

4: Reflections upon “Holy Wisdom”

King Solomon asked for the Gift of: “a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil ...” (1 Kings 3:5, 7-12) He is famous for his **God-given Wisdom**.

What is Wisdom?

- 1: The quality of having experience, knowledge and good judgement.
- 2: The body of knowledge and experience that develops within a society or period. (*pocket Oxford English Dictionary*)

In the Judaeo - Christian tradition, i.e.: from both Old and New Testament to present day, Wisdom in the Catechism of the Catholic Church is “a spiritual Gift which enables one to know the purpose and plan of God; one of the seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit (*which has been given and received in the Sacrament of Confirmation*). Wisdom is also the name of one of the books of the Old Testament.”

By the way: The Beautiful Basilica “**Church of Hagia Sophia**”, means “**Holy Wisdom**”. Built in A.D. 537 in the Roman Imperial City of Constantinople, the city fell to the Ottomans and to Islam on 29th May A.D. 1453. The City was renamed “Istanbul”, and **Hagia Sophia** became a Mosque until 1935 when it became a museum. The **Church of Holy Wisdom** has once again become a Mosque ...

What, or, better, Who, is Holy Wisdom?

The Person of Jesus Christ, the Word-made-Flesh and Blood, the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, Who continues to dwell amongst us: Truly Present in all our Churches in the Most Blessed Sacrament in the Tabernacle of the Altar.

The Supernatural Gift of Wisdom of the Holy Spirit given and received in the Sacrament of Confirmation is for us **to know how to love God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength, and to love others as ourselves!**

It is the Gift which moves us to judge all things human and divine, as God sees them and to have relish (*great enjoyment*) for the things of God.

LET US PRAY for the renewal and new outpouring of this Supernatural Gift upon ourselves, our families: especially those who have fallen away from Belief, Worship and Faith in God, and upon our peoples, nations and political leaders in these difficult days ahead:

**“We know that by turning everything to their good
God co-operates with all those who love Him,
with all those He has called according to His purpose.”** (*Romans 8:28*)

**“O Wisdom, You come forth from the Mouth of the Most High.
You fill the universe and hold all things together in a strong
yet gentle manner. O come to teach us the Way of Truth!”**

The Magnificat Antiphon for Evening Prayer of 17th December

**“SAVE US, SAVIOUR OF THE WORLD,
FOR BY YOUR CROSS AND RESURRECTION - YOU HAVE SET US FREE!”**
(The Mystery of Faith)

1: THE LITANY OF THE MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST

The Litany of the Most Precious Blood pays tribute to the Blood Our Lord both shed for us in His Passion and offers us in the Eucharist for our salvation.

It is important to remember that the Sacred Host we consume at Holy Mass is indeed the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ!

(Although The Consecrated Wine at Holy Communion is “My Blood of the New Covenant” as Our Lord put it at the Last Supper (*Mark 14:24*) the Sacred Host, as the Body of Christ, contains our Lord’s Precious Blood as well.)

The Litany of the Most Precious Blood was approved for public use in 1960 by Pope John XXIII, although devotion to the Precious Blood goes back centuries. Indeed, as Father Faber wrote in 1860 “the lives of the saints are replete with devotion to the Precious Blood.” The month of July is dedicated to the Precious Blood in the Church’s Liturgical Calendar.



Image of the Most Holy Trinity a. k. a. “The Martyrs’ Picture”, in the Venerable English College, Rome, was painted in 1581 by: Durante Alberti. N. B.: The Precious Blood of Jesus fall on Britain.

2:When the Litany of the Most Precious Blood is prayed publicly, the congregation's responses to a leader are given in italics below.
Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ, hear us. *Christ, graciously hear us.*

God, the Father of Heaven, *have mercy on us.*
God the Son, Redeemer of the world, *have mercy on us.*
God, the Holy Spirit, *have mercy on us.*
Holy Trinity, One God, *have mercy on us.*

Blood of Christ, only-begotten Son
of the Eternal Father, *SAVE US.* (after each line)
Blood of Christ, Incarnate Word of God, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, of the New and Eternal Testament, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, falling upon the earth in the Agony, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, shed profusely in the Scourging, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ,
 flowing forth in the Crowning with Thorns, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, poured out on the Cross, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, price of our salvation, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ,
 without which there is no forgiveness, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ,
 Eucharistic drink and refreshment of souls, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, stream of mercy, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, victor over demons, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, courage of martyrs, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, strength of confessors, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, bringing forth virgins, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, help of those in peril, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, relief of the burdened, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, solace in sorrow, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, hope of the penitent, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, consolation of the dying, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, peace and tenderness of hearts, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, pledge of Eternal Life, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, freeing souls from purgatory, *SAVE US.*
Blood of Christ, most worthy of all glory and honour, *SAVE US.*

3:

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

V. Thou hast redeemed us, O Lord, in Thy Blood.
R. And made us, for our God, a kingdom.

Let us pray:

Almighty and Eternal God,
Thou hast appointed Thine only-begotten Son
the Redeemer of the world
and willed to be appeased by His Blood.
Grant, we beg of Thee, that we may worthily adore
This Price of our salvation and through Its power
be safeguarded from the evils of the present life
so that we may rejoice in Its fruits forever in heaven.
Through the same Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

The Litany of the Most Precious Blood gives us a poignant reminder of not only the Passion but also of the good **our Lord's Blood** can do for us as the "Eucharistic drink and refreshment of souls" at Mass as well.

St. Peter reminds us of its importance when he writes.

"You were redeemed not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ"
(1 Peter 1:18-19).

As Our Lord Himself said, His blood would be shed for
"the forgiveness of sins" (Matthew 26:28).

May **the Litany of the Most Precious Blood** inspire you in your efforts to receive Him worthily in Holy Communion and to have Him fortify you in your efforts to serve Him and others on your journey towards Eternal Life!

Adapted from: **OUR CATHOLIC PRAYERS**

<https://www.ourcatholicprayers.com/litany-of-the-most-precious-blood.html>