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Dear Faculty, Staff, and Parents/Guardians:

We Christians are among those who believe in the reality of spirits. At the end of the day, there are only two kinds of spirit: Good and Evil. We can see clearly around us that evil is at work to divide, confuse, and break apart lives, families, and cultures. The evil one thrives on curiosity, and he is at work. The Holy Spirit comes to reconcile and bring healing. So we pray, "Come, Holy Spirit!"

Unfortunately on the heels of our celebration of Pentecost, "The Charlie Challenge," a game which invokes demons to come and communicate through a rudimentary "yes/no" matrix, has been trending on social media.

I am writing to state clearly that this is neither a joke nor a harmless "game." Summoning evil spirits is always dangerous. The Bible and the Catholic Church are very clear about the seriousness of dabbling in the occult.

Thanks be to God, those of us who have the Holy Spirit need have no fear of evil spirits. Even so, Christians, like others, can knowingly or unknowingly open themselves up to the influence of evil spirits.

In light of this recent "game," I thought it prudent to share a couple of articles that address it and place it in the context of the Church's teaching about the occult. I also recommend that families discretely explore whether their children have heard about the game or been involved with it, and talk with them about how serious this sort of "game" can be. (The first article offers good advice about how to respond should children have been involved in the game or other occult activities.)

[Where's Charlie? What Catholic Parents Need to Know About "the Charlie Challenge"](#)

[Catholic Priest warns participants of 'Charlie Charlie' Challenge summoning a demon is no joke - Living Faith - Home & Family - News - Catholic Online](#)

As always, we are committed to partnering with families in the formation of their children. Keeping them safe, both spiritually and physically, is our highest priority. Be assured of our prayers for you and your children. God bless you all.

With gratitude to the Holy Spirit Who guides us into all truth,

Rev. Steven M. Mattson