

SPIRIT OF JESUS



WRITTEN BY
JASON PERRY

BASED ON THE ORIGINAL CONCEPT
BY *PETER MITCHELL*,
AUTHOR OF *MAKE JESUS REAL*

THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:



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INTRODUCTION

The phenomenal Australia-wide success of the *Make Jesus Real* workbook for Years 5 and 6 – jointly produced by the Tasmanian Catholic Education Office and Garratt Publishing – was just the first step in a raft of popular 'Make Jesus' resources for both primary and secondary students.

The second book released in this series was *Spirit of Jesus*, written by Jason Perry and based on the original MJR concept by Peter Mitchell. *Spirit of Jesus* supports the MJR way of life and will assist students in Years 3 and 4 in developing a lifelong relationship with Jesus and his message.

This workbook encourages children at Years 3 and 4 levels to become 'switched on' to the presence of Jesus' spirit in their daily lives. It is full of contemporary activities that use an inquiry-based approach. Questions are designed to engage, excite, and support students on their faith journey.

Spirit of Jesus invites children to actively explore and make sense of their Catholic identity through everyday exchanges at home and at school – to see the gospel values in their lived experience. It includes sections on the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist to complement the Religious Education program and uses fun illustrations and a colourful layout that will engage young readers.

A WORD FROM 'MITCH', AUTHOR OF MAKE JESUS REAL (MJR)

For over 20 years I have been writing, developing, and teaching Make Jesus Real. Over this period, 'God Moments' became an often-used term for those times we saw God's presence in small acts of kindness, compassion, forgiveness, and more.

In 2014, I started to use the phrase 'the spirit of Jesus' – a phrase closely aligned with the cornerstone of our Catholic faith, the resurrection. I found that the students more easily identified with the term, as they readily saw the resurrected presence of Jesus in the NOW of their lives – through the acts of others.

As I have travelled around hundreds of schools across Australia, I have marvelled at the way teachers and students have become 'switched on' to the spirit of Jesus, how keen and enthusiastic they are, and how easily they understand the concept.

Written by Jason Perry, this book – *Spirit of Jesus* – for Years 3 and 4 will enable you to grow the spirit of Jesus in your class and in your school. You will find it exciting and rewarding. Our world really needs more of the spirit of Jesus.

Best wishes for a wonderful year with Spirit of Jesus!

Peter Mitchell

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

I have loved Make Jesus Real since I started out teaching 22 years ago in Tasmania and have used it in classrooms from Darwin to Melbourne to Hobart – and places in between! I am now a Principal of a school in Tassie where we have MJR as a whole school approach, from Prep to Grade 6.

In my years working with 'Make Jesus Real' it has been a real joy to see students grow in their faith, steadfast in the belief that the Spirit of Jesus is with them everyday. I am excited to be able to update this book for Years 3 and 4, and to continue to support them on their spiritual journey.

In writing this resource, there are many people I wish to thank. My wife Belinda, for being my support and sounding board, and my children Xavier and Isabella – who would be horrified if they knew how much I talk about them in the classroom!

Finally, a big thank you to Mitch for your friendship and guidance over many years. From humble beginnings you have created a resource that is now much loved and used by thousands of students across Australia.

All the best,

Jason Perry

Jason Perry



SPIRIT OF JESUS FOR YOUR SCHOOL

FOR TEACHERS

Welcome to the *Spirit of Jesus*, designed for Years 3 and 4.

While not a replacement for your Religious Education program, *Spirit of Jesus* will certainly complement it, as well as your Wellbeing and Social and Emotional Learning programs.

There is no right or wrong way to approach the teaching of this resource. Split the topics over two years or revisit them again and again over two years. Use the topics as 5–10min lessons, or expand them to larger lessons or units of work. There is so much flexibility!

This book includes a reflective journal at the back of the book, which students can use to reflect and record how they have seen the spirit of Jesus. It is divided into sections for Years 3 and Year 4 for your convenience.

FOR STUDENTS

This is your book for life. Treat it with respect, have fun, but most importantly, be honest. If you are to grow and develop your relationship with Jesus through the activities in this book then you must be honest. Don't write something that is what you think someone else 'wants to hear' even if it's for your friends, your teacher or your parents. This book is for you and you alone. Treasure it!

At the back of the book is a reflective journal for you to record where you have found the spirit of Jesus in your life.

FOR PARENTS

This book will help you in your unique role as the primary educators in your child's life. It will help equip them with skills and values such as resilience, teamwork, and gratitude. It will assist you in developing their understanding of their Catholic faith and the importance of an ongoing relationship with Jesus.

As educators, we hope your child will bring these concepts home to share with you. We think that you will notice a difference in your child as they develop their relationship with Jesus – a relationship they can have for life.

WHAT IS THE SPIRIT OF JESUS?

We often hear the word 'spirit' mentioned, and sometimes it's a difficult word to understand. The spirit of Jesus is something that we can feel in our hearts and see through other people.

If we have the spirit of Jesus in our hearts, then we are:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 😊 kind | 😊 forgiving |
| 😊 cheerful | 😊 welcoming |
| 😊 giving | 😊 encouraging |
| 😊 compassionate | 😊 thankful |
| 😊 friendly | |

When we see the spirit of Jesus working through each other we can say, "There is the spirit of Jesus!"



REFLECTION

Where did you see the spirit of Jesus today?

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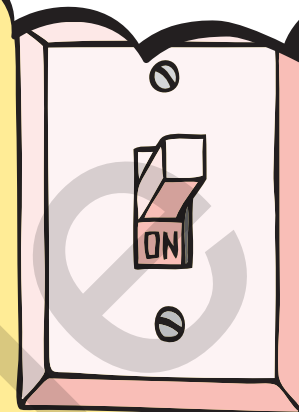
WHERE IS THE SPIRIT OF JESUS TODAY?

Jesus' message is just as important today as it was 2,000 years ago. Then, he told stories to spread the message of the gospel (good news). Now, he uses the people in our lives to get his gospel message across.

Today, the spirit of Jesus is in the everyday positive things that you see and hear people say and do.

Once you start being 'switched on' to these things you will be amazed how many you will see and hear. If you look around each day you can see so many people showing you how Jesus wants you to live.

BE SWITCHED ON!



ACTIVITY

Name someone (and their positive action) who has helped you in your life today.



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