

Getting Ready for Chapter 17

Take Home



God Gives Us the Holy Spirit

God gives us the Holy Spirit to guide us in our daily lives. The children will come to understand that the Holy Spirit is our helper, guide, and teacher. They will think about and appreciate the spiritual gifts that Paul writes about in the Scripture passage.

ACTIVITY

Matching Gifts Have a family gift night! Each person can give a small present to one other family member. Choose names beforehand so that everyone gets a present. The present should represent a talent the person has. For example, if someone draws well, the gift might be a sketch pad.

WEEKLY PLANNER

On Sunday

Pray for the people who, in the name of the congregation, bring up the gifts in the offertory procession.

On the Web

www.blestarewe.com



Visit our Web site for the saint of the day and the reflection question of the week.

Saint of the Week



Saint Catherine of Siena
(1347–1380)

Catherine was the youngest of twenty-five children in her family. She became a Dominican sister. God gave Saint Catherine the gift of wisdom which she used to give advice and guidance to others.

Patron Saint of: firefighters, nurses, and sick people
Feast Day: April 29



A Prayer for the Week

Holy Spirit, thank you for the gifts of wisdom and knowledge. May we use them as Saint Catherine of Siena did to help others. May we always be faithful followers of Jesus. Amen.



Scripture Background

In the Time of the Early Church

Corinth Corinth was a bustling seaport city in Greece. As such, it attracted people of various religions. Paul cherished the Christian community in Corinth, even though factions within the community caused him much frustration. In his first letter, Paul reminds the Corinthians of Jesus' message — the need for correct behavior in worship, a call for peaceful coexistence, and the power of true Christian love.

You can read of Paul's concerns for his people in 1 Corinthians 12.

OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION in Architecture

Hagia Sofia The Hagia Sofia, Greek for "holy wisdom," was built in the sixth century by the emperor Justinian I in Constantinople, now Istanbul, Turkey. The cathedral was named for the gift of the Holy Spirit and remains one of the finest examples of Byzantine architecture.

After the Turks conquered Constantinople in the fifteenth century, the Hagia Sophia became a mosque, or Islamic house of worship. Its mosaics and Christian symbols were covered with plaster. The Hagia Sofia stayed that way until the twentieth century, when it became a museum and some of its original mosaics were uncovered.