

# KSC 2019 FORMATION PROGRAMME

## THE HOLY SPIRIT IN OUR TIME

### Session Seven:

### Theme: Source of Affirmation and Direction

“The Holy Spirit exercises a role of teaching and memory...the Holy Spirit doesn't bring a different teaching, but makes that of Jesus alive and active, so that the passage of time does not erase it or make it fade. He grafts this teaching into our hearts, helps us to interiorize it, making it become part of us, flesh of our flesh. At the same time, the Spirit prepares the heart so that it is able to truly receive the words and example of the Lord.” *(Pope Francis May 15, 2016)*



**Step 1: Opening prayer:** from the Order's Prayers

### Step 2: READINGS ON THE THEME

The Spirit affirms us by putting into us gifts to build others up; the successful result is what is meant by 'spiritual fruit'. Affirmation is a positive act that helps to give confidence and a sense of being supported. It gives voice to goals and hopes, and it strengthens resolve.

“We must believe that, despite appearances, the Holy Spirit is working in the world and makes it progress. How many new discoveries, not only in the study of nature but also in the field of morality and social life! A text of Vatican II says that the Holy Spirit is at work in the evolution of the social order of the world (*"Gaudium et Spes,"* 26). It is not only evil that grows but good does too, with the difference being that evil eliminates itself, ends with itself, while the good accumulates itself, remains. Certainly there is much chaos around us: moral, political, and social chaos. The world still has great need of the Spirit of God. For this reason we must not tire in invoking him with the words of the Psalm: "Send forth your Spirit, Lord, and renew the face of the earth!" *(Father Raniero Cantalamessa, Pentecost 2007)*

**Step 3:** *Allow a few moments reflective silence.*

### Step 4: SCRIPTURE READING

“And when Jesus had been baptised he at once came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And suddenly there was a voice from heaven, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved, my favour rests on him.’” *(Matthew 3:16-17)*

“In all your prayer and entreaty keep praying in the Spirit on every possible occasion. Never get tired of staying awake to pray for all God's holy people, and pray for me to be given an opportunity to open my mouth and fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel ...” *(Ephesians 6:18-19)*

**Step 5: REFLECTION** (5 Mins)

**Step 6: SHARING** (10 Mins)

Straight after telling of Jesus' baptism the first three Gospels immediately recount Jesus going into the desert for forty days into a time of prayer and to be tempted by the Devil. Is there a link between the affirmation and the presence of the Holy Spirit Jesus received at his baptism and the way in which he met the challenges the devil offered him?

Can you recall times when, on reflection, it was the confidence of God's presence that helped you cope with challenges in your life?

**Step 7: CONCLUSION**

We pray together:

**Direct, O Lord, we beseech you, all our actions by your holy inspirations,  
and carry them on by the assistance of your grace,  
so that every prayer and work of ours may always begin from you,  
and by you be happily ended. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Step 8:** *The meeting proceeds*

**Step 9: CLOSING PRAYERS – FROM THE ORDER'S PRAYERS**