

# A FAMILY OF *Faith*



## December English Guide Year 2

### ❑ VERSE OF THE MONTH: ACTS 8:17

*Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit*

- ❑ Parent's Guide: Pages 80, 83
- ❑ Activity Book: Pages 39, 40

### ❑ SAINT OF THE MONTH: ST. STEPHEN

- ❑ Parent's Guide: Pages 84, 105-106
- ❑ Activity Book: Pages 51-52

## Overview Lesson 5 Confirmation

Confirmation is often misunderstood as a kind of “graduation” or public acceptance of the Faith. In fact, the Sacrament of Confirmation is an important step on the path of Christian initiation that completes, or confirms, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit received at Baptism and sends the person out to proclaim boldly the Good News.

### ❑ Words to Know:

- ❑ Parent's Guide: Page 88
- ❑ Activity Book: Page 53. Activities

### ❑ Activities and Key Concepts Lesson 5: Parent's Guide: Page 87

### ❑ Your Catholic Home: Spiritual Reading Parent's Guide: Page 82

We learn this month about the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. Like all of God's gifts of grace, the Holy Spirit will bear fruit in our lives only if we respond with prayer and take time to develop them. One great way we can strive to nurture and grow the gifts of the Holy Spirit is through spiritual reading.

This month, add books of spiritual reading to your prayer space. Daily meditations are usually short and digestible, making it easy to commit to reading one meditation a day. Depending on the books you choose each family member could read them independently, or you could read aloud from one book every evening or before leaving the house each morning. Be sure to share with each other the new understanding you have received from God through spiritual reading!

**BY THE END OF THIS MONTH, YOUR CHILDREN SHOULD BE ABLE TO:**

- ❑ **Define this month's Words to know.**
  - ❑ Parent's Guide: Page 88
  - ❑ Activity Book: Page 53
  
- ❑ **Describe who the Apostles were, what their mission was, and how all Christians share in that mission.**
  - ❑ Parent's Guide: Pages 89-95
  - ❑ Activity Book: Pages 41-42
  - ❑ (Answers in Parent's Guide: Page 95), 45, 46-47  
(Answers in Parent's Guide: Page 100)
  
- ❑ **Understand what Confirmation is and how it affects us.**
  - ❑ Parent's Guide: Pages 96- 104
  - ❑ Activity Book: Pages 43-44, 48, 49
  
- ❑ **Tell you about St. Stephen.**
  - ❑ Parent's Guide: Pages 105-106
  - ❑ Activity Book: Pages 51- 52

***December in Review***

**THIS MONTH YOU EXPLORED AS A FAMILY THE QUESTIONS:**

- ❑ **What is Confirmation?**
  - ❑ Parent's Guide: Pages 89-101
  - ❑ Activity Book: Pages 43-44
  
- ❑ **What are its effects?**
  - ❑ Parent's Guide: Pages 102-104
  - ❑ Activity Book: Pages 45, 46-47
  - ❑ (Answers in Parent's Guide: Page 100), 48, 49

**In Lesson 5 your children learned:**

- ❑ **Confirmation places an indelible mark on our souls.**
  - ❑ Parent's Guide: Pages 89-91
  - ❑ Activity Book: Pages 43-44
  
- ❑ **Confirmation is prefigured in the Old Testament anointing of priests and kings.**
  - ❑ Parent's Guide: Pages 92-95
  - ❑ Activity Book: Pages 41-42 (Answers in Parent's Guide: Page 95)
  
- ❑ **Confirmation increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us, and gives us special strength to spread and defend the Faith.**
  - ❑ Parent's Guide: Pages 96-104
  - ❑ Activity Book: Pages 45, 46-47 (Answers in Parent's Guide: Page 100), 48, 49

**Recommended Activities:**

Parent's Guide: Pages 82, 83, 84, 85, 88, 89-91, 92-95, 96-98, 99-101, 102-103, 104, 105-106, 107.  
Activity Book: Pages 40, 41-42 (Answers in Parent's Guide: Page 95), 43-44, 45, 46-47 (Answers in Parent's Guide: Page 100), 48, 49, 51-52, 53

## Suggested Weekly Learning Goals December

Weekly Teaching for Parents	
Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ <b>Introduce Words to Know:</b> Parents discuss <b>words to know</b> with their children on Parent Guide pages 88. Teach their children what the words mean.</li> <li>❑ <b>Understand Words to Know:</b> By the end of the week, the children should know how to <b>explain and define the words to know</b>.</li> <li>❑ <b>Get to know St Stephen</b> Parents and children should read the brief biography of Saint Stephen on Parent Guide pages 105-106</li> <li>❑ <b>Learn Scripture Verse:</b> Begin reciting daily the <b>Scripture verse for the month</b>. <i>“Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit”</i> (Acts 8:17)</li> </ul>
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ <b>Parent and Child Activities:</b> Parents should choose one or more activities on the Confirmation in the Parents Guide pages 89-104, lead the children through this activity.</li> <li>❑ <b>Learning Goal for the Week:</b> The child should understand that -               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Confirmation places an indelible mark on our souls</li> <li>❑ Confirmation is prefigured in the Old Testament anointing of priests and kings</li> <li>❑ Confirmation increases the gifts of the holy Spirit in us, and gives us special strength to spread and defend the faith</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ <b>Your Catholic Home:</b> This month, add books of spiritual reading to your prayer space. Daily meditations are usually short and digestible, making it easy to commit to reading one meditation a day. Depending on the books you choose each family member could read them independently, or you could read aloud from one book every evening or before leaving the house each morning. Be sure to share with each other the new understanding you have received from God through spiritual reading!</li> </ul>