

FATHER, SON & HOLY SPIRIT

Aim

To guide the child in exploring their concept of God.

Resources

Leaders

- Break Open the Word
- Catholic Youth Bible
- Prayer cloth, cross, candle – set up a prayer space
- Electronic device – laptop/tablet for YouTube links
- At Home with God's People

Child

- Activity Book (page 11-12)
- Catholic Youth Bible

Materials

- water
- food colouring
- bowl
- 30cm square white cotton cloth to dip

Preparation

for the Catechist

Spend some time in prayer for the catechumen. Reflect on your image and understanding of God. Think of your own stories and be ready to share these.

Background

Information for the Catechist

This session focuses on who we think God is for each of us. We also look at the Trinity - the Father, Son and Holy Spirit - through scripture and artwork.



Reflection

As we gather, we light a candle to remember that Jesus is the light of the world. Sit quietly and listen to the words of the song *Open the Eyes of My Heart*.

Open the Eyes of My Heart

<https://youtu.be/wutmEjdbedE>

Video **Link 1.1**



After listening to the words of the song, *Open the Eyes of My Heart*, share how you have encountered God this week.



Follow up from last session

Would you like to share your experience of the Rite of Acceptance?

For those already baptised, would you like to reflect on the ritual of welcoming?

What do you remember most? What did you experience during the rite?

We have looked previously at how we know God and God's love.

Does anyone have any questions?

Has anything come up since our Inquiry period session on God?



Exploring

Let us listen to a reading from Matthew which refers to the Trinity.

 **Matthew 3: 16-17**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

And when Jesus had been baptised, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”
The Gospel of the Lord.

 **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

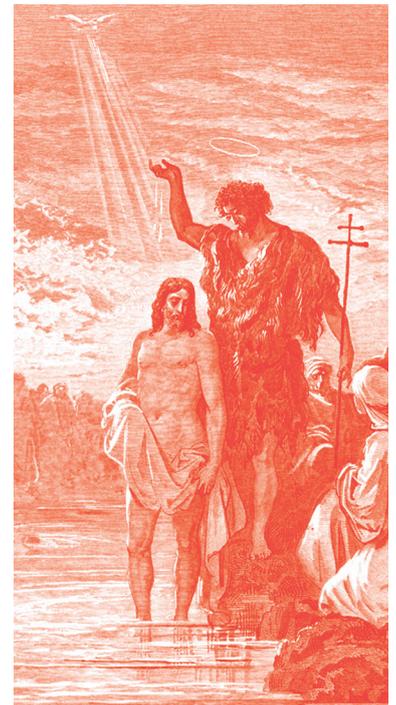
At his Baptism, Jesus saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and heard God’s voice telling him he was God’s beloved Son.

At your Baptism, you will be baptised by name – “in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit” – as a beloved child of God.

Do you know **how** to make the Sign of the Cross?

Do you know **why** we make the Sign of the Cross?

- It reminds us of our Baptism
- It reminds us of the Trinity
- It reminds us to whom we belong



Activity

In Baptism, God adopts us as children and makes us a new creation through water and the Holy Spirit (*Christian Initiation for Children, Sacramental Policy of the Archdiocese of Brisbane, Third Edition September 2015*).

We are called to follow Jesus.

At Baptism we are plunged into Christ, we clothe ourselves in Christ.

Step One

- Add water to bowl, add colouring.

Step Two

- Repeatedly dip the cloth in the water to show the child how the colour deepens.

As the cloth gets darker, this represents how we become stronger as we live our faith. The more the cloth is dipped, the stronger the colour gets. This demonstration is about deepening our understanding of God and becoming stronger in faith. Although we can only be baptised once, we can continue to live in the baptismal waters throughout our lives.

In his letter to the Galatians, Paul reminds us:

 **Galatians 3:26-27**

In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

What are your thoughts about this?

Activity Book

We can see someone who lives as though they are clothed in Christ when they live the fruits of the Spirit in their lives.

These are the fruits of the spirit:

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

In your Activity Book (page 11), write, draw or describe which of these fruits would people see in you.



Living it out in the Everyday

Activity Book

Look around you at the people you meet. Where can you see evidence of the fruits of the spirit?

In your Activity Book (page 12) choose one of the Fruits of the Spirit and think of a person who is a good example of this fruit in action. Write in your Activity Book the name of the fruit, the name of the person and how the person shows this fruit in action.



Scripture and Prayer

Scripture

Listen closely to the following music and scripture.

We begin with the sign of the Cross:

 ***In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.***

Use the Gospel from the following Sunday.

 A reading from the holy Gospel according to ...

 ***Glory to you, O Lord.***

(At the end of the Gospel)

The Gospel of the Lord

 ***Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.***

Following a couple of minutes of silence to reflect on the scripture passage, invite the child to share a word or two from the passage that particularly spoke to them.

What is one important message for you in this scripture passage?

Prayer

We pray together the words that Jesus gave us.

 ***Our Father...***