

Sunday 17th May



The Promise of the Holy Spirit

I wonder if you can see the link between these pictures - who are these people and what might they do for you? If needed, a hint is that the word begins with 'h.'

It is written in John's gospel that Jesus knew that his time with the disciples was coming to an end. He wanted to tell the disciples that when he was gone he promised to love them always and everyone who came after them. So, God would send a special helper to be with them forever.

You can work out who that special helper is. Cross out all the B and J letters in this code to discover Jesus' message. Write each discovered letter in order below.



H

B T J J H B E J B H J B O J L B B Y

B S J P B I R B J I B B T B W B J I J L B B L

J H B E L J P B Y B O B U J

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The reading below is the record of Jesus telling the disciples about their Helper, the Holy Spirit. Look out for the words : Helper and Holy Spirit. There are also some words that let you know the Spirit is not a person but lives within us. If you are very clever you might spot them. Several high fives if you do!

John's Gospel 14 v 15 - 21 (GNB)

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

(Jesus said) " If you love me, you will obey my commandments. I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, who will stay with you for ever. He is the Spirit who reveals the truth about God. The world cannot receive him, because it cannot see him or know him. But you know him, because he remains with you and is in you.

"When I go, you will not be left all alone; I will come back to you. In a little while the world will see me no more, but you will see me; and because I live , you will also live. When that day comes, you will know that I am in my Father and that you are in me, just as I am in you.

" Whoever accepts my commandments and obeys them is the one who loves me. My Father will love whoever loves me; I too will love him and reveal myself to him."



People use very many different words and images to explain what the presence, the feeling and the experience of the Holy Spirit is in their lives.



Helper
Kind
Always be with you
Caring
Supporter
Defender
Alongside
Comforter
Advocate

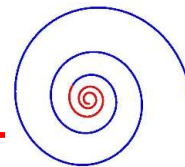
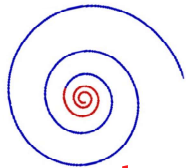


Love photo created by jcomp - www.freepik.com accessed 14/5/20

- ❖ I wonder what you think about the picture and how you might draw the Holy Spirit?
- ❖ I wonder what you think the best word or words are and why?
- ❖ I wonder if you can think of any people who try to help others, inspired by the Holy Spirit?



In a couple of weeks we will hear about more ways of explaining the Holy Spirit through words and images at Pentecost.



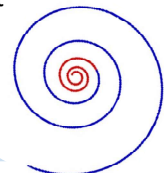
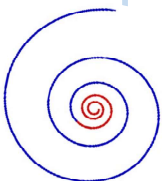
Challenge

There is a game you can play to remind you that the Holy Spirit is always with you, even when you do not expect it.

Spiral Spirits

- Make a list of everyone's name in the house on a piece of paper.
- Find enough post it notes or small pieces of paper for everyone to have 2 and draw a spiral on each one to represent the Holy Spirit.
- In turns invite everyone to go and hide their pieces of paper in an unexpected place. When all the paper pieces have been hidden, leave the list with all the names on out with a pencil beside it, so everyone knows where it is.
- Now go and do something else !
- During the next two days if you should find a Spiral Spirit, don't tell anyone but go and put a tick beside your name on the paper. Then move the Spiral Spirit to somewhere new . You cannot count a Spiral Spirit you have hidden yourself. Be creative and think of places where people might open cupboard doors, maybe there might be shoes someone could wear or papers, magazines or books that might be opened. There are lots of unexpected places for the Spirit to be.
- Count up at an agreed time how many ticks are by each name and then see if you can gather all the Spiral Spirits in.

The Spirit is always there in unexpected places!



Prayer

God of love,
Thank you for giving us the Holy Spirit
As a helper and advocate
Forever.
Help us to feel your presence
Within us all the time.
Thank you for all the people
Who love and support us.
Amen