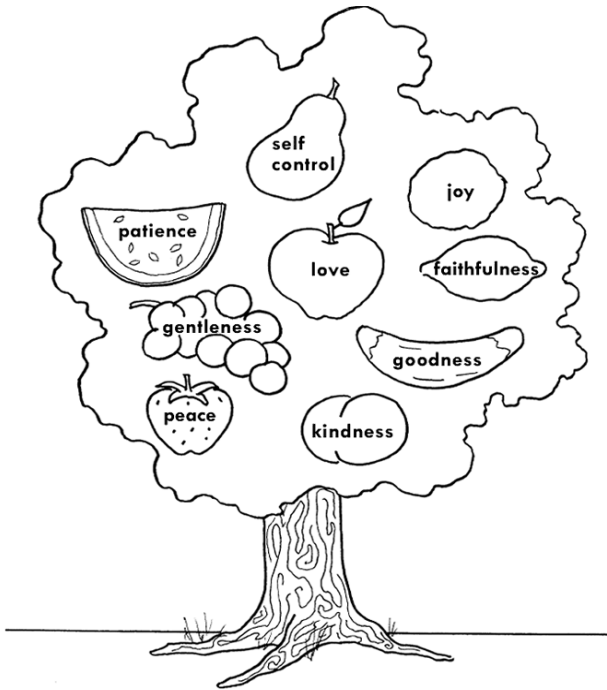


The Fruits of the Spirit

The Fruits of the Spirit are based on St Paul's Letter to the Galatians:

Galatians 5: 22f *The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control.*



Love	Goodness
Joy	Trustfulness
Peace	Gentleness
Patience	Self Control
Kindness	

Prayer for the Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Come Holy Spirit, Come to me in Confirmation,
Bless me with knowledge to know right from wrong,
Courage to stand up and be strong,
Understanding to follow God's way,
Reverence to worship and pray,
Right judgement to enlighten and guide me,
Wisdom to feel your presence beside me,
And Wonder and Awe always to marvel at the greatness of God.
Amen.



The Sacrament of Confirmation



Origin of Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation goes back to the first Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came in a very powerful way on the Apostles. The experience transformed them from being fearful men to become courageous witnesses to Christ to the point of giving their lives for him.

Acts of the Apostles 2:1-8; 12-13 *When Pentecost day came round, they had all met together, when suddenly there came from heaven a sound as of a violent wind which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and there appeared to them tongues as of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak different languages as the Spirit gave them power to express themselves. Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, and each one was bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely,' they said, 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language?'*

What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is one of the three Sacraments of Initiation: The other two are Baptism and the Eucharist. It is through receiving these three Sacraments that a person becomes a full member of the Church. Confirmation 'confirms' what happened in Baptism when a baby enters into the life of Christ for the first time.

The Holy Spirit is given in Baptism so that the baby could become part of the Christian family. The fullness of the Spirit is given in Confirmation to enable the young person to become a witness to Christ in the world.

The Eucharist is the goal of all the other Sacraments: A person is Baptised so that eventually they will be able to participate fully in the Eucharist.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of Your love.

Send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth.

O God, Who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of Your faithful, grant that by that same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolation, through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Gifts of the Spirit

There are seven Gifts of the Spirit. The understanding of the Gifts of the Spirit is based on the Prophet Isaiah in the Old Testament:

Isaiah 11:1-2 *A shoot will spring from the stock of Jesse, a new shoot will grow from his roots. On him will rest the spirit of the Lord, the spirit of wisdom and insight, the spirit of counsel and power, the spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord.*

The language we use today for the Gifts of the Spirit is slightly different:

Wisdom	Knowledge
Understanding	Reverence
Good Judgement	Wonder & Awe in God's Presence
Courage	