



RCIA

Rite of Catholic Initiation of Adults
Holy Trinity – The Holy Spirit



Opening Prayer



Holy Spirit

- Third Person of the Holy Trinity
- Work of Sanctification, i.e. make holy
 - Guides us
 - Unites us
 - Empowers us



Jesus promised us the Holy Spirit

- John 14:16-17
“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.”



The Holy Spirit *Guides Us*

- John 14:26
“But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, **will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.**”



The Holy Spirit *Guides Us*

- John 16:12-15
‘**I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.** When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into **all the truth**; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”



The Source Of Christian Truth

- One *Word* of God, Two Forms
 - Various truths inspired by the Holy Spirit
 - Sacred Tradition
 - Teaching Authority of the Church
 - Written – Sacred Scripture



The Source Of Christian Truth

- CCC 66: '... no new public revelation is to be expected before the glorious manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ.'
- Even though Revelation is already complete, it has not been made completely explicit; it remains for Christian faith gradually to grasp its full significance over the course of the centuries.



Jesus sent down the Holy Spirit

- John 20:21-23

Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'
- Fulfilled at Pentecost:
Acts 2:1-12

Acts 2:1-12 (The Coming Of the Holy Spirit)

1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the **rush of a violent wind**, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 **Divided tongues, as of fire**, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. 5 Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6 And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. 7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? 9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' 12 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?'



Wind & Fire – Jewish Context

- In Hebrew, wind = *ruah*
 - Also translated as "Spirit of God".
- The burning bush (Exodus 3:3-6)
- God coming down on Mt Sinai as thunder and flashes of lightning (Exodus 19:16-18)
- Thus, Luke uses the image of "strong wind" and "tongues of fire" to depict the Holy Spirit on Pentecost day.

Genesis 11:1-9 (Tower of Babel)

1 Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. 2 And as they migrated from the east, they came upon a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. 3 And they said to one another, 'Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly.' And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. 4 Then they said, 'Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves; otherwise we shall be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.' 5 The Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which mortals had built. 6 And the Lord said, 'Look, they are one people, and they have all one language; and this is only the beginning of what they will do; nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. 7 Come, let us go down, and confuse their language there, so that they will not understand one another's speech.' 8 So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. 9 Therefore it was called Babel, because there the Lord confused* the language of all the earth; and from there the Lord scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.



Tower of Babel

- Genesis 11:1-9
- All people spoke one language. Their pride urges them to build a tower that reaches heaven.
- God made them speak different languages and scattered them all over the world.



The Holy Spirit *Unites Us*

- People from “every nation under heaven” understood the Apostles in each “own native language”.
- What sin splits apart, the Holy Spirit joins back together.



The Holy Spirit *Unites Us*

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Holy Spirit In The Old Testament

- Genesis 1:2
The earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters.
- Numbers 11:25
Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied.
- Wisdom 9:17
Who has learned your counsel, unless you have given wisdom and sent your holy spirit from on high?



Holy Spirit In The Old Testament

- Genesis 41:38
Pharaoh said to his servants, ‘Can we find anyone else like this—one in whom is the spirit of God?’
- Act 1:16
“... which the Holy Spirit through David foretold ...”
- Act 28:25
“The Holy Spirit was right in saying to your ancestors through the prophet Isaiah, ...”



Holy Spirit & Jesus

- Holy Spirit **anointed** Jesus
Acts 10:38
God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.
- Holy Spirit **guided** Jesus
Luke 4:1
Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ...
- Holy Spirit **empowered** Jesus
Luke 4:14
Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, ...



Making God Presence Real

- Jesus is the sacrament of God
 - Jesus made God present to the world of his time
- The Church is the sacrament of Jesus
 - The Church made Jesus present in today's world
- The Holy Spirit *unites* us
 - The Holy Spirit forms us into Christ's body, the Church.
 - The Holy Spirit made God present on earth through the *community* of Jesus followers, the Church



The Origin of the Holy Spirit

- "Proceeds from the Father and the Son".
- The Spirit is generated by the love between the Father and the Son.



The Holy Spirit *Empowers* Us

- "Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 18:18)
 - Authority
- "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8)
 - Dynamism ("Power" = *Dunamis*)



The Holy Spirit *Empowers* Us

- Pentecost Day:
 - Disciples hid in the room, afraid of the Romans.
 - After the Holy Spirit descended upon them, they went out to preach boldly.



Tabernacle of the Holy Spirit

- John 14:16-17

"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because **he abides with you, and he will be in you.**"
- 1 Corinthians 3:16

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that **God's Spirit dwells in you?**
- 1 Corinthians 6:19

Or do you not know that **your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you**, which you have from God, and that you are not your own?



Tabernacle of the Holy Spirit

- Every soul in a state of grace is a living tabernacle of the Holy Spirit.
- We received the Holy Spirit through Baptism and Confirmation:

For in the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body - Jews or Greeks, slaves or free - and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12:13)
- Instead of creating me, with the same facility, God could have created a great saint or a glorious angel.
- He created me because He loves me with an infinite love.

Exodus 13:21-22 (Pillar of Cloud & Fire)

21 The Lord went in front of them in a pillar of cloud by day, to lead them along the way, and in a pillar of fire by night, to give them light, so that they might travel by day and by night. 22 Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people.



Pillar of Cloud & Fire

- Exodus 13:21-22
- The Israelites were led by a Pillar of Cloud by day and a Pillar of Fire by night
 - It is same pillar!
 - We are like the pillar and the Holy Spirit like the fire within it.
 - In our darkest moment, the fire shows up, to give light.



The Likeness and Image of God

- We are created in the image of God, not just in external appearance.
- He made our soul immortal as Himself.
- He gave us a free will that nothing can coerce.
- He gave us the Holy Spirit to dwell in our soul.



Gifts of Holy Spirit (Isaiah 11:2-3)

- The Gifts build up the body of Christ, making it holy.
 - Enlightenment & Intelligence (*Guidance*)
 - Knowledge
 - Understanding
 - Wisdom
 - Counsel (proclamation of God)
 - Strengthen Our Wills (*Empowerment*)
 - Fortitude/Might (mental and emotional strength)
 - Piety (reverence for God)
 - Fear of the Lord



Gifts of Holy Spirit

- 1 Corinthians 12:4-11
(Other Gifts of the Holy Spirit)

Isaiah 11:2-3 (Gifts of the Holy Spirit)

2 And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of **wisdom** and **understanding**, the spirit of **counsel** and **might**, the spirit of **knowledge** and of **piety**. 3 And his delight shall be in **the fear of the Lord**. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear.

1 Corinthians 12:4-11 (Other Gifts of the Holy Spirit)

4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5 and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8 To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of **wisdom**, and to another the utterance of **knowledge** according to the same Spirit, 9 to another **faith** by the same Spirit, to another gifts of **healing** by the one Spirit, 10 to another the **working of miracles**, to another **prophecy**, to another the **discernment of spirits**, to another **various kinds of tongues**, to another the **interpretation of tongues**. 11 All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

Other Gifts of the Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 12:4-11	1 Corinthians 12:27-30	Romans 12:6-8	Ephesians 4:11
Word of Wisdom	Apostles	Prophecy	Apostles
Word of Knowledge	Prophets	Ministry	Prophets
Faith	Teachers	Teaching	Evangelists
Healings	Miracles	Exhortation	Pastors
Working of miracles	Healings	Giving	Teachers
Prophecy	Help	Leading	
Discernment of spirits	Administration	Showing mercy	
Speaking in tongues	Varieties of tongues		
Interpretation of tongues			



Fruits of Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)

- Fruits flow from the Gifts
 - Love
 - Joy
 - Peace
 - Patience
 - Kindness
 - Goodness
 - Faithfulness
 - Gentleness
 - Self-Control

Galatians 5:22-23 (Fruits of the Holy Spirit)

22 By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.

Question 1



- In which book of the Bible does it says that the Holy Spirit is God?
 - Not explicitly mentioned in the Bible.
 - The Divinity of Holy Spirit was revealed to us via the First Council of Constantinople (381 AD)

Question 2





- How does Australia got its name?
 - La Austrialia del Espiritu Santo
 - Means "South Land of the Holy Spirit"
 - The name given to Vanuatu by Spanish / Portuguese explorer Luis Váez de Torres







Who Wants To Be The Kingdom's Heir?

- 
1. Which is the central belief of our Catholic Faith?
- a. Jesus became one of us and died to redeem us
 - b. The Catholic Church is always right
 - c. The Trinitarian nature of our God
 - d. The Holy Spirit forgives our sins if we are sorry

- 
2. What does "Spirit" mean?
- a. Fire or flame
 - b. Breath or wind
 - c. Anointed one
 - d. Invisible being

- 
3. Where is the first actual mention of the Holy Spirit in Scriptures?
- a. The creation story in Genesis
 - b. The Annunciation in Luke's Gospel
 - c. The Baptism of Jesus in Matthew's Gospel
 - d. Pentecost in the Acts of the Apostles

- 
4. What Spirit-initiated New Testament do we celebrate as the birthday of the Catholic Church?
- a. The Annunciation
 - b. The Nativity or Christmas
 - c. The Resurrection or Easter
 - d. The Pentecost

- 
5. Where do we find the gifts of the Holy Spirit mentioned for the first time in Scripture?
- a. Isaiah
 - b. Gospel of John
 - c. Acts of the Apostles
 - d. 1 Corinthians



6. Why do we picture the Holy Spirit as a dove?

- a. The dove is a symbol of peace
- b. A dove brought Noah the good news that the flood was over
- c. The Holy Spirit appeared as a dove at the baptism of Jesus
- d. A monk in the 15th Century painted the Holy Spirit as a dove



7. What does Paraclete mean?

- a. Advocate
- b. Consoler
- c. Spirit of Truth
- d. Mediator



8. What did Jesus mean when He said He was going to leave so He could send us the Paraclete?

- a. The Persons of the Trinity took turns being the "focus" in salvation history – first the Father, then Jesus, and finally the Spirit
- b. Jesus had to redeem us before we could experience the Spirit
- c. It was just Jesus way of letting us know the Holy Spirit
- d. Jesus needs to leave before the Spirit can commence his work




9. What does "the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son" mean?

- a. The Father and Son existed before the Holy Spirit
- b. The Holy Spirit came before the Father and the Son
- c. The Holy Spirit is actually the love generated between the Father and the Son
- d. The Holy Spirit comes to us when we pray to the Father and the Son



10. The Holy Spirit speaks to us

- a. True
- b. False



Tea Break



Discussion

- The Holy Spirit is God dwelling within us? The Holy Spirit guides, empowers and unites us.
 - Have you ever experience having an "inner strength" within you?
- We are created in the image of God:
 - Our souls are immortal
 - We are gifted with a free will that nothing can coerce
 - God the Spirit dwells in us.

Reflect on the above.



Recap

- Third Person of the Holy Trinity
- Sent upon us by Jesus to continue his work
- Work of Sanctification, i.e. make holy
 - Guides us
 - Empowers us
 - Unites us
- Reveals God's Truth to us.
- Holy Spirit dwells in us.



Q&A



RCIA Commitment

- Attendance at all evening sessions
 - Evening sessions on every Tuesday, 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm. Please be punctual.
- Attendance at all weekend masses (from Week 7)
- Inform RCIA Coordinator (Howard) if you are unable to attend any session.
- Support and pray for each other



Contacts

- Name list will be prepared midway through this Pre-Catechumenate (Finding Out) period
- In the meantime, any questions/problems/issues, contact:


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Alternatively, you may also contact the Parish Priest.




Further Readings

- *Path Through Catholicism*
(ISBN 0-7829-0971-X)
Chapter 7
- *Catholic and Christian*
(ISBN 0-89283-181-2)
Chapter 6



Notices




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THE SPIRIT SONG

O let the Son of God enfold you
 With His Spirit and His love.
 Let Him fill your hearts
 and satisfy your soul.
 O let Him have the things that hold you
 And His Spirit like a dove
 Will descend upon your life
 and make you whole.



Jesus, O Jesus come and fill Your lambs.
 Jesus, O Jesus come and fill Your lambs.

O come and sing
 this song with gladness,
 As your hearts are filled with joy.
 Lift your hands in sweet
 surrender to His name.



O give Him all your tears and sadness,
 Give Him all your years of pain,
 And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.
 Jesus, O Jesus come and fill Your lambs.
 Jesus, O Jesus come and fill Your lambs

