

# The Presence of God



St. Charles Catholic Church  
Liturgy of the Word with Children  
Family Reflection for  
May 14, 2023 Sixth Sunday of Easter

## Family Prayer:

Loving Father, let your Spirit fill us with your life  
and make our hearts burn with the flame of faith and  
love. Amen.

Gospel Reading: John 14:15-21

*Rely on the Holy Spirit*

## Reflection:

Today's Gospel invites us to consider how the three persons-Father, Son, and Holy Spirit-work together so that God's salvation is made known to us. Jesus' mission is continued through the activity of the Holy Spirit in the lives of his disciples. The disciples knew that Jesus would soon be returning to his heavenly Father and they were afraid. Jesus promised them that they would not be alone, for he would send them another advocate, the Spirit of truth. So, whenever they needed to feel encouraged and loved and to know how to make good choices, they could count on the help of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus has also given us the gift of the Holy Spirit, whom we received in Baptism. The Holy Spirit helps us to pray and to know the truth about God. The Holy Spirit also helps us understand God's love for us and helps us follow Jesus.

## Family Activities:

\*The fruits of the Holy Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control. As a family decide how you might show the world these fruits through your words and actions.

\*Pray together the Prayer to the Holy Spirit:  
Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.  
And kindle in them the fire of your love.  
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.  
And you will renew the face of the earth.

Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit  
you have taught the hearts of your faithful.  
In the same Spirit help us to relish what is right  
and always rejoice in your consolation.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## Discuss these questions as a family:

- \* What does Jesus say the Holy Spirit will do for the disciples?
- \* We all need help at times. Who are the people in your life who have helped you? How did they help you?
- \* Have you had a friend or family member move away? What was that experience like for you?

