popular letters, use different coloured paper for each set for easy sorting at the end.
- A list of clues and answers for the words to be spelt
- Give each team a set of laminated letters and ask them to lay them out in the allocated space.
- Volunteers read the first question and each team attempts to answer the question by spelling with A4 letters.
- First team with answer spelt correctly wins, and move onto other questions.

### Game 6 - Bean Bag Game

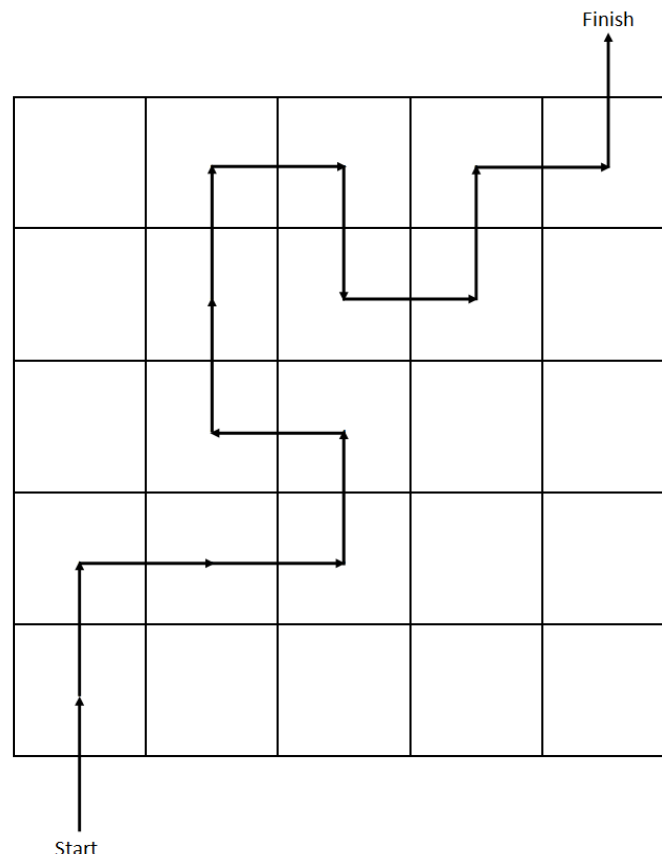
- RESOURCES – Bean bags.
- Participants stand in a circle, volunteer throws the bean bag underarm to someone standing opposite, shouts their name and sits down. The catcher then throws the bean bag underarm to someone standing opposite and shouts their name before sitting down. This continues until everyone has had a go the final throw is to the volunteer who started the game.
- Repeat the game, throwing to the same person while shouting their name out, try to speed up. Add in a 2nd bean bag 5/6 throws into the game, throw in a 3rd bean bag at throw 8/9. Participants don't sit down until they have caught and thrown all beanbags.

# Session 4 - Working as a Team

## Parish GIFT 1 - Welcome to the Holy Spirit

### Game 7 - Electric Maze

- RESOURCES – a 5 x 5 grid on the floor. Each square should be roughly 30cm\*30cm (1ft\*1ft), to make this grid you can use tape stuck to the floor, maybe you have a room with lines already on the floor, maybe there are tiles in a corridor you can use, or you could even use paving stones outside.
- The concept of the game is to get all the young people from one side of the Electric Maze to the other side safely. The twist is that there is only one safe route you are able to use to get through the Maze and if you go any other way you will be “electrocuted.”
- The leader running the game is the only one who knows the route (there is a template route below) and the young people have to try and work as a team to get through the Maze.
- If someone steps into a square and it is not the right route, the leader sends them back and it is someone else’s turn to try a square. If they get it right then they have another go to try and get the next step.
- People can have as many lives as they need but they all have to take it in turns to try and get through the maze. This means that everyone must go once before the first person can go again.
- The idea of the game is that they work as a team to get everyone through the maze. If there are a number of teams trying it then you can time how long it takes for them all to get through.
- You can make up your own route or use a different grid size.



# Session 4 - Working as a Team

## Parish GIFT 1 - Welcome to the Holy Spirit

### Game 8 - Groups and Shapes

- RESOURCES – Large Open Space
- The leader will call out a word, each group has to form the shape of the item/object.
- Points will be awarded to the team who creates the best item/object.
- Allow 60 seconds for each word.
- Ideas for Shapes:
  - Washing Machine
  - Bicycle
  - Clock
  - Car
  - Tree
  - House
  - Aeroplane
  - Spell 'GIFT'

### Game 9 – Thumb Grab

- RESOURCES - Large Open Space
- Everyone in the group stands in a circle (except for the leader).
- Ask everyone to hold their left hand out flat, with their palm facing towards the sky.
- Ask everyone then to place their right thumb into the palm of hand of the person to their right-hand side.
- Everyone is invited to close their eyes.
- When the leader shouts “Go” you have to try and catch the thumb of the person on your left, but at the same making sure that your own thumb is not caught, by pulling it away at the same time.
- If someone’s thumb is caught they sit down and the circle gets smaller. The game is then repeated.
- You should have a few practice goes at the start to help everyone learn the game.
- The winner is the last person left in the game.
  - All left hands must be flat
  - Eyes must be closed
  - No moving right thumb before volunteer shouts, ‘Go’

### 8.00pm Refreshments

- A team member creates a simple liturgical space during this time (if you are not using the church).

# Session 4 - Working as a Team

## Parish GIFT 1 - Welcome to the Holy Spirit

### 8.10pm Activity 2 - Worksheet 'What do You Bring'

- Give everyone a copy of the 'What do You Bring?' worksheet and a pen. Allow 5-10 minutes to complete the sheet.
- We are asked to consider the gifts and talents that we bring to the groups that we are part of. We will consider how we help others to fit in. We pick our favourite prayer. Finally we consider one thing we have learnt about our faith since starting our Parish GIFT programme.

### 8.25pm Prayer & Singing

Create an atmosphere with everyone slowing down again for prayer. Move into the Church or to the liturgical space quietly and light the Parish GIFT candle. Remind children and volunteers of God's presence and the appropriate behaviour for this final session of the evening. Children and volunteers invited to sit in the liturgical space, a safe distance from the candle.

### Holy Song

Choose a song/hymn of your choice available from the [PG 1 Song Sheet](#) using whatever means you have, singer and guitarist or an smart phone and speaker, going back over each line until everyone is familiar with it and can sing along.

### Lectio Divina

[CLICK HERE](#) for next Sunday's Gospel Reading (from [www.catholicireland.net](http://www.catholicireland.net))

The person leading this session should prepare in advance and be familiar with the reading and the guidance available in the Coordinator's Guide.

# Session 4 - Working as a Team

## Parish GIFT 1 - Welcome to the Holy Spirit

### Previous Saint of the Week & Call to Action

Check what they remember about last week's Saint and their Call to Action

#### St Francis of Assisi

Year of Birth: 1181

Place of Birth: Assisi, Italy

Feast day: 4th October

Interesting: Designed the first Nativity Scene

1. Son of a wealthy silk merchant
2. Loved parties
3. Served as a soldier, was a prisoner of war
4. He had visions from God
5. His conversion took 25 years
6. He eventually decided to live by the Gospel in a life of poverty
7. Loved animals and nature, all of nature was a part of his brotherhood
8. Founder of the Franciscan Order
9. The first man to have the stigmata
10. Patron saint of animals and merchants

Parish GIFT 1 - Session 3



#### Call to Action

Every morning ask  
God for Wisdom  
and Understanding  
and invite Him to be  
a part of your day

Parish GIFT 1 - Session 4

### Saint of the Week - St Therese of Lisieux

Distribute 'Saint of the Week' & 'Call to Action' cards. Read through the details of the saint contained on the card discussing how they might be role models for us all.

#### St Therese of Lisieux

Year of Birth: 1871

Place of Birth: France

Feast day: 1st October

Interesting: 3 of her sisters were also nuns

1. First tried to join the convent aged 9
2. Made her 1st Communion aged 11
3. Believed that Jesus wanted her to spend her life loving him alone
4. Entered the Carmelite convent aged 15 with permission from Pope Leo XIII.
5. Also known as the Little Flower
6. She had a quick temper, Jesus helped her overcome her weakness
7. Died aged 24 of tuberculosis
8. Canonized in 1925
9. In 2015 her parents Louis & Zelig were also made saints
10. Doctor of the Church

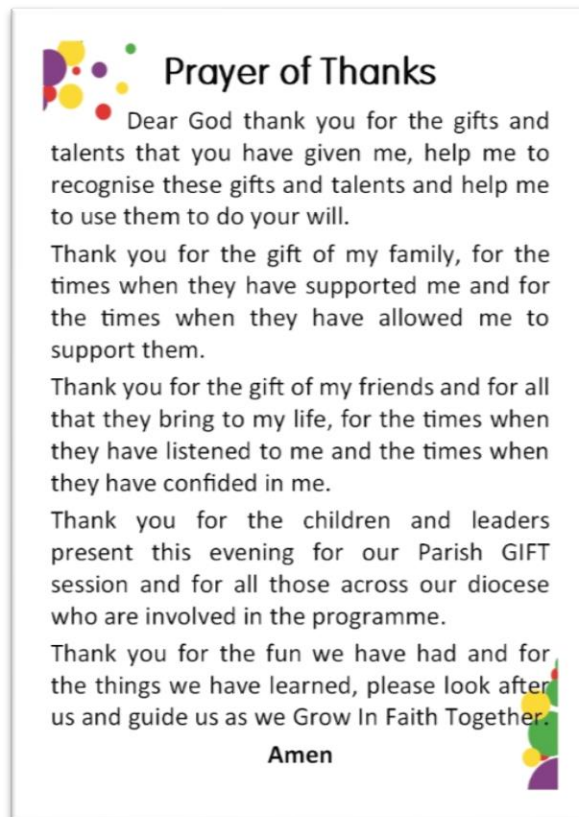
Parish GIFT 1 - Session 4

# Session 4 - Working as a Team

## Parish GIFT 1 - Welcome to the Holy Spirit

### Final Prayer

Distribute the 'Prayer of Thanks' cards and pray the prayer of thanks together.



### Gifts of the Holy Spirit

This is a simple reminder of this week's Gifts of the Holy Spirit and a chat about how we can apply them today.

### Right Judgement

- Every day we have choices to make, most of these are simple choices – what to eat, what to wear. Most of the time we don't need help with these.
- What choices have you made today?
- Sometimes the choices we face are difficult. Would you answer a difficult question in school if you weren't sure of the answer?
- Have you ever not liked someone because your friend didn't like them?
- This is where God can help us. If we are faced with a difficult choice we can say a simple prayer asking God to give us Right Judgement – God will always help us?

# Session 4 - Working as a Team

Parish GIFT 1 - Welcome to the Holy Spirit

## Call to Action



### 8.55pm Singing - Action Song

If you have the skills within your team to lead an action song this is a great way to finish the session with the children. Some suggestions include:

- This little light of mine
- I love Jesus better than ice-cream
- Our God is a great big God
- Others available on the [PG 1 Song Sheet](#)

### Collection of Name Badges

### 9.00pm Collection of Children & Tidy-Up

- Volunteer team on duty at collection time.
- Volunteers tidy areas and put resources in a safe place.

# Session 4 - Working as a Team

## Parish GIFT 1 - Welcome to the Holy Spirit

### 9.15pm Roles, responsibilities and resources for next week & evaluation

- Any issues? What went well? Areas for improvement or necessary actions? Anything else you would like to share?

#### Roles, Responsibilities and Resources for next week

Who is taking charge of the following activities next week:

- Registration
- Welcome & Programme Overview
- Opening Prayer, Scripture Reading & Meditation
- Activity 1 – Parts of the Church
  - *Organise for Sacristan or Priest to have the Church open and to show groups around.*
- Cookery/Refreshments
  - *Shortbread/Biscuits/Cupcakes*
  - *Rolled Fondant Icing*
  - *Icing Pens*
- Prayer & Singing
  - Set Up Prayer Space
  - Music
  - Lectio Divina
  - Saint of the Week, Prayer of Thanks & Call to Action

*\*Remember to get these additional resources in advance of next week*