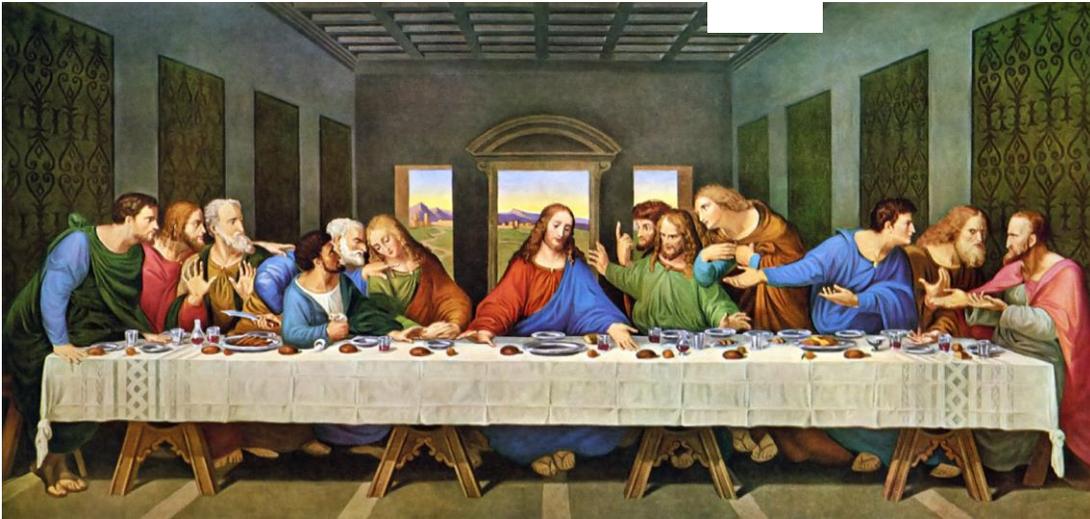


RELIGIOUS EDUCATION GRADE 7 LOCKDOWN PROGRAMME WEEK 6



Let us Pray:
Lord Jesus Christ,
Son of the Father,
Send now your Spirit over the Earth,
Let the Holy Spirit live in the hearts of all nations,
That they may be preserved from illness,
Especially the coronavirus.
May the lady of all nations,
The Blessed Virgin Mary,
Be our Advocate,
AMEN!

LESSON 34: The Church



The Last Supper

1. **The Holy Spirit, our Helper**: In John's gospel during the Last Supper, Jesus says to the apostles, "In a little while I will be with you no longer, but do not be sad, I will send you a helper, an advocate, a guide to help you on your journey." [John 14:16–17] The same Holy Spirit that filled Jesus' with wisdom and power is that helper and guide who is with the Church today.

- 2 **Gifts of the Spirit:** Isaiah, an Old Testament prophet gives us a picture of how holiness works .



Traditionally we list the seven gifts of the Spirit as: **wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear or reverence of the Lord.** These gifts are available to us. One could say that we recognize the presence of the Spirit in others by the presence of the various gifts. We receive them at Baptism, at Confirmation and ask for them as we experience the need, especially at Pentecost.

“The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him:

a spirit of wisdom and of understanding,

A spirit of counsel and of strength,

a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the Lord.” [Isaiah 11:1-2]

- 3 **Models of the church :** There are many models or ways of describing the Church. Each way presents a different picture and shows some different qualities it has because of the indwelling Spirit. Let's consider four such models.



- The Church is **the BODY OF CHRIST**. The word *body* has two meanings. It is something **visible** and tangible, and is also **an organism made up of various parts**, each with its own identity and importance for the whole body. **All the followers of Jesus Christ make up his Body.**
- **SACRAMENT**, means **sign**. The Church, for instance, the **People of God**, can be seen as a sign, **a sign of God's presence in the world.** They show God's presence by **the way they live their own lives**, by the way they show the gifts and fruits of the Spirit in their lives.
- Another way of describing the **Church** is **HERALD, one who announces, makes known.** Poets often say that the first bird song in the morning or the lightening of the sky heralds the breaking of a new day. So the Church is called **to announce God's presence.**
- Another way of seeing the Church is as **FAMILY**. Family members are **the closest people to one another**, the most intimate, the most involved in each other's lives.



- 5 **Fruits of the Spirit**: St Paul writing to the Galatians warns us of the weak tendencies of our damaged and fallen human nature. He writes, “but the Spirit produces **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, self-control.**” He says that the Spirit has given us life and must also control our lives. [Galatians 5: 22–26]

TASKS TO BE COMPLETED:

1. Read Galatians 5: 22–26, and explain the message in this text.
2. Study the worksheet given and write down answers in your book to represent each block given.

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1. Read Galatians 5: 22–26, and explain the message in this text.

Paul has been describing how those in Christ should live. Believers ought to live in the power of, and by the direction of, the Spirit of God. Paul wrote in the previous verse that we must "keep in step with the Spirit.". Life in the Spirit of God is powerful, meaningful, and the absolute pinnacle of human experience on this side of eternity. Like allowing a dance partner to lead, while we follow their guidance, we are meant to allow the Spirit of God to guide our will, so we can fully embrace who we are in Christ.

We should not become conceited, proud, and arrogant. Life in the Spirit of God requires submission to God and humility. It is about Him and not us. Trying to lead a Christian life in our own power results in too much focus on ourselves, puffing us up in the way that religious people often become self-righteous.

Proud people, by definition, are in the business of self-promotion. That leads to provoking others to compete with us instead serving alongside us. Inevitably, prideful religious competitions for honor and self-worth lead to envy, resenting those who seem to outwardly have obtained what we want everyone to see in us.

2. Study the worksheet given and write down answers in your book to represent each block given.