

**GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**  
**THAT WE HAVE ALL RECEIVED IN**  
**THE ANOINTING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**  
**IN THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:**

What are the Gifts of the Holy Spirit?

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit are:

(see *Isaiah 11: 1 - 4*)

**A: Counsel (right judgement):** the gift which moves us to act with prudence (*proper care and forethought*), especially in difficult cases;

**B: Piety (reverence) (real and deep respect):** the gift which moves us to love God as our Father and to have affection for all the persons and things consecrated to Him;

**C: Fear of the Lord (awe & wonder (in the Presence of the Lord)):** the gift which moves us to fear offending God and being separated from Him Whom we love;

**D: Fortitude (courage, strength, power):** the gift which moves us to do great things for God joyfully and without fear of difficulties and obstacles;

**E: Knowledge (science):** the gift which move us to see things of this world in their true perspective, in their relation to God;

**F: Understanding (insight):** the gift which moves us to a deeper insight into the truths that God has revealed to us;

**G: Wisdom, (knowing how to love):** 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.

**All the Gifts of the Holy Spirit** make us docile (*teachable*) and receptive (*open to receive*) to the guidance of God and the graces He sends us, and so enable us to act quickly and easily in the performance of His will.



*The First Luminous Mystery (of Light) of the Holy Rosary:*

**The Baptism of Our Lord in the River Jordan by John.**

*The Rosary Basilica, Lourdes.*

**ST MARY OF THE CRAYS NEWSLETTER SUPPLEMENT**  
**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD 2021**

***In the Year of St Joseph:***

***“ WITH A FATHER’S HEART: that is how Joseph loved Jesus, whom all four Gospels refer to as “The Son of Joseph”.”***

*(opening of the Apostolic Letter: PATRIS CORDE of Pope Francis 8th Dec. 2020)*

**SAINT JOSEPH:**

**Comfort of the Afflicted:**

**Pray for us!**

**Hope of the Sick:**

**Pray for us!**

**Patron of the Dying:**

**Pray for us!**

**+ J. M. J. +**

**THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD AND THE MARRIAGE FEAST OF CANA** are often combined in the Prayer of the Church also known as: the Divine Office and The Breviary, the Prayers that Monks, Nuns and Clergy offer several times a day, to praise and thank God, to sanctify the Day and for the whole People of God to become saved and saints.

**EPIPHANY SHOWS GOD become man, and the Gentile, non-Jewish peoples of the world recognise Him: all the Kings, Queens, Presidents, Prime Ministers, Chancellors ... in fact all statesmen and women, along with scholars, students, and scientists, Star gazing: astronomers, and astrologers, Truth seekers, Magi, Magicians, Wizards, witches and New-Agers ... they all can “take the knee”, “Bend the knee”, and so: “Genuflect” before the One God now made visible ...**

**With HIS BAPTISM we are given the gift the Gift of Rebirth, New Life , Forgiveness of sins, membership of God’s Family as His Beloved Sons and Daughters, we become Royal,**

**Priests and Prophets, called and set apart to sing His praises and to announce, show and share God’s Life, Light, Love and forgiveness with everyone ... all in the Sacrament of Baptism!!**

**At THE MARRIAGE FEAST OF CANA, the First of His Signs or Miracles, the God-given Institution of Marriage is raised to the heights of the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony, as water - necessary for all life is changed into wine which is rich and intoxicating and can bring joy to hearts and minds. Our Lord blesses with abundant and overflowing Graces the Baptised Man and Baptised woman by His Presence in their Marriage, through their daily prayers together ... for where two or three meet in His Name ... He is truly there.**

**Please pray today: 1) that everyone will come to know, love, serve, and the kneel before, Our Lord; 2) for Renewal and understanding of our Baptismal Graces; and for 3) strong, stable, prayer-, love-, and life-filled Christian Marriages to be the bedrock of strong societies, cultures, countries and nations ... St Joseph: Pray for us!**

**From a sermon by  
Saint Peter Chrysologus, bishop**

***In choosing to be born for us, God  
chose to be known by us***

In the mystery of our Lord's incarnation there were clear indications of His eternal Godhead. Yet the great events we celebrate today disclose and reveal in different ways the fact that God Himself took a human body. Mortal man, enshrouded always in darkness, must not be left in ignorance, and so be deprived of what he can understand and retain only by grace.

**In choosing to be born for us, God chose to be known by us. He** therefore **reveals Himself** in this way, in order that this great sacrament of His love may not be an occasion for us of great misunderstanding.

**Today the Magi find**, crying in a manger, the one they have followed as he shone in the sky. **Today the Magi see** clearly, in swaddling clothes, the one they have long awaited as He lay hidden among the stars.

**Today the Magi gaze** in deep wonder at what they see: heaven on earth, earth in heaven, man in God, God in man, one whom the whole universe cannot contain now enclosed in a tiny body. As they look, they believe and do not question, as their symbolic gifts bear witness: incense for God, gold for a king, myrrh for One Who is to die.

So the Gentiles, who were the last, become the first: the faith of the Magi is the first fruits of the belief of the Gentiles.

**Today Christ enters the Jordan** to wash away the sin of the world. John himself testifies that this is why He has come: ***Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him who takes away the sins of the world.***

**Today a servant lays** his hand on the Lord, a man lays his hand on God, John lays his hand on Christ, not to forgive but to receive forgiveness.

**Today, as the psalmist prophesied:** *The voice of the Lord is heard above the waters.* What does the voice say? ***This is My Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.***

**Today the Holy Spirit hovers over the waters** in the likeness of a dove. A dove announced to Noah that the flood had disappeared from the earth; so now a dove is to reveal that the world's shipwreck is at an end for ever. The sign is no longer an olive-branch of the old stock: instead, the Spirit pours out on Christ's head the full richness of a new anointing by the Father, to fulfil what the psalmist had prophesied: ***Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellows.***

**Today Christ works the first of his signs** from heaven by turning water into wine. But water has still to be changed into the sacrament of His Blood, so that Christ may offer spiritual drink from the chalice of His Body, to fulfil the psalmist's prophecy: ***How excellent is my chalice, warming my spirit.***

**℞.** On that day the Magi presented to the Lord three precious gifts, signifying divine mysteries: \* gold, acknowledging His regal power; incense, His role of High Priest; and myrrh, His burial.

**℣.** The Magi paid homage to the author of our salvation as He lay in a manger, and from their treasures they offered Him mystic gifts: \* gold, acknowledging His regal power; incense, His role of High Priest; and myrrh, His burial.

*(from THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:  
Office of Readings for Thursday 7th January)*

***RENEWAL OF  
BAPTISMAL PROMISES  
AT HOME***

Renewing baptismal promises can also be done at home:

Everyone's baptismal candles and garments can be put on display on the family altar or as a table centrepiece to remind us of our baptism and commitment to our baptismal vows. It is recommended to renewed at Easter, however, Renewal could also take place on the

***Feast of the Baptism of the Lord  
in January, and on  
the Anniversaries of Baptism.***

*This version is from the Roman Missal,  
3rd Edition from 2011.*

Dear brethren, through the Paschal Mystery we have been buried with Christ in Baptism, that we may walk with him in newness of life. And so, let us renew the promises of Holy Baptism, which we once renounced Satan and his works and promised to serve God in the holy Catholic Church.

And so I ask you:

***V. Do you renounce Satan?***

***R. I DO.***

***V. And all his works?***

***R. I DO.***

***V. And all his empty show?***

***R. I DO.***

***OR:***

***V. Do you renounce sin, so as to live in the freedom of the children of God?***

***R. I DO.***

***V. Do you renounce the lure of evil, so that sin may have no mastery over you?***

***R. I DO.***

***V. Do you renounce Satan, the author and prince of sin?***

***R. I DO.***

***V. Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?***

***R. I DO.***

***V. Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead and is seated at the right hand of the Father?***

***R. I DO.***

***V. Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?***

***R. I DO.***

***V. And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins, keep us by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord, for eternal life.***

***R. AMEN.***

***All are sprinkled with holy water.***