

FROM THE BALTIMORE CATECHISM

SPECIAL STUDY LESSON:

The Holy Ghost - (the Holy Spirit)

Who is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is God and the third Person of the Blessed Trinity.

The Holy Spirit, symbolized by a dove, comes from the Father and the Son like love from the heart. He is the mutual Love of the FATHER and the Son.

From Whom does the Holy Spirit proceed?

The Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son.

Is the Holy Spirit equal to the Father and the Son?

The Holy Spirit is equal to the Father and the Son because He is God.

What does the Holy Spirit do for the salvation of mankind?

The Holy Spirit dwells in the Church as the source of its life and sanctifies souls through the gift of Grace.

What is grace?

Grace is a supernatural gift of God bestowed on us through the merits of Jesus Christ for our salvation.

What are the chief supernatural powers that are bestowed on our soul with sanctifying grace?

The chief supernatural powers that are bestowed on our souls with sanctifying grace are the three theological virtues (FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY) and THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY GHOST.

What are the seven Gifts of the Holy Ghost?

The seven Gifts of the Holy Ghost are: WISDOM, UNDERSTANDING, COUNSEL, FORTITUDE, KNOWLEDGE, PIETY AND FEAR OF THE LORD.

How do the Gifts of the Holy Ghost help us?

The Gifts of the Holy Ghost help us by making us more alert to discern and more ready to do the will of God.

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit enable us to catch the Breath of the Holy Spirit, moving the ship of our soul much faster and farther than we could ever sail it by using the virtues ourselves.

For example: we can use the virtue of FAITH by making an act of Faith. But to use this virtue of Faith constantly, being aware of God's presence in us and about us at all times, is more than we can do ourselves unless the Holy Spirit does it in us.

What are some of the effects in us of the Gifts of the Holy Ghost?

Some of the effects in us of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit are the FRUITS OF THE HOLY GHOST AND THE BEATITUDES.

Which are the TWELVE FRUITS OF THE HOLY GHOST?

The Twelve Fruits (effects) of the Holy Ghost are: Charity, Joy, Peace, Patience, benignity, goodness, long-suffering, mildness, faith, modesty, continency, and chastity.