

The Holy Spirit and the Life of Grace

SCRIPTURE QUOTES OF THE MONTH

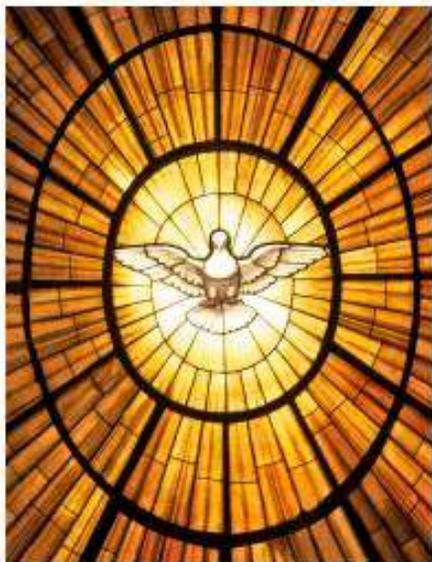
“In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, which is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.”

—Ephesians 1:13–14

“Likewise, the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words.” —Romans 8:26

OPENING PRAYER

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy his consolations. Through Christ Our Lord, Amen. “



Dove window in St. Peter's Basilica

O Holy Spirit, descend plentifully into my heart. Enlighten the dark corners of this neglected dwelling and scatter there Thy cheerful beams.” —St. Augustine

INTRODUCTION

It is the Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Holy Trinity—the bond of love between the Father and the Son—who dwells in our hearts and enables us to become sons and daughters of the Living God.

In this session, we take a closer look at

- ♥ who the Holy Spirit is,
- ♥ how the Spirit operates in our lives and in the life of the Church,
- ♥ why it is absolutely essential that we come to know and love the Spirit if we are to enter into full relationship with the Trinity.

In short, we will learn, in the words of the traditional prayer, why we need the Holy Spirit in our lives to “renew the face of the earth.”

VIEW THE VIDEO –

The gifts of the Spirit are wisdom, understanding, right judgment/counsel, courage/fortitude, knowledge, reverence/piety, and wonder/awe/fear of the Lord.

The fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity

REFLECTION QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL PRAYER

1. Why do you think the architect of the Basilica wanted the dove to shine light over the Chair of St. Peter?
2. What are some of the characteristics that wind and fire have in common with the Holy Spirit?
3. Do you have a favorite title or characteristic of the Holy Spirit? Why is it special to you?

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4. The fruits of the Holy Spirit include love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, and self-control. If you could choose one of these to be made manifest more in your life now, which one would you choose? Which one seems the easiest? Which one seems the hardest? Pray now that the Spirit will enter into your life and transform you with his fruits.

COMMIT

At the end of the video, we were asked two essential questions: Will you develop a relationship with the Holy Spirit? Will you take time to ask the Spirit to guide and shape your daily life? Reflect now on your response.

St. Augustine's Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Breathe into me, Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.

Move in me, Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy.

Attract my heart, Holy Spirit, that I may love only what is holy.

Strengthen me, Holy Spirit, that I may defend all that is holy.

Protect me, Holy Spirit, that I may always be holy.

Amen.

RESPOND TO THE PARISH: by telling us the image or the title or the characteristic of the Holy Spirit that is a favorite of yours.

Email your **word** to

corpuschristigenerations@gmail.com or

A SUMMARY OF THE MAIN POINTS PRESENTED IN THE VIDEO

- The Holy Spirit is the Third Divine Person of the Holy Trinity, the bond of love between the Father and the Son (CCC 684–685).
- Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to build, animate, and sanctify the church and bring souls into communion with God so that they bear fruit and give witness to Christ (CCC 737ff).
- The Holy Spirit does this through the Church's proclamation of the Gospel, through the sacraments, and through working in the moral and spiritual life of the Christian (CCC 738).
- God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5; CCC 735).
- Through the power of the Spirit, Christians can bear much fruit, such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, and self-control (CCC 736).
- These fruits are seen when we live less for self and walk more in the Spirit (CCC 736).
- The Holy Spirit sanctifies us, makes us holy, through grace, which is a participation in the life of God. God's divine life is infused into the soul by the Spirit to heal it of sin and to sanctify it (CCC 1996–2000).
- Faith and works are interrelated in God's plan of salvation. Being liberated from sin and becoming a son or a daughter of God is a free gift given to us through faith, but we remain in God's family and mature as His spiritual children through love and good works. Thus, faith and love together lead us on toward eternal life (CCC 1987-1995).