

Sunday school 4 and 5 year old class May 17, 2020

Dear Parents,

In today's Gospel, Jesus announces to his disciples that soon he will leave them but will not leave them alone. He'll ask the Father for an "advocate" a helper, a comforter...the Spirit of truth.

He also promises to be with them forever, and ask them to share his love with others.

In times of difficulty and trouble it is a blessing to know that we received the Holy Spirit who helps and comforts us. Remind children that they can feel comforted by the presence of God and can always hear and feel Jesus presence in their heart even if they cannot see Him. We know that we cannot see God with our eyes, but through the comfort of the Holy Spirit we are given a way to have His presence near. And remind them, on the second Sunday of Easter when Jesus appeared to his disciple, "*he breathed on them and said "Receive the Holy Spirit"*".

Just like the wind or your breath is invisible, God's presence is invisible.

Just like the wind can be powerful and can move and push things forward (a sailboat, a windmill) God's spirit pushes you toward others: when you feel the urge to hug your friend or hug your parents or give them a drawing, a nice note or a gift, don't you feel that something is pushing you to do that?

Just like breath can bring life (think of when you blow on a dandelion to spread the seeds everywhere) and breath keep you alive, God's spirit surrounds you and keeps you alive.

Attached are two easy projects to make with your kids to illustrate today's reading:

-A little pinwheel to activate by blowing on it (or with the wind outside).

-A Holy Spirit-dove-mobile to hang in your kid's bedroom to remind them the spirit is always there.

Have your kids run around the room and make their Holy Spirit-Dove fly!

Then hang the mobile from the ceiling above your children's bed and say a little prayer with them:

Dear God

Thank you for giving us the Holy Spirit to be with us and comfort us and help us sharing Jesus love with others.

Amen

Today's Gospel is John 14:15-21

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

How to Make a Pinwheel (Instructions found on auntannie.com)

Here's what you need:

- Computer paper and/or origami or color paper
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Pencil
- Pencil **with eraser** (unsharpened)
- Straight pin with ball top (or pushpin)
- **Optional:** Small bead, glue

Read all of the steps before starting.

Step 1: Project Preparation

Gather the materials needed for making a pinwheel

Step 2: Cut Square

Cut a 6" square of paper

Tip: Two-sided pinwheels can be made by gluing two printed squares back-to-back, you can also decorate on of the side yourself before cutting it.

Step 3: Cut

Use the pencil and ruler to draw two diagonal lines, corner-to-corner, that cross at the square's center. Mark the center point and mark a point $2\frac{3}{4}$ " from each corner on the diagonal line.

Cut on the diagonal line from each corner up to the marked point. Erase pencil marks, except for the center point.

Step 4: Assemble

- Using the straight pin, punch a hole in the center and at every other point (about $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the tip.)
- Poke the pin through one of the point holes and curl the point toward the center. Don't fold!
- Curl each pierced point, in turn, toward the center and poke the pin through the holes.
- Push the pin through the center hole of the pinwheel.
- Holding the pencil on a flat surface with one hand, push the pin into the **side** of the eraser.

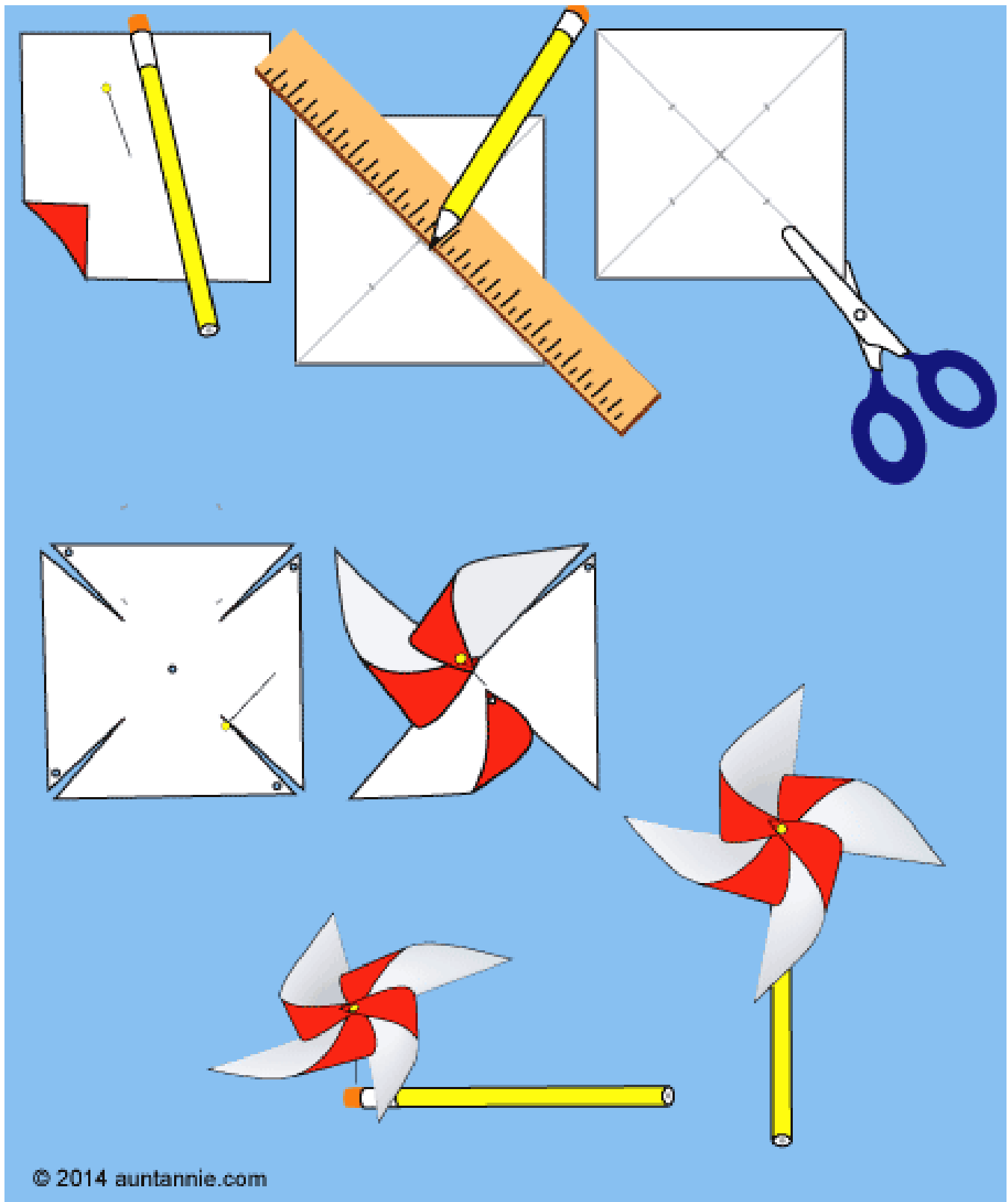
Step 5: Finish

You now have a pinwheel! Hold the pinwheel in your hand and swish it around. The pinwheel should rotate on the pin. Take the pinwheel outside on a breezy day and see it whirl like crazy!

Tip: If your pinwheel doesn't rotate freely, it is probably rubbing against the pencil. You can fix this problem by inserting the pin into the eraser at a slight upward angle, or by slipping a small bead onto the pin before inserting it into the eraser.

That's it! Your pinwheel is done!





How to make your mobile Holy Spirit dove

Material:

- one sheet of white paper to print or draw the template
- pencil, scissors, tape
- a piece of string or white cotton thread or fishing line to hang your mobile
- Optional: color pencils or glue +tissue paper or feathers to decorate your mobile

1-Cut out the template and cut along the dotted lines on the body and on the wing.



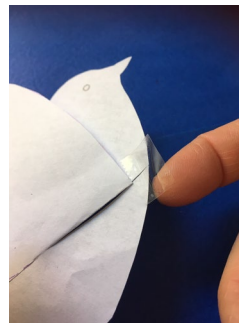
2- Fold the wing in half to mark the line.



3- Open the wing and insert it in the body of the dove. Push until the end of the slits.



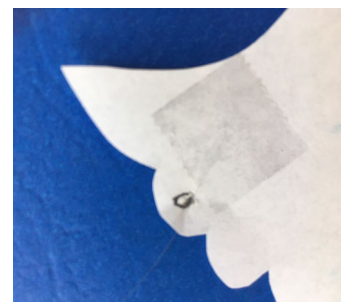
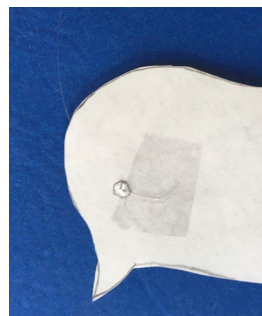
4 Close the slit of the body with a small piece of tape



5- Make a tiny hole in the eye and the tail and insert one long piece of string (fish line or thread) through the holes



6-Do not make a knot to attach the string on each side. Instead, secure the thread flat with tape once you pass it through the holes.



**7- decorate your dove with color pencils or feathers or small pieces of tissue paper cut like small feathers and glued on the wings and the tail.
Be creative! And if you wish , make your holy spirit rainbow colored with multicolor tissue paper!**

