

The 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Fortitude and Understanding

Document #: TX003143

Isaiah 11: 1-4

The Ideal Davidic King*

1 But a shoot shall sprout from the stump* of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom.

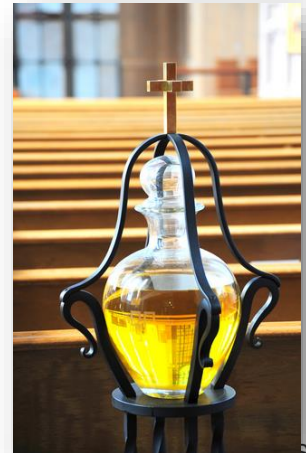
2 The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him: a spirit of **wisdom** and of **understanding**, A spirit of **counsel** and of **strength**, a spirit of **knowledge** and of **fear of the LORD**,

3 and his delight shall be the **fear of the LORD**. Not by appearance shall he judge, nor by hearsay shall he decide,

4 But he shall judge the poor with justice, and decide fairly for the land's afflicted. He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked.

Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit

1. Wisdom
2. Knowledge
3. Understanding
4. Counsel
5. Fortitude (Strength)
6. Piety (Fear of the Lord)
7. Fear of the Lord




Gift of the Holy Spirit: Fortitude (Strength/Courage)

- We overcome our fear and are willing to take risks as followers of Jesus.
- Willing to stand up for what is right in the sight of God, even if it means accepting rejection, verbal abuse, or even physical harm or death.
- Fortitude is both a gift of the Holy Spirit and a cardinal virtue

St. Maximilian Kolbe





Fortitude: A gift of the Holy Spirit

Gift of the Holy Spirit: Understanding

- While wisdom is the desire to contemplate the things of God, understanding allows us grasp, at least in a limited way, the very essence of the truths of the Catholic Faith.
- Through understanding, we gain a certitude about our beliefs that moves beyond faith.
- Once we become convinced through understanding of the truths of the Faith, we can also draw conclusions from those truths and arrive at a further understanding of man's relation to God and his role in the world.
- Understanding rises above natural reason, which is concerned only with the things we can sense in the world around us.



Understanding:

A gift of the Holy Spirit