

## Chapter 5

# Answer Key for Double-Check Questions

1. *Describe briefly what one of the prophets from the Old Testament prophesied about the Holy Spirit.*

Answers will vary but should include one of the following:

- When the Jews were exiled to Babylon, Ezekiel went with them and prophesied the fall of Jerusalem. He told a story about dry bones in the desert coming to life, and explained that this is what the Holy Spirit does. Where death abounds, the Holy Spirit brings life. Where there is loss and confusion, the Holy Spirit guides and clarifies. Where despair settles in, the Holy Spirit brings hope based on the sure promises of the Lord.
- Isaiah prophesied that from the family of David would come a Messiah upon whom the Spirit of God would rest. Indeed, during the Baptism of Jesus, the Holy Spirit came down and rested on Jesus.

2. *What were the signs of the presence of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost?*

On Pentecost, signs that the Holy Spirit had come upon Jesus' followers included the sound of a strong wind that filled the house, as well as tongues of fire that came to rest on each of the gathered followers. Finally, when the followers went forth to preach about Jesus, those who listened heard them speaking in a variety of languages, or tongues, through the Holy Spirit.

3. *Name two differences in the Sacrament of Confirmation as administered in the Eastern Churches compared to the Western (Latin) Church.*

The students may choose any two of the following differences discussed in chapter 5. There are some key differences in the Sacrament of Confirmation as administered in the Eastern and Western (Latin) Churches:

- The Latin Church does not celebrate Baptism and Confirmation at the same time, and instead delays the celebration of Confirmation until the bishop can be present. In contrast, the Eastern Church celebrates the three Sacraments of Christian Initiation in the same liturgy: Baptism, Confirmation, and then reception of the Eucharist.
- The Latin Church mandates that a candidate for Confirmation must have reached the age of reason, considered to happen at seven years of age or later. In the Eastern Church, infants can receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, usually in the same liturgy after they receive the Sacrament of Baptism and before they receive the Eucharist for the first time.
- In the Latin Church, the bishop is the ordinary minister of Confirmation, although he may grant a priest permission to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation in unusual circumstances. The Eastern Church considers the link to the bishop to be present through the use of Chrism, or *myron*, the sacred oil used at Confirmation that has been consecrated by the bishop. Thus, the priest ordinarily celebrates Confirmation in the Eastern Church.
- In the Eastern Churches, the formula for the anointing is "The seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit." In the Latin Church, the formula is "Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit."
- The Western Church refers to this Sacrament as Confirmation. The Eastern Church calls it Chrismation because it involves anointing with Sacred Chrism.



4. *What is Apostolic Succession?*

Apostolic Succession refers to the uninterrupted passing on of apostolic preaching and authority from Jesus to the Apostles and from them directly to all bishops. It is accomplished through the laying on of hands when a bishop is ordained in the Sacrament of Holy Orders as instituted by Christ. Apostolic Succession is thus sacramental.

5. *Who is eligible for the Sacrament of Confirmation?*

To be eligible for the Sacrament of Confirmation, one must have reached the age of reason; the bishops of the United States have further set the age as falling between the age of discretion (about seven) and about sixteen years of age. The candidate must also profess the faith, be in a state of grace, desire to receive the sacrament, and intend to live as a disciple of Christ and witness to the faith in the Church and the world.

6. *What is the meaning of the renewal of baptismal promises in Confirmation?*

The Latin Church usually celebrates Confirmation separately from Baptism, so the Confirmation liturgy includes the renewal of baptismal promises, in which the candidates renounce Satan and sin and profess faith in God. This renewal emphasizes the close relationship between Baptism and Confirmation.

7. *What are the essential elements of the Order of Confirmation?*

The anointing with Sacred Chrism, the laying on of hands by the minister, and the sacred words of the formula.

8. *What is the relationship between Baptism and Confirmation?*

Baptism confers the graces and Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Confirmation strengthens and confirms these gifts and graces, while adding effects and responsibilities that will last the rest of our lives. These effects and responsibilities include rooting us more deeply in divine filiation (our adoption as children of God), uniting us more firmly to Christ, increasing in us the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, strengthening our relationship with the Church, involving us more deeply in the Church's mission to share the Good News of salvation, and helping us to witness to our faith in word and action.

