



The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit guides the Church and helps us to grow in Christ. "It is not only through the sacraments and the ministries of the Church that the Holy Spirit sanctifies and leads the people of God and enriches it with virtues, but, 'allotting his gifts to everyone according as He wills' (cf. 1 Cor. 12:11), He distributes special graces among the faithful of every rank... He makes them fit and ready to undertake the various tasks and offices which contribute toward the renewal and building up of the Church" (Lumen Gentium, Ch. II n. 12)

Quick Scripture

Galatians 4:6
Isaiah 11:1-5 (Gifts)
Gal. 5:22-23 (Fruits)
Romans 12:3-8
Luke 12:12
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
1 Corinthians 2:10
John 14:16-17

The Holy Spirit

◇ Who is the Holy Spirit?

- The Holy Spirit is "the third divine Person of the Blessed Trinity, the personal love of Father and Son for each other. Also called the Paraclete (Advocate) and Spirit of Truth, the Holy Spirit is at work with the Father and the Son from the beginning to the completion of the divine plan for our salvation" (CCC Glossary, cf. 152, 243)
- “To believe in the Holy Spirit is to profess that the Holy Spirit is one of the persons of the Holy Trinity, consubstantial [*of the same substance*] with the Father and the Son" (CCC 685)
 - “...with the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified” (Nicene Creed)
- “The Holy Spirit... builds, animates, and sanctifies the Church” (CCC 747). One way the Holy Spirit does this is by bestowing upon us seven gifts and multiple fruits.

◇ Gifts of the Holy Spirit

- “The moral life of Christians is sustained by the gifts of the Holy Spirit. These are permanent dispositions which make man docile in following the promptings of the Holy Spirit” (CCC 1830)
- “The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him: the spirit of **wisdom** and **understanding**, the spirit of **counsel** and **fortitude**, the spirit of **knowledge** and **godliness** [*piety*]. And he shall be filled with the spirit of the **fear of the Lord**” (Is. 11:2-3)
 - The first four gifts (wisdom, knowledge, counsel, and understanding the Holy Spirit) shape the mind as far as the person’s thoughts and reasoning. The other three (strength, reverence, and fear of the Lord) are those gifts where the Holy Spirit shapes your will, so that the soul chooses to follow the will of God (cf. *Summa Theo.*)
- These gifts “complete and perfect the virtues of those who receive them” (CCC 1831)

◇ Fruits of the Holy Spirit

- “The tradition of the Church lists twelve of them: “charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, chastity” (CCC 1832, cf. Gal. 5:22-23)
 - “The *fruits* of the Spirit are perfections that the Holy Spirit forms in us as the first fruits of eternal glory” (CCC 1832)
 - “The fruits of God’s Spirit really speak for themselves. When we manifest them in our lives, especially in the ways we relate to one another, they become the manifestation of God’s presence in the world” (www.pjpiisoe.org, Pamphlet 262)