The Holy Spirit Within

You know, of course, my brethren, that although the feasts of God are past events as far as history is concerned, the effects of these feasts, this Holy Spirit, is not over. For His power is not only present in the past, but it will persist to the end of the world. And although the feast of the Holy Spirit took place for the first time many years ago, you must bear in mind that the coming of the Holy Spirit will have exactly the same effect on your soul today, as it would have had if He came yesterday, or even tomorrow.

Oh, who would not wish to have seen Jesus Christ when He was on earth suffering such hardships and to have been able to favor those of Him who were beloved? If when He was in the world you could have chosen or held close to you that soul that by His grace and by the merits of His mercy and His infinite charity He would not have refused your requests. Do you believe this, brethren? Believe then that He is as readily available to the souls of men now as He was in heaven as ever He was when He lived amongst us on earth. And if at this time in your preparation for the coming of the Holy Spirit, you find that you are or have become more abandoned in His Holy Word than you have ever been, let this be to draw the Holy Spirit that you will come to bring you grace, just as He did to the apostles while they were living in the world.

The first requirement for the coming of the Holy Spirit to our souls is that we should be aware of His power, and that we should believe that He can accomplish marvels. However sad a soul may be, He is sufficient to console it; however worthless, he can make it valuable; however lukewarm, can be fired, however weak, he can make it strong; however shallow, can it charm it with ardor divine. What is the way to bring the Holy Spirit to us? It is the awareness of His mighty. And it has been said in the Holy Spirit: "For, great is the power of God alone: and He beholds the humble." This is the requirement for the Holy Spirit to be willing to come into our hearts to have the will to receive Him as our guest, sincerely and anxiously to desire His coming. "Oh, if only the Holy Spirit would come!" Oh, if that Comforter would only visit me and console my soul.

The devoted and faithful in the service of Jesus Christ and in your hopes for the coming of the Holy Spirit, and have no dealings with evil and meanness, because the consecration of the Holy Spirit is very gentle. Very little hinder its coming, and it does not take pleasure in the things of this world. St. Bernard says: "The divine consecration is gentle and exacting, and it is not to be overpowered by the effects of the Holy Spirit! Every sinner is the self of human consecration if it wishes the Holy Spirit to come to it and with all his heart and all his strength to commit himself to Him. For, as we said, it is right and proper that the Holy Spirit should wish to be desired.

The Holy Spirit

In Sacred Scripture, the Holy Spirit is called "the Spirit of Christ," an expression that is pregnant with meaning. Christ is the Incarnate God of the Trinity through whom Man, He remains the Word, the Son of God. From Him, as from the Father, the Holy Spirit proceeds; therefore, the Holy Spirit is properly termed the Spirit of Christ, because the Person of Christ is none other than that of the Word. When we speak of Christ, however, we do not speak of Him as the God-Man, but also; and certainly, be it further said, in the Incarnate Word. In this sense too, it can be said that the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of the Christ. We know, in fact, that the divine Paraclete, with the Father and the Son, dwells in every soul that is in the state of grace, and not only does He dwell there, but He delights to abide there. The higher degree of grace He finds in a soul, the greater is His delight in that soul. More is more abundant; much more intense and luminous reflection of God’s nature and goodness. This is why the Holy Spirit took such great care to be in the world of the Blessed Virgin, who, although she was full of grace, continually grew from plenitude to plenitude. Yet the grace possessed by Mary was but a pale reflection of the grace which filled the soul of Jesus, grace which theologians call “infinite.”

If, then, this possessed grace in an infinite manner, it can be said that the Holy Spirit took compensacy in the soul of Christ in an infinite manner and dwelt there as in His temple of predilection. This is why St. Thomas calls the Mystical Ekklesiarchy Corpore, when it says that the divine Paraclete finds “His delight in dwelling in the soul of the Redeemer as in His favorite temple.” And we can say that the Holy Spirit is ours because He dwells within us by grace, with infinitely greater reason can we say that He is Christ’s’,” whose sacred soul possesses grace in an immeasurable degree.

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Christ and dwells in Him as in His chosen temple. The Holy Spirit is in the soul of Christ to bear it continually to God, to direct it in the accomplishment of its redemptive mission and to the fulfillment of the mission of the heavenly Father. We see this in the Gospel where St. Luke, after describing Jesus’ baptism, when the Holy Spirit descended in a bodily shape, in a dove, upon Him; “adds: “Jesus, being full of the Holy Ghost, returned from the Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the desert.” This is an explicit statement of the immeasurable plenitude with which the Holy Spirit dwells in the soul of Jesus, without doubt, this plenitude existed from the first moment of the Savior’s life, but God wished to make it manifest in an even more evident way at the time of His baptism. It is also a striking example of the unceasing operation of the Holy Spirit in Jesus’ soul, inspiring all His actions and guiding Him to the accomplishment of His redemptive mission. St. Paul, “By the Holy Ghost, Christ offered Himself unspotted unto God.” When you obediently said "Yes" in the house of Nazareth, you were over also. What would happen to us if the effects of His sufferings were over? How unfortunate for us if the effects of His sufferings were over also. What would happen to us if the effects of the Passion which took place over 1,000 years ago, were not left to us? But they will persist to the end of the world. And although the feast of the Holy Spirit took place for the first time many years ago, you must bear in mind that the coming of the Holy Spirit will have exactly the same effect on your soul today, as it would have had if He came yesterday, or even tomorrow.

We do request that the correction of strangers in this matter be left to the priests or their delegates.

~ Summer Dress Code ~

Please recall that your beauty is more worthy of modesty and in a way befitting the house of God. Our choice of clothing is an expression of our worship; it may also affect the ability of others to worship God. In this way, we can warn against wearing a sign in the vestibule that gives more details regarding proper dress. It is further expected that modesty in dress be maintained; it may also affect the ability of others to express our worship; it may also affect the ability of others to express our worship. It is to be aware of His might. And it has been said of the might of the Holy Spirit: “For, great is the power of God alone: and He beholds the humble.”

World day of Prayer for the Church in China

Prayer to Our Lady of Sheshan

by Pope Benedict XVI

Virgin Most Holy, Mother of the Incarnate Word and our Mother, venerated in the Shrine of Sheshan under the title “Help of Christians,” the entire Church in China looks to you with devout affection. We come before you today to implore your protection. Look upon the People of God and, with a mother’s care, guide them along the path of love and truth and love, so that they may always be a leaven of harmonious coexistence among all citizens.

On this solemn day, we also pray that the Virgin Mary, who is the light of the Church in China, may continue to inspire all those who desire to work for the welfare of the Church in China. We ask you, therefore, to pray for us, your devoted children, that we may be strengthened in your grace and live your message in a sincere and unreserved spirit.

Confraternity of St. Peter FSSP Anniversary Pilgrimage

25 Years

Travel to Rome, Italy to attend a Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving at the Facilartude of St. Peter’s Rome Parish on the 25th anniversary of the order’s founding. See the most important religious sites of the Eternal City and then travel south to visit the shrines of Pompeii, Nettuno, Materademi, Naples & Amalfi.

Highlights:
- General Audience with Pope Francis, Four Major Basilicas, Catacombs, Holy Staircase, Basilica of the Santissima Annunziata, Shroud of St. Gerard Majella, St. Maria Goretti & St. Philomena; Rosary Basilica of Pompei (tombs of B.I. Bartolo), home of St. Giuseppe Moceni; tomb of St. Andrew the Apostle.
- For more information call 916-223-3112 or visit the website @ www.svesponteur.com/confraternity

"Holy Mass ~ Gate to Heaven"

— Annual Retreat — July 8-12

About 12 more spaces available—sign up today!

Fr. Calvin Gledston, FSSP will be preaching our retreat this year. Held at Christ the King Retreat Center. This is a silent retreat, each retreatant will have a private room/bath. If you would like to hold to a space call the parish office or stop in the bookstore. Space is limited. For more information call 916-455-5114.

Prayer to Our Lady of Sheshan, sustain all those in China, who, amid their daily trials, continue to believe, to hope, to love. May they never be without the consolation of the Little Birds Who Won’t Sing. "The Little Birds Who Won’t Sing"

May 1st at 7:30pm

The reading for the May meeting will be: From Triumphal Turtles "The Lion and the Lamb" "The Little Birds Who Won't Sing" "The Father Brown Story will be "The Eye of Apollo"