

FREE Evangelization Inserts for Bulletins Newsletters & Websites



Pentecost Sunday May 20, 2018

Note that these reflections can be found in
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Questions, Comments Suggestions?
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Living Catholic in the 808 #BigPentecost

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This weekend, almost 4000 children aged 7+ are being confirmed across our islands. Pentecost is the Feast of the Holy Spirit so how fitting it is that so many of our children are strengthened this day, of all days, in their life's journey as Catholic Christians.

You might be wondering about those 2nd graders: aren't they too young? How can they possibly be ready to be confirmed?

In Gaudete et Exsultate (On the Call to Holiness, 35-62), Pope Francis reminds us that one of our great convictions is that God's grace does not rely on us knowing certain things (which is the heresy of Gnosticism) nor can we seek it out, earn it, or make God "happen" simply because we wish it (which is the heresy of Pelagianism).

In other words, there is nothing a child aged 7, 15, 42 etc... must know in order to be confirmed. Nor is it a certain number of service hours or prayers memorized that makes Confirmation possible.

Rather, a person who has reached the age of reason (aka, age 7) is capable of realizing that our earthly life, all we have and all we are, are God's gift. Seven-year-olds can accept the free gift of God's friendship. And, yes, children can also receive the graces available to each of us through the sacraments (Gaudete et Exulstate, 55-56).

Congratulations Confirmandi!!