



The Grace Of Pentecost

Catechetical Certification
Year 3 “The Trinity”
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The Holy Spirit in Scripture

- God breathed the “breath of life” into the nostrils of Adam (Genesis 2:7)
- Moses the 70 Elders and Eldad and Medad (Numbers 11:24-29)
- Zechariah and the rebuilding of the Temple (Zechariah 4:6)
- Water flowing from the temple - The vision of Ezekiel (Ezekiel 47)

The Holy Spirit In Scripture

- The promise of a new heart and God placing His “spirit” within us (Ezekiel 36: 26-28)
- The promise of the coming of the Messiah with the Spirit of the Lord resting upon him (Isaiah 11)
- The anointed will bring “Glad tidings (Good News) to those bound in oppression and unable to grasp God’s promises (Isaiah 61)
- The prophet Joel prophesying that God would “pour out the Holy Spirit in the last days.”

The Holy Spirit In Scripture

- Calling forth of John the Baptist who would go forth in the power of Elijah (who was very anointed in the Holy Spirit) and be “filled” with the Holy Spirit even from birth to turn the hearts of children back to their fathers and prepare a people for the Lord (Luke 1:11-17)

The Holy Spirit In Scripture

- The Annunciation and Mary being “overshadowed” by the Holy Spirit conceiving Jesus Christ. (Luke 1:35-37)
- Zechariah’s Canticle (Luke 1: 67-79)
- The Presentation in the Temple with Anna and Simeon (Luke 2: 25-40)

The Holy Spirit In Scripture

- John baptized with water as a baptism of repentance - Jesus will baptize with “fire and the Holy Spirit” (Luke 3:16)
- Jesus’ proclamation in the synagogue in Nazareth that Isaiah 61 had been fulfilled in Him (Luke 4: 14-19)
- Jesus in the desert being filled by the Holy Spirit and led by the Holy Spirit (Luke 4:1-13)

The Holy Spirit In Scripture

- Promise of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to those who “ask” (Luke 11:11-12)
- Promise of the Holy Spirit who will provide testimony on behalf of God (Luke 12:11-12)
- Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is the one unforgivable sin (Luke 12:10)

The Holy Spirit In Scripture

- The need to be “born again” of water and the Spirit (John 3: 1-8)
- Promise of the sending of the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth and remind us of what Jesus taught. (John 14: 25-27)
- Jesus taught with authority (anointing of the Holy Spirit) unlike the Scribes and Pharisees (Matthew 7: 29)

The Need For A New Pentecost

The work initiated by the Second Vatican Council has been a source of hope and joy for the entire church. A spiritual resurgence since that time has both inspired and encouraged the faithful. There remain, however, many areas where growth is still needed and where the power of the Spirit is sorely lacking.

From our experience, the greatest area of concern is the need for a more fully evangelized and evangelizing community.' Today this truth presses upon our lived experience with an ever-increasing sense of urgency. The disintegration of family life, the decrease in priestly and religious vocations, wasteful consumption, forgetfulness of the poor-these and many other factors are symptoms of the Catholic community's weakened state. It has left the community prey to the pressures of a secular world where the media repeatedly mock the gospel

The Need For A New Pentecost

The need for conversion is evident. A weakened community will not easily provide the environment necessary for families to communicate the faith to the next generation, nor the vocations needed to serve the church. A weakened community will not reclaim the great losses experienced within various ethnic groups attracted by other church groups. A weakened community will not bring a vibrant faith to our revised liturgical rites, nor support the type of parish that fosters life in the Spirit. Such a community cannot evangelize effectively, cannot hand on its faith to its own children, cannot reach out to those who have drifted away, so to fulfill the church's very mission and identity.

What's The Answer'

We believe that the solution to these problems lies in a deep personal conversion to Christ, in sanctification and in fuller life in the Holy Spirit.

Fanning The Flame pp. 10-11

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Many young people today lack hope. They are perplexed by the questions that present themselves ever more urgently in a confusing world, and they are often uncertain which way to turn for answers. They see poverty and injustice and they long to find solutions. They are challenged by the arguments of those who deny the existence of God and they wonder how to respond. They see great damage done to the natural environment through human greed and they struggle to find ways to live in greater harmony with nature and with one another.

Where can we look for answers? The Spirit points us towards the way that leads to life, to love and to truth. The Spirit points us towards Jesus Christ. There is a saying attributed to Saint Augustine: "If you wish to remain young, seek Christ". In him we find the answers that we are

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seeking, we find the goals that are truly worth living for, we find the strength to pursue the path that will bring about a better world. Our hearts find no rest until they rest in the Lord, as Saint Augustine says at the beginning of the Confessions, the famous account of his own youth. My prayer is that the hearts of the young people who gather in Sydney for the celebration of World Youth Day will truly find rest in the Lord, and that they will be filled with joy and fervour for spreading the Good News among their friends, their families, and all whom they meet.

Pope Benedict XVI - World Youth Day 2008

My Hopes

- Strength in the inner-self
- Empowerment to face your personal “Goliaths” (Isaiah 61)
- Rediscovering Jesus as our Divine Physician
- Seeing your life and the world as Jesus sees it.
- A new outpouring of the gift of JOY!
- A new appreciation of the charisms and grace of Pentecost.

Mighty Spirit

There is a mighty spirit
Shining out across the sky
He's calling out the weary
To green pastures, come and
lie

There is a mighty spirit
Crossing barren lands
He's sowing love unceasing
Fresh fruit spring from the
sand
Harvest time is coming
The reapers in His hands
Go tell everybody
That love is His command

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