



27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Timothy 1: 6-8, 13-14

Beloved: I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God.

Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

Some things to think about...

Think about these questions in your head:

Do you have any fears? Anything you find difficult? Do you feel shy or unsure sometimes?

If you feel comfortable, share your thoughts with the group and talk to each other about how you can overcome these fears. E.g. shyness = try to put your hand up in class this week as a small challenge.

The Holy Spirit can guide us with love and purpose so we are not too scared or timid to speak up or do something that challenges us!

Activity

Take a paper template of a flame, decorate it with colours (red, orange and yellow) and write a prayer to the Holy Spirit, asking for help with something you find challenging.

Example: "O Holy Spirit, give me the courage to ..."

Materials needed for the activity:

Flame paper template

Coloured pencils + pens

Regular pencils or biro/handwriting pens to write the prayer

Teacher's Notes

The second reading this week is about encouragement! St Paul writes to Timothy reminding him that he has received the Holy Spirit and that through the Holy Spirit many things which make us timid can be overcome. Encourage the children and reassure them that it is OK and quite normal to feel overwhelmed, scared, or timid about certain things in our lives. It is our response to these feelings which is important. If we let the fear take over, then it has won. However, if we acknowledge the fear and then keep trying, then we can accomplish things we didn't think we could.

This is a good opportunity to remind the children that the Holy Spirit is one of the three persons in one God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Go to Year C - The Most Holy Trinity for a fuller explanation + activity.

You may also wish to discuss the gifts of the Holy Spirit and encourage the children to ask for these in their prayers.

Notes:
