**Confirmation 2013**

**The class lessons are very much rooted in prayer and scripture. Each lesson is brought to a close through prayer and the children are regularly using their bibles to locate the relevant scripture passages. Art, drama and music is also widely used to bring the lessons to life for the children and it usually links quite nicely to the activities in the workbook.**

The revised lessons are closely linked to This is Our Faith and the following quote from This is our Faith sums up what the children are learning through the series of lessons.

*By reflecting on these scriptural narratives and the Sacraments of Initiation, I understand that I am not called to live out my journey of faith and life in isolation from others but within the community of Church. (RERC 1-02 a Image of God This is Our Faith)*

emphasising that,Through the sacraments we are brought closer to the family of God

Summarise some the activities that we have done in class so far to give you an idea of the way we teach the children about the sacrament of Confirmation.

**Lesson 1: God’s Gifts Around Me**

Our teaching about the Sacrament of Confirmation is framed in an understanding of the goodness of God’s creation, which is a sign of God’s love for us. The beauty of the earth, seasons, joy and each other are part of God’s gift of creation.

**Scripture activities** – children used bibles to locate the text which led to class discussion focusing on the role of the Holy Spirit in Creation

**Art and Prayer Writing:**

* children wrote short prayers of thanks to God for the beauty of creation
* paintings of the things they admire most in nature.

Through these activities the children learned that just as creation is a gift to us and shows us God’s love, so we are created for community. Through the workbook activities the children then were encouraged to recognise and celebrate relationships as part of God’s gift of creation and his call to community.

**Lesson 2: God calls me closer**

The focus of this lesson was that Each of us is a gift to the world and to others, uniquely chosen to show God’s love.

This section reflects on baptism, the sacraments and initiation into the family of the Church

**Scripture:** Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan discussion . Looked at images of the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan and the different representations of Holy Spirit in art. dove tongue of fire

**Symbols** of Baptism and their importance, looked at and discussed pictures of their own Baptism. Who was there etc

**Lesson 3:God’s Great Promise**

*You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you will be my witnesses… to the ends of the earth. Acts*

Discussion what is a promise? why is a promise special? etc

**Scripture:** Annunciation, The Ascension of the Lord

Again looked at images and the children were able to point out How the Holy Spirit is often represented in art. Dove and flame.

**Rite of Baptism: Through Baptism and Confirmation make him/her your faithful follower and witness to the Gospel…**

**Learned the Prayer: Come Holy Spirit**

Come Holy Spirit art work

**Lesson 4: God’s Great Gift**

**Scripture:** Pentecost dramatisation

The Holy Spirit brings us gifts just like at Pentecost so that we too can be witnesses. The gifts of the Holy Spirit bear fruits in our lives.

Being sealed with the Holy Spirit

General

Workbooks will be sent home (where possible) over a weekend and will usually be due on the Thursday of the following week. the return date can be found at the front of the workbook along with details of which Home Session has to be completed.

Saints booklet and activities.

This coming week the children will have a research project where they will be asked to research the life of two or three saints which they are interested in. **Some guidance to ensure that the websites that the children are using have child friendly language. The hope is that we can make a class book with the stories of their favourite saints.**