

# Ignite: Approaching the Fire

(Week of Jan. 24)

## Understanding Confirmation

*“You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you” Acts 1:8*



**GATHER:** [What's Missing?](#) Once the link opens, click “Present” in the top right corner and have fun!

**CONNECT:** The groups of things that were highlighted in our game would not have been complete without that missing item. In the same way, Confirmation is the second sacrament in the Sacrament of Initiation - it is a crucial ingredient in our formation as Catholics, and without Confirmation something is missing in our sacramental formation. Avery shares the teaching this week in [Approaching the Fire](#).

### EXPLORE: Main Points to Take Away

- Sacraments are signs instituted by Christ, entrusted to the Church, in order to give us grace. We have seven sacraments. Each bestow on us specific and unique graces.
- The Sacrament of Confirmation is so important because it completes and strengthens the transformative graces we receive in the Sacrament of Baptism. The actual celebration of Confirmation begins with a renewal of Baptismal Promises to signify this connection.
- Anointing with sacred chrism oil is a seal representing our total belonging to Christ. It seals us with the Holy Spirit putting us at the service of Christ and gives us divine protection.
- The Holy Spirit gives us the strength to defend our faith and to be bold witnesses to Christ.
- The image of fire is symbolic because of its nature to transform and spread. The Holy Spirit transforms us, brings us into the life of God, allowing us to spread the message of God’s love to the world.

### The Journey of the Apostles at Pentecost

This passage from Scripture will be guiding us as we learn more about the sacrament of confirmation. Each week we will explore a different aspect of it and how it can help us understand the sacrament and how we can live out its grace.

Open your bible to **Acts 2:1-12** and then discuss and answer the first question in your booklet (page 5).

Read **Acts 1:6-12 and 2:42-47** to discuss and answer the next three questions.

Discuss the following questions:

- What do you think of when you hear the word “power”?
- How is the power of the Holy Spirit different from the power of the world?
- Why is the Holy Spirit connected to imagery of fire? What qualities of fire reveal what the Holy Spirit does in our lives?

**REFLECT:** Complete “My Thoughts on Confirmation” – this can be personal journaling or discussion.

### LIVE IT: Commitment to Prayer

Preparing for confirmation in an intellectual way (learning “head knowledge”) is good and necessary, but so is growing in your relationship with God. The only way that we grow that relationship is through prayer. By committing to prayer throughout this process, you can come to know more about God, more than you could ever read or hear about him.

In your journal, write a prayer that you will commit to praying regularly this week.

*Helpful tips in remembering your prayer commitment:*

- Write it on a sticky note and put it on your bathroom mirror or some place that you will see it every day
- Choose a friend/parent/peer to keep you accountable to your commitment.
- Set an alarm on your phone that goes off every day/other day/week at a specific time to remind you to pray.