

Pillar –Chrismation
Stirring up the Gift of the Holy Spirit
Lesson 2

Have your family get into a comfortable place and read the following.

At your Baptism, you also received Chrismation and the Holy Eucharist. Because we have received all three sacraments we are sanctified in Jesus Christ and we are called to be saints. Just like Paul told the Christians at the church at Corinth in 1 Corinthians 1:2

..... to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:†” 1Cornithinans 1:2

We are going to talk about Chrismation, the gift of the Holy Spirit.

I want you close your eyes and imagine a gift in a large box, wrapped in brightly colored paper and tied with a big ribbon. Your parents took this gift home at the time of your baptism and kept it safe for you. That gift is now sitting on your lap. We are going to open it and see what's inside.

Let's open our gift now. First, in order to do this we are going to use our imagination. You'll have to listen closely to me. Try to follow me as I explain to you a unique way in which you can understand the Holy Spirit.

First of all, I have to act like an English teacher and ask you a few questions.

What is a simile? (Get the answer from one of the students.)

If they don't give you the correct answer tell them "A simile is a comparison of two things using the words 'like' or 'as'.

Think about the nursery rhyme Twinkle Twinkle Little Star.

It says "How I wonder what you are, like a diamond in the sky'. The star is like a diamond. That's a simile.

The next question is : What is a metaphor? (Get an answer from a student, if possible.)

If they don't know, tell them. A metaphor is a comparison between two things, not using 'like' or 'as', but saying one object is another. It would be like saying the little star in the nursery rhyme IS a diamond in the sky.

Continue.

What I want to explain to you today is an extended metaphor. Let's open

Pillar –Chrismation
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Lesson 2

the gift. The Holy Spirit inside your box is your very own personal computer.

Take it out now.
Let's see what this is and what it can do.

The way you turn it on is with prayer. It's the power button.

To begin, go to the start button and look at some options. There you will find a menu. Your menu is what you want to do when you go to the Lord in prayer. Some of the choices are:

A – to praise Him (Adoration)

C -to tell the Lord your sorry (Confession)

T - to thank Him (Thanksgiving)

S - to ask for something (Supplication)

Choose one and keep it in your memory. We will come back to it later.

Let me first tell you some of the features of your laptop computer (Holy Spirit). Your computer is perfectly programmed for you. It contains all the programs you will ever need in your life. Everything is installed and ready to go.

The devil is a computer virus. When he comes in he messes up the Father's program for you. He wants you to freeze up, overload your memory, and get booted or anything else so you get frustrated and have to shut it down.

There's no need to get up and walk away though, you can reboot. When you make mistakes (and we all make them) you can have them deleted. You go to your confessor, and move everything you messed up into the trash bin and empty it from your computer. Remember that it's never too late to start over.

There are more features I'd like to go over. Your laptop tracks everything that you do. It knows your favorite places to go. It knows your history. It also knows whom you chat with and what you say and do.

It also knows how you will break down and how you can be fixed when

Pillar –Chrismation
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Lesson 2

you do. It sees your comings and goings without interfering or denying your free access.

All the helps you will ever need is at your fingertips. Everywhere you go in the real world there is help available. The helps are the gifts of the Holy Spirit, wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. You have to learn about them and how to access them when needed.

Just like computer operations, you have to learn what your laptop can do. When you learn how it works and do the right things, cool stuff happens. For example, some of the charismatic gifts you may not know about like healing, prophecy, and discernment have to be studied to know what they are, how they work and how to use them effectively. These computer operations seem beyond reality, but they are real. Miracles do happen!!

If it seems confusing you don't have to worry because every laptop comes with it's own computer manual. It covers the things you need to know and has all the answers. It's called the Bible. Another great reference is the teachings of the Church Fathers.

An amazing feature is that your laptop is linked up to all the computers in the whole world. That's all those who are filled with the Holy Spirit. You will be networking with all those people in a project to bring about the kingdom of God on the earth. Your mission is to get into heaven, a perfect world, and to get everyone else there, too.

This important project will not be easy unless everyone works together and pools their resources into a massive database. When you get together like this to work on the project, its like networking. All your spiritual gifts get pooled together and God works through you to help other people. God also works through other people to help you. There's awesome power available to do the work at hand and it's all at your fingertips.

You have been given a specific task within the project. Besides getting yourself to the perfect world (heaven), and getting everyone around you to go there, too, you have to do some work.

Everyone's work is a little different. It's like getting an individualized homework assignment. You only get so much paper in your printer and so much time to complete it. When your time runs out, you go to your

Pillar –Chrismation
Stirring up the Gift of the Holy Spirit
Lesson 2

Teacher and you will be graded on how you used your gift. Did you use it by proclaiming the Gospel and bringing others to Jesus or did you put it in box and put it on a shelf and forget about it? You will then wait until Jesus's comes again to see if:

1. You get rewarded for eternity. You get to see face-to-face the Mastermind behind the whole system and He will take you to the perfect world forever. He will also reveal to you all you'd like to know.
2. You failed. You and your work get thrown in the incinerator.

It may seem like a difficult assignment, but there are a lot of people who have passed the test before. (Saints) They will give you extra help if you ask them.

With all this in mind, let's go back to the beginning. First, we'll turn on the power button with prayer. Remember the choices on the menu and how to go to the Lord and prayer? Let's take our journals and go outside and write our prayer to the Lord.

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