

MORE TO PRAY

Tuesday: *"I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, which the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows it. But you know it, because it remains with you, and will be in you." (John 14: 16-17)*

We may know about the Holy Spirit, but do we know Him in a personal way? Do we believe He is present with us? *"For the prophetic gifts remain with us, even to the present time." (St. Justin Martyr)*

Wednesday: *"If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?" (Luke 11: 13)*

We may have been baptized and confirmed, but still not aware of the need to deliberately invite the Holy Spirit to be at work in our lives. We have to ask him to come. Consider spending time in Adoration during the Mass with Healing Prayers tonight beginning at 7:00pm and ask the Holy Spirit to illuminate any areas of your life that might still block you from being open to His gifts so they may be healed. Be open to receiving the intercessory prayers of a priest as you pray.

Thursday: *"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace. Whoever preaches, let it be with the words of God; whoever serves, let it be with the strength that God supplies, so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen" (1 Peter 4: 10-11)*

When we open ourselves with docility and ask for a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit, God offers his supernatural gifts and charisms to help us reach out to others for their transformation, building up the Body of Christ. *"Open yourselves docilely to the gifts of the Spirit! Accept gratefully and obediently the charisms which the Spirit never ceases to bestow on us!" (Saint John Paul II)*

Friday: *"For as in one body we have many parts, and all the parts do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ and individually parts of one another. Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us exercise them." (Romans 12: 4-6)*

Individual people have different gifts, but together the Church shares all of them.

Saturday: Take time to review your week. Have you been more aware of the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life?

FASTING AND ALMSGIVING

Only the Holy Spirit can make us holy, but we can spur the Spirit to help us. Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are ways of seeking the Holy Spirit's help so that we begin to cooperate with his work in us. Fasting can help clear our minds and hearts so that we have a greater awareness of our neighbors in need and God's presence in us and the world. This week, choose a day to fast beyond the Lenten obligation of Friday, eating only one full meal unless you're unable to do so for health reasons.

LED BY THE SPIRIT: A LENTEN JOURNEY WITH JESUS CHRIST

SAINT ANDREW APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mission Leader: Father Daniel P. Leary

February 11 - March 25, 2018

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM



SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2018

WEEK 3: THE GIFT OF THE SPIRIT

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MORE TO LEARN

- ◆ When his visible presence was taken from them, Jesus did not leave his disciples orphans. He promised to remain with them until the end of time; he sent them his Spirit. As a result communion with Jesus has become, in a way, more intense. (CCC 788)
- ◆ Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the spirit. The two principal effects are purification from sins and new birth in the Holy Spirit as an adoptive son or daughter of the Father. (CCC 1213, 1262)
- ◆ The Sacrament of Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace and enriches us with a special strength of the Holy Spirit, increasing our gifts of the Holy Spirit and obliging us to spread and defend the faith by word and deed. (CCC 1285)
- ◆ Baptism, Confirmation, and also Holy Orders, impart a specific permanent seal upon the recipient known as a sacramental character, and therefore cannot be repeated.
- ◆ The Eucharist, along with Baptism and Confirmation, is the third Sacrament of Initiation and nourishes us with Christ's Body and Blood for our transformation in Christ. (CCC 1275)
- ◆ "Baptism in the Holy Spirit" is fully releasing the gifts we received through the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, allowing the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in your life to work through you and in you for the benefit of other people.
- ◆ Charisms, whether extraordinary like the gift of miracles or tongues or simple and humble, are graces distributed by the Holy Spirit which should be accepted with gratitude and obedience. (CCC 800, 2003)

MY NOTES:

MORE TO SHARE

- ◆ Do you feel that you have a relationship with the Holy Spirit? Do you pray to the Person of the Holy Spirit? Why or why not? At what times might you call on the power of the Spirit to help you?
- ◆ Have you consciously and deliberately asked the Holy Spirit to take control of your life and do all as God wishes, or are you doing everything your own way according to your free will?
- ◆ In St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians (*Gal 5: 22-23*), he identifies the 9 Fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Of all the Fruits, which have you most experienced as receiving and then bringing to others?
- ◆ Have you ever felt prompted by the Holy Spirit to say or do something that you might not have thought of on your own? What happened? What helped you to listen to the Spirit in that situation? Why might help you to better listen to the Spirit's promptings in the future?
- ◆ We receive the Spirit in the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, but the graces of these sacraments are still at work in our lives. How might you go about asking God for more of the Spirit?

MORE TO PRAY

Daily Prayer for the Week:

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy. Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy. Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy. Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy. Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, that I may always be holy. Amen. (Saint Augustine)

Daily Reflections

Monday: *"When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim." (Acts 2: 1-4)*

Ask the Blessed Mother to give you the grace to trust God and all the gifts He wants to give to you. Pray the rosary today (*Glorious Mysteries*) and contemplate her example of trust and cooperation with the Holy Spirit.