

WELCOME



**Confirmation Meeting
February 2024**

AGENDA

- ❖ Welcome & Introductions
- ❖ Opening Prayer to begin programme
- ❖ Sacrament of Confirmation
- ❖ Steps of Preparation for Confirmation
- ❖ Parents'/Guardians' Support
- ❖ Social Justice Project
- ❖ Closing prayer

WELCOME

&

INTRODUCTION

LIGHTING OF CANDLE







COME, HOLY SPIRIT

**Come Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful.
Enkindle in us the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit,
and we shall be created,
And You shall renew the face of the
earth.**

**O God, who has taught the hearts of the
faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit,
Grant us in the same Spirit to be truly
wise,**

**And ever enjoy His consolation,
Through Christ, Our Lord, Amen.**

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

- ❖ To confirm is to strengthen
- ❖ Sacrament of Strengthening
- ❖ Coneartú – ‘Neart’ means strength

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

What is strengthened?



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

When did we receive the gift of faith?



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Whose decision was it for us to be baptised?

Parents

Whose decision is it for us to be confirmed?

Our decision

This important decision is discussed with our parents/guardians



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Who strengthens our faith at the sacrament of confirmation?

The Holy Spirit



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

How does the Holy Spirit strengthen our faith?

The laying on of hands



Anointing of chrism



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

What Happens?

The sign of the cross is traced on the candidate's forehead
with the oil of chrism,

saying,

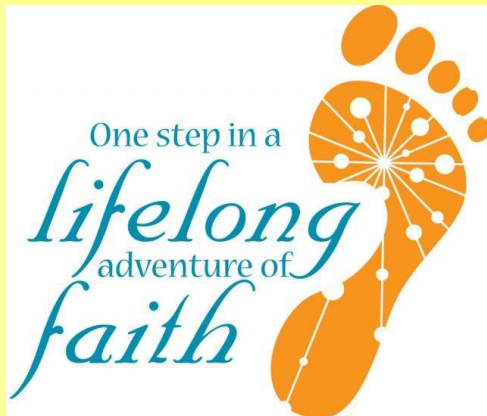
"<Name>, <Confirmation Name>

be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit"

Amen

STEPS OF PREPARATION

1. Ceremony of Enrolment
2. Class Work
3. Confirmation Name
4. Confirmation Sponsor
5. Prayer Time
6. **Gospel of Luke**
7. Retreat Day in Mt St Anne's
8. Sacrament of Reconciliation
9. Confirmation Pledge
10. Ceremony of Light



STEP 1 – ENROLMENT CEREMONY

Important Decision Regarding Faith

- ❖ Sacrament of Confirmation is optional
- ❖ This decision is discussed with parents/guardians
- ❖ Respect the decisions of those choosing not to present themselves for Confirmation

Choice

STEP 1 – ENROLMENT CEREMONY

What Happens?

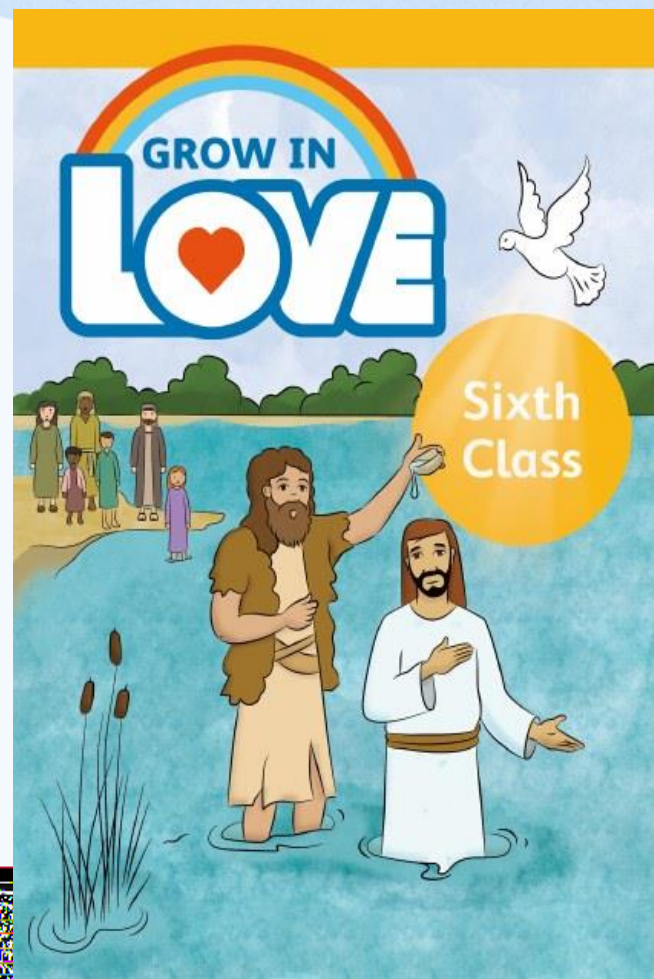
- ❖ Candidates choose to present themselves
- ❖ This decision is discussed with parents/guardians
- ❖ Candidates make a commitment to follow the steps in preparation for confirmation





Grow in Love

Preparing for Confirmation



Grow in Love

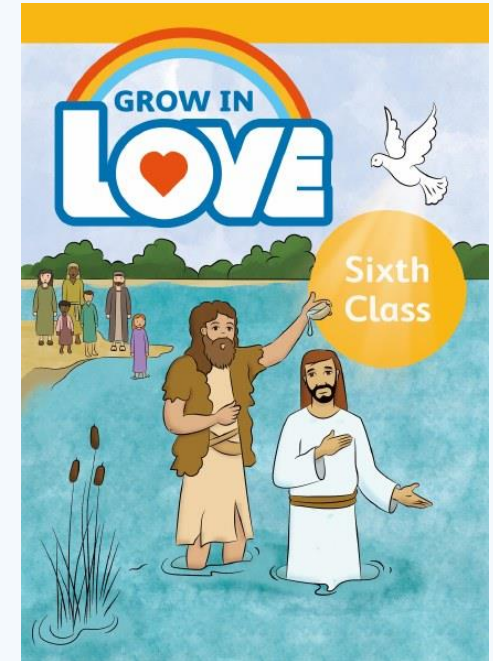
- *Uses a thematic approach to teach religion*
- *Child-centred*
- *At home section for parents and families*
- *Focuses on the four main strands of the Curriculum:*
- *Faith, Word of God, Liturgy/Prayer and Morality*

Themes

- 1. God: We are made in God's Image

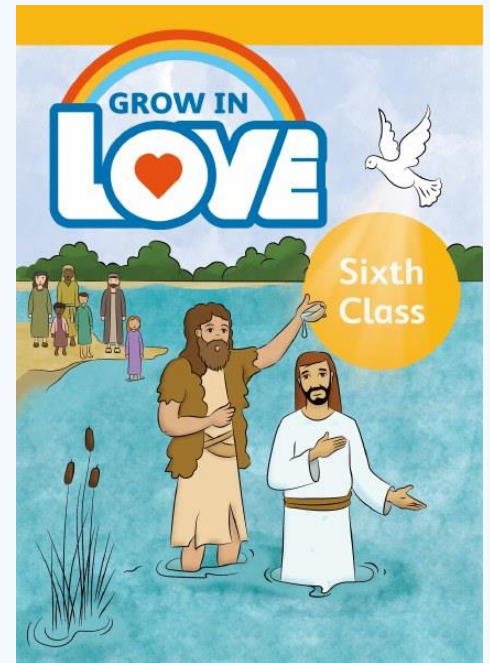
We communicate with God through Our Prayer

- 2. Creation: The children explore the stories from the book of Genesis about Creation and Adam and Eve.



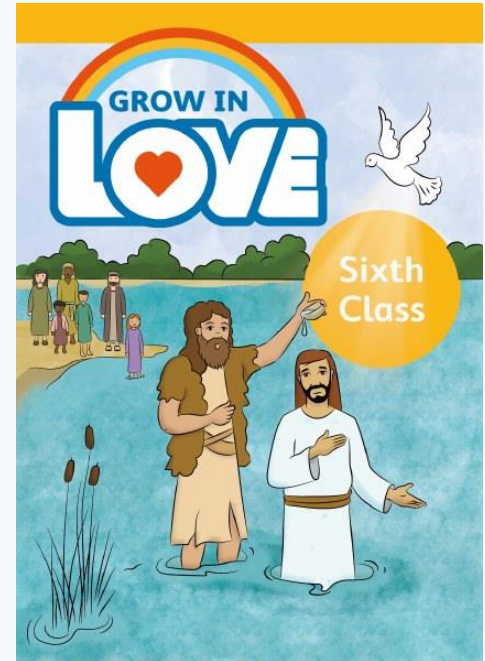
Themes

- 3. Jesus: Jesus calls us to forgive, to use our gifts and to show us the way through his example.
- 4. Advent and Christmas
- 5. Social Justice: We are called to treat others fairly and to care for the Earth.



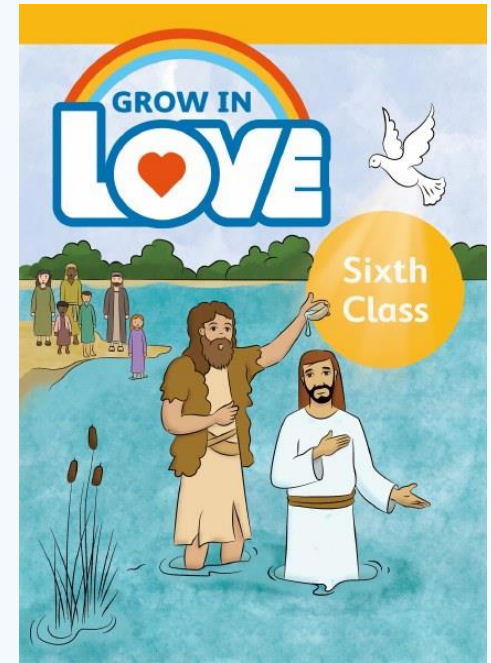
Themes

- 6. Church: The Church is Family, the Sacrament of Marriage and traditions of the Christian family.
- 7. Holy Week and Easter
- 8. Eucharist and the mass
- 9. Morality



Themes

- 10. Confirmation:
- The power of the Holy Spirit
- The Fruits of the Holy Spirit
- The Liturgy of Confirmation
- Making a difference after Confirmation



DIFFERENT WAYS OF PRAYING

Just as there are many different ways to communicate, there are many different ways to pray. 16 are some examples of ways to pray:

Vocal Prayer: This is when you pray using words – either your own words or formal prayers that you have learned, like the *Our Father*, or prayers from the Mass.

Meditation: This involves focusing your thoughts on God and on your relationship with God, and listening for what God might be saying to you.

Lectio Divina: This involves reading some lines or passages from Scripture slowly, and then spending time thinking about what God may be saying through those words.

Visio Divina: This involves spending time looking at a photograph, an icon, a piece of art or other visual images that have a religious aspect to them – and listening for what God might be communicating through them.

Taizé Prayer: This involves singing and listening to Taizé music, often in a candlelit setting. The repetition of the gentle chants draws people into a deeper sense of being in God's presence.

THINK ABOUT IT ...

- What way of praying do you prefer? Why? How do you think you might be a better or different person if you prayed more?

THIS WEEK

The children heard the story about Jesus teaching his disciples how to pray. They reflected on how important communication is to all our relationships, especially our relationship with God. Through prayer we communicate with God, who in turn communicates with us. There are many different ways to pray and types of prayers and it is good when we find the way of praying that best suits us. Our ancestors, particularly in the Irish-speaking areas of the country, had prayers for almost every occasion and every task that they carried out. The children composed their own prayers to pray during different moments or different tasks throughout the day.

Do any of these images of people praying suggest to you how or where or when you might pray?



DID YOU KNOW

Prayer is good for you and it is something that you can practise in any place at any time.

TIME TOGETHER

Chat Together

Talk about your favourite prayers. What are the prayers that your parents taught you those prayers? When do you pray together?

Respond and Share

Think of a way that your family could include a particular prayer in their daily lives. Share your ideas with your parent or guardian and get started on putting it into practice.

Pray Together

Lord, help us to be more prayerful. May our prayers strengthen our relationship with you and with each other. May we keep others' prayers. We ask this in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Be Prayerful

As you go about each of your daily tasks, take time to think about God's presence.

STEP 3 - CONFIRMATION NAME

- ❖ Own choice
- ❖ Discuss choice with parents/guardians
- ❖ Must be a Christian name



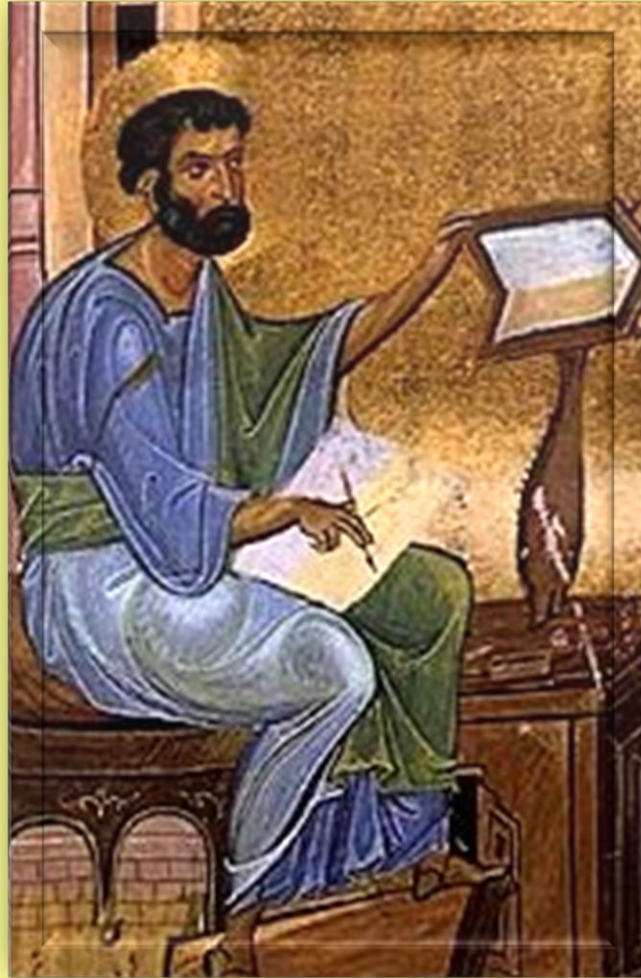
STEP 4 - SPONSOR

- ❖ One sponsor
- ❖ Own choice - Discuss choice with parents/guardians
- ❖ Must be at least 16 years of age and a Confirmed Catholic
- ❖ Ideally godparent. Can be grandparent, older sibling or another person
- ❖ Can be by proxy
- ❖ Write about sponsor in Workbook

STEP 5 - PRAYER TIME



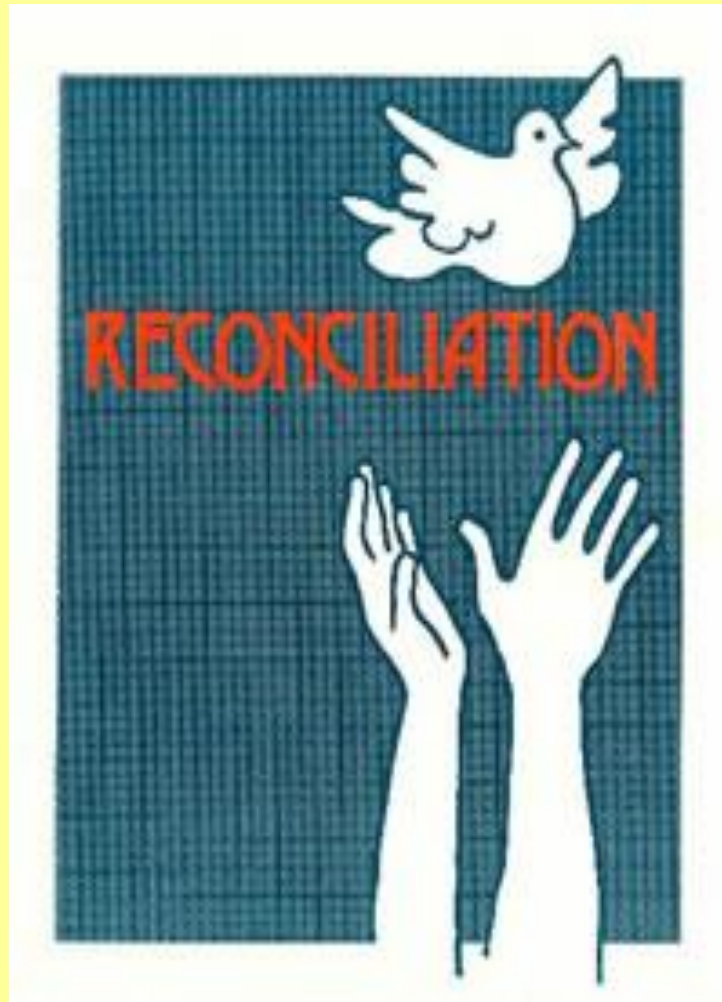
STEP 6 - GOSPEL OF LUKE



STEP 7 - RETREAT DAY



STEP 8 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION



STEP 9 – CONFIRMATION PLEDGE

CHOICE OF COMMITMENT

- ❖ Alcohol
- ❖ Drugs
- ❖ Cigarettes
- ❖ Social Media

CONFIRMATION PLEDGE

Holy Spirit

- ❖ Gift of Courage

Parents/Guardians

- ❖ Discuss with and support
- ❖ Promises made during preparation for Confirmation at The Ceremony of Light



My Confirmation Pledge

I promise not to drink alcohol until I am _____ years old and I ask the Holy Spirit to help me to keep this promise.

I promise not to take dangerous or illegal drugs and to help other people to do the same. I ask the Holy Spirit to help me to keep this promise.

I promise to use the internet and social media wisely and considerately.

Signature of Confirmation Candidate:

Signature of Parent of Guardian:

STEP 10 – CEREMONY OF LIGHT

- ❖ Passing on the responsibility for the faith
- ❖ Accepting the responsibility for the faith



PARENTS SUPPORTING CHILDREN ON THE NEXT STEP OF THEIR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY



SOCIAL JUSTICE PROJECT

If our faith is not active it is dead

Each class to decide what they will do!

It's Optional



**CONFIRMATION CLASS
SOCIAL JUSTICE PROJECT**

2024

Ceremony of Light Athy & Barrowhouse

Athy - SMN	Wed May 22nd
Athy - SPN	Tuesday March 12th
Ballyroe, Churchtown, Model	Tuesday Feb 27th
Barrowhouse	Wed Apr 10th
Churchtown	Tuesday Feb 27th
Gaelscoil	Tuesday Feb 20th
Kilberry	Wed April 17th
Model	Tuesday Feb 27th

Sacrament of Confirmation Athy & Barrowhouse

Athy - SMN	Friday May 31st x 2 -	10:30 & 12:30
Athy - SPN	Friday March 22nd	11:00am
Ballyroe, Churchtown, Model School	Friday March 8th	11:00am
Barrowhouse	Saturday April 20th	11:00am
Gaelscoil	Friday March 1st	11:00am
Kilberry	Friday April 26th 11:00am	11:00am

WHAT CAN WE DO?



QUESTIONS



**Come Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful.
Enkindle in us the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit,
and we shall be created,
And You shall renew the face of the
earth.**

**O God, who has taught the hearts of the
faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit,
Grant us in the same Spirit to be truly
wise,**

**And ever enjoy His consolation,
Through Christ, Our Lord, Amen.**



**GOOD NIGHT
SAFE HOME
& GOD BLESS**