

- The prophets of the Old Testament foretold that God's Spirit would rest upon the Messiah to sustain his mission. Their prophecy was fulfilled when Jesus the Messiah was conceived by the Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. The Holy Spirit descended on Jesus on the occasion of his baptism by John. Jesus' entire mission occurred in communion with the Spirit. Before he died, Jesus promised that the Spirit would be given to the Apostles and to the entire Church. After his death, he was raised by the Father in the power of the Spirit.
- Confirmation deepens our baptismal life that calls us to be missionary witnesses of Jesus Christ in our families, neighborhoods, society, and the world. . . . We receive the message of faith in a deeper and more intensive manner with great emphasis given to the person of Jesus Christ, who asked the Father to give the Holy Spirit to the Church for building up the community in loving service.

HOLY SPIRIT, CONFIRM IN ME...

God's acceptance and love for me just as I am ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

The new life of my Baptism when I became a child of God ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

The words my parents and godparents said on my behalf at Baptism ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

My closeness to Jesus each time I receive Communion... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

My desire to follow Christ more closely as his disciple ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

My acts of service and love to my family and friends ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

The knowledge that God created me for greatness and to be a saint ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

My desire to pray even when I am not sure how ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

My desire to turn to God in difficult times ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

My searching faith, and the strength to stay with my questions ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

The softening of my hard heart ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

The assurance that God helps me find second chances ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

Your peace when I am in conflict ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

The humility to give and to ask for forgiveness ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

The courage to face challenges ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

The desire to care for God's creation ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

The generosity of heart to stand in justice with the poor ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

Your help to remember, as Jesus promised, "everything I have taught you" ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

The gift of Wisdom to recognize the importance of keeping God central in my life ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

The gift of Understanding to hear and know God's voice speaking to me ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

The gift of Knowledge to explore God's revelation and the mysteries of our faith ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

The gift of Counsel to make good choices and to see the best way to follow Jesus ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

The gift of Fortitude giving me the courage to do what I know is right ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

The gift of Piety helping me pray to God with a true heart ... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

The gift of Awe and Wonder to be amazed by God's presence, in small ways and in big ways... *Holy Spirit, confirm in me.*

Holy Spirit, you are the giver of many gifts which God wants to give me very personally. Open my heart and my mind as I prepare for Confirmation. Help me to know that you are confirming all the goodness that I am, and all the goodness that I will become. Increase my desire to know and follow Jesus as his disciple with a grateful and courageous heart. Amen.