



APOSTLES of the HOLY SPIRIT

Bulletin

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THE HOLY SPIRIT AND PRAYER



HIS GIFT TO US

The Holy Spirit is the gift that comes into our hearts together with prayer. In prayer He manifests Himself first of all and above all as the gift that "helps us in our weakness" (Rom 8:26).

ST. PAUL TELLS US

This is the magnificent thought developed by St. Paul in the Letter to the Romans, when he writes: "For we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Holy Spirit himself intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words" (Rom 8:26).

THE SPIRIT GUIDES US

Therefore, the Holy Spirit not only enables us to pray, but guides us from within in prayer: He is present in our prayer and gives it a divine dimension.

COME HOLY SPIRIT HELP ME TO PRAY

"The Spirit too helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought; but the Spirit himself makes intercession for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in speech." (Romans 8:26).

COME HOLY SPIRIT

Come into my heart and dwell within me so that my prayers will be more loveable and pleasing to God.

COME HOLY SPIRIT

Let my heart overflow with your love so that I may give that same love back to God through more meaningful prayers.

COME HOLY SPIRIT

"No one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit." (1 Cor. 12:3) Every time we begin to pray to Jesus it is the Holy Spirit who draws us on the way of prayer by his prevenient grace. Since he teaches us to pray by recalling Christ, how could we not pray to the Spirit too? That is why the Church invites us to call upon the Holy Spirit every day, especially at the beginning and the end of every important action.

The traditional form of petition to the Holy Spirit is to invoke the Father through Christ our Lord to give us the Consoler Spirit. (Cf Lk. 11:13) Jesus insists on this petition to be made in his name at the very moment when he promises the gift of the Spirit of Truth. (Cf. Jn 14:17; 15:26; 16:13) But the simplest and most direct prayer is also traditional, "Come, Holy Spirit," and every liturgical tradition has developed it in antiphons and hymns.

The Holy Spirit, whose anointing permeates our whole being, is the interior Master of Christian prayer. He is the artisan of the living tradition of prayer. To be sure, there are as many paths of prayer as there are persons who pray, but it is the same Spirit acting in all and with all. It is in the communion of the Holy Spirit that Christian prayer is prayer in the Church.

THE HOLY SPIRIT AND PRAYER

The Holy Spirit is the living breath of prayer. It is a beautiful thought to recognize that - if prayer is offered throughout the world, in the past, in the present, and in the future - equally widespread is the presence and action of the Holy Spirit.

MASS THE GREATEST PRAYER OF ALL

The Mass is the re-presentation of the sacrifice at Calvary. It is the greatest prayer of all. As at the Last Supper, when the bread and wine are consecrated at Mass, through the Holy Spirit they became the Body and Blood of Christ.

When we receive the Eucharist, we are receiving the Body and Blood of Christ. When we receive this Gift worthily, our soul is then flooded with a profusion of graces. Jesus, our Divine Guest, strengthens our faith. Our increased love for Jesus helps our resolve not to commit sin, because of not wanting to offend Him.

The Mass also helps us live a more peaceful life. God hears our petitions and helps us direct our lives. All good things come from God. We are totally dependent upon Him for everything. (John 15:5)

WHAT IS PRAYER?

For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy.

St. Thérèse of Lisieux

"Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God or the requesting of good things from God." But when we pray, do we speak from the height of our pride and will, or "out of the depths" of a humble and contrite heart? He who humbles himself will be exalted; humility is the foundation of prayer. Only when we humbly acknowledge that "we do not know how to pray as we ought," are we ready to receive freely the gift of prayer. "Man is a beggar before God."

PRAYER GROUPS

Prayer groups, indeed “schools of prayer”, are today one of the signs and one of the driving forces of renewal of prayer in the Church, provided they drink from authentic wellsprings of Christian prayer. Concern for ecclesial communion is a sign of true prayer in the Church.

The Holy Spirit gives certain of the faithful the gifts of wisdom, faith and discernment for the sake of this common good which is prayer (spiritual direction). Men and women so endowed are true servants of the living tradition of prayer.

According to St. John of the Cross, the person wishing to advance toward perfection should “take care into whose hands he entrusts himself, for as the master is, so will the disciple be, and as the father is so will be the son.” And further: “In addition to being learned and discreet a director should be experienced... If the spiritual director has no experience of the spiritual life, he will be incapable of leading into it the souls whom God is calling to it, and he will not even understand them.”

PLACES FAVOURABLE FOR PRAYER

The church, the house of God, is the proper place for the liturgical prayer of the parish community. It is also the privileged place for adoration of the real presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. The choice of a favorable place is not a matter of indifference for true prayer.

For personal prayer, this can be a “prayer corner” with the Sacred Scriptures and icons, in order to be there, in secret, before our Father (Cf. Mt 6:6) In a Christian family, this kind of little oratory fosters prayer in common.

In regions where monasteries exist, the vocation of these communities is to further the participation of the faithful in the Liturgy of the Hours and to provide necessary solitude for more intense personal prayer. (Cf. PC 7.)

Pilgrimages evoke our earthly journey toward heaven and are traditionally very special occasions for renewal in prayer. For pilgrims seeking living water, shrines are special places for living the forms of Christian prayer “in Church.”

PRAYER

The Church invites the faithful to regular prayer: daily prayers, the Liturgy of the Hours, Sunday Eucharist, the feasts of the liturgical year.



The Christian tradition comprises three major expressions of the life of prayer: vocal prayer, meditation, and contemplative prayer. They have in common the recollection of the heart.



VOCAL PRAYER

Vocal prayer, founded on the union of body and soul in human nature, associates the body with the interior prayer of the heart, following Christ’s example of praying to his Father and teaching the Our Father to his disciples.

MEDITATION

Meditation is a prayerful quest engaging thought, imagination, emotion, and desire. Its goal is to make our own in faith the subject considered, by confronting it with the reality of our own life.

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

Contemplative prayer is the simple expression of the mystery of prayer. It is a gaze of faith fixed on Jesus, an attentiveness to the Word of God, a silent love. It achieves real union with the prayer of Christ to the extent that it makes us share in his mystery.

PRAYING FROM THE HEART

Where does prayer come from? Whether prayer is expressed in words or gestures, it is the whole man who prays. But in naming the source of prayer, Scripture speaks sometimes of the soul or the spirit, but most often of the heart (more than a thousand times). According to Scripture, it is the *heart* that prays. If our heart is far from God, the words of prayer are in vain.



Prayers to the Holy Spirit

LET US ALWAYS START ALL OUR
PRAYER WITH A SIMPLE

“COME, HOLY SPIRIT”



Holy Spirit teach us to pray

Holy Spirit of prayer, teach us how to pray. Cleanse our hearts that we may pray worthily and always find time for prayer! Holy Spirit, pray within me and invoke: Abba, Father! Grant me the favour of praying with the heart!

O' Spirit, I pray to You now asking you to Pour Yourself out on me with all Your gifts!

Pour out the gift of love into my life that from now on I may love God in You above all, and my neighbor as myself.

Pour out on me the gift of wisdom that I may in everything I do and think, feel and decide - always think, decide and act in Your light.

O Spirit of Counsel, descend on me that I may, with my knowledge and the word of love, help those who ask me for counsel! Let my every word be a light to others!

Spirit of Jesus, grant me the gift of Your strength that I may stand every trial and do the Father's will, especially in times of hardship! Spirit of fortitude, strengthen me in the hours of frailty!

O Spirit of life, develop divine life within me which was given to me through You already in the bosom of my mother and at my baptism!

Divine fire, inflame the fire of divine love in my heart so that darkness and ice of sin may disappear from it!

Spirit of healing, heal within me all that is wounded, and develop the undeveloped!

Descend on me with all Your strength that I may be thankful for small things as well. Enlighten me, Holy Spirit, that I may know how to appreciate crosses and hardships, too.

General Intercessions to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, upon the Church: strengthen and enlighten her so that she may work effectively for the salvation of all mankind.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Come, Holy Spirit, give counsel and wisdom to our Holy Father the Pope and to all the bishops to guide your flock.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Come, Holy Spirit, give to your people the outpouring of your grace: teach, console and enlighten all to whom you have been given.

Come, Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, cleanse our hearts of all hatred, and fill us with love toward everyone.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Come, Holy Spirit, enlighten those who govern us. May they see what is right and in your strength have the courage to do what is right.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Come, Holy Spirit, Bond of unity and peace. Hasten the unity of all people in Christ; take from our midst the scourge of war, and take from our hearts the cause of war.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Come, Holy Spirit, descend upon all who have been baptized into Christ: break down the barriers which divide us, and strengthen the bonds which unite us. Make all one in faith and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Come, Holy Spirit, and in your kindness heal the sick, receive the dying, counsel the doubtful, console those who have lost hope. May all hearts rest in you.

Come, Holy Spirit.



COME, HOLY SPIRIT



“Come, Holy Spirit”

The prayer below was used before every session of the Second Vatican Council

We stand before you, Holy Spirit,
conscious of our sinfulness,
but aware that we gather in your name.

Come to us, remain with us,
and enlighten our hearts.

Give us light and strength
to know your will,
to make it our own,
and to live it in our lives.

Guide us by your wisdom,
support us by your power,
for you are God,
sharing the glory of Father and Son.

You desire justice for all:
enable us to uphold the rights of others;
do not allow us to be misled by ignorance
or corrupted by fear or favor.

Unite us to yourself in the bond of love
and keep us faithful to all that is true.

As we gather in your name
may we temper justice with love,
so that all our decisions
may be pleasing to you,
and earn the reward
promised to good and faithful servants.

You live and reign with the Father and the Son,
one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*

SAINT PETER EXPERIENCED THE FULLNESS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AT PENTECOST

Before then he was a generous believer who left his fishing nets to follow the Lord. He was a man of good will, always enthusiastic about the Lord. In moments of testing, however, Peter was weak and denied his Lord. His was a cowardly spirit when he needed boldness. That was Peter, the man of Faith, before Pentecost.

After Pentecost, Peter was a man of prayer. The Lord was great in him as he did the Lord’s work. He became a man of confident assurance able to withstand government officials, jailers, and religious leaders. The grace of Pentecost transformed Peter into the Rock. He knew how to be guided by the Holy Spirit. Peter was a man of great endurance and was eager to imitate the Lord when he faced Crucifixion. After Pentecost, Peter was a powerful witness in word and deed to Jesus. People detected the grace of Pentecost in Peter.



LET US LIKE ST. PETER BE PEOPLE OF PRAYER.

LET US ALL PRAY TO THE HOLY SPIRIT THAT HE WILL RENEW THE FACE OF THE EARTH BY GRANTING A NEW PENTECOST IN OUR TIME.

LET US PRAY FOR AN INCREASE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT’S GIFTS TO THE CHURCH AND ALL HIS PEOPLE ON EARTH.

LET US PRAY FOR A DEEPER FAITH AND TRUST IN GOD.

LET US PRAY THAT WE MAY BE GUIDED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT AS ST. PETER WAS.



“Do Not Be Afraid”

St. Pope John Paul II

6 COME, HOLY SPIRIT, TEACH US HOW TO PRAY

REAL PRAYER

Firstly, let us not seek ourselves in prayer. *Hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come.* But these are not passive petitions. We cannot pray them and then sit back waiting to see what happens.

So, secondly, we must pray *with our loins girt, and ready to work.* We cannot expect to say words and then in some mysterious way think that the fruits are going to come down from heaven. *Not everyone who says Lord, Lord, but those who do my Father's will...* To pray those petitions of the *Our Father* is the same as to pledge to God, *I am going to praise and honor your name - I am going to do all I can to make your Kingdom come.*

St. James says something in his letter about works of charity that is applicable here. He was writing to some Christians who thought they had faith but who did not have works, and he said to them...*If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to him "go in peace, keep warm and eat your fill" and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.*" (JAMES 2:15-17)

We could say that similarly, prayer without action is dead. Dead trees don't bear fruit. Neither does dead prayer.

Prayer without willingness for action is the willingness to pay the price for the Kingdom to come. As someone has said, the only way to pray that part of the *Our Father* is with your sleeves rolled up.

This means we must to be willing to share in Christ's cross, because it was through the cross that he inaugurated the Kingdom. Thomas the apostle sounds a little fatalistic to us when he says, *"Let's go up to Jerusalem and die with him"* - that was when Jesus was not heeding their warnings and made it obvious he intended to go there despite the danger signs. However, his and the other apostles' attitude towards the cross changed with the experience of Christ's resurrection. Our acceptance of the cross should not be fatalistic and mere resignation as St. Thomas' first reaction was. It should be full of hope and enthusiasm. "Hail, oh Cross, our only hope."

Our prayer should also be a pledge not to leave Christ alone in his love for humanity and in his work of salvation. This is not presumption. It is Christ himself who has asked for workers for the harvest, Christ himself who sent the apostles to preach and baptize.

We do not go *instead of* him, but *with* him and *as* him, *Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives the One who sent me.* Perhaps the ultimate mystery of Christ is his unselfishness in making us partakers of his work, of having us take part in the redemption of our brothers and sisters, making up for the part we often play in leading them astray. Christ's pardon not only forgives us this, but allows us humans to rebuild through him, with him and in him what we have destroyed.

THE SAINTS HELP US PRAY

Saint Pope John XXII poetically reminds us of the need of prayer:

Do not let yourselves be influenced by the mentality of this world, which finds no peace because it has forgotten how to pray; but learn to give a delightful fragrance to all your actions with the life-giving breath of prayer.

Saint Ignatius of Loyola (d. 1556), who started out as a military man, gave himself in complete surrender to God this way:

Take, O Lord, and receive my entire liberty, my memory, my understanding and my whole will.

All that I am and all that I possess You have given me:

I surrender it all to you to be disposed of according to Your will.

Give me only your love and your grace; with these I will be rich enough, and will desire nothing more.

Prayer for the Nation

Almighty God, you have given us this good land for our heritage. We humbly ask you that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your favor and glad to do your will. Bless our land with honorable endeavor, sound learning and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties and fashion into one united people the multitude brought here out of many nations and tongues. Endow with the Spirit of wisdom those to whom in your name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that through obedience to your law we may show forth your praise among the nations on earth. In time of prosperity fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble do not allow our trust in you to fail. Amen

-Thomas Jefferson



Prayer on George Washington's Birthday from Bishop John Carroll America's First Bishop

Almighty and eternal God,
you have revealed your glory to all nations.
God of power and might, wisdom and justice,
through you authority is rightly administered,
laws are enacted, and judgment is decreed.

Assist with your spirit of counsel and fortitude
the President of these United States,
that his administration

may be conducted in righteousness,
and be eminently useful to your people
over whom he presides.

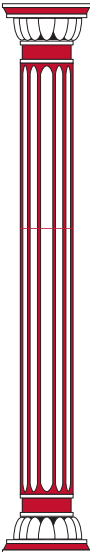
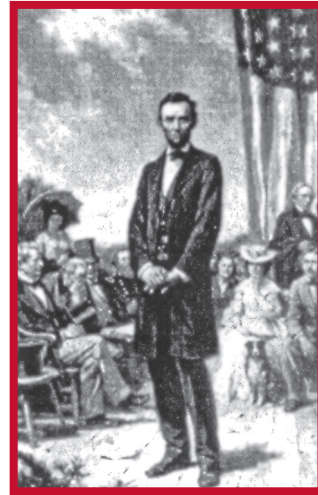
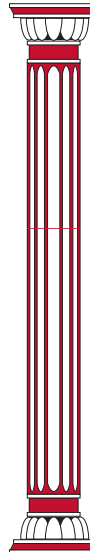
May he execute the laws with justice and mercy.
May he seek to restrain crime, vice, and immorality.

We, likewise, commend to your unbounded mercy
all who dwell in the United States.
Bless us and all people with the peace which the world
cannot give.

We pray to you, who are Lord and God, for ever and
ever.
R. Amen.

Archbishop John Carroll (alt.)

HISTORY REPEATS



“We have been recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth, and power as no other nation has ever grown.

But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these things were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own.

Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.”

-Abraham Lincoln



O Merciful God, we cry to Thee for pardon and for mercy. We are “an unbelieving and perverse generation.” We are disobedient, disloyal and ungrateful to Thee. We have excluded Thee from our homes, our schools, our business places. We are no longer worthy to be called Thy children. But Merciful God, spare America! Forgive us! Save us from the scourge which we have deserved. Teach us Thy Law, and move our wills to serve Thee, henceforth. Merciful God, please spare America

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock...” (Rev. 3, 20)

It is true. I stand at the door of your heart, day and night. Even when you are not listening, even when you doubt it could be Me, I am there. I wait even the smallest sign of your response, even the least whispered invitation that will allow Me to enter.

I want you to know that whenever you invite Me, I do come – always, without fail. Silent and unseen I come, but with infinite power and love, and bringing the many gifts of My spirit. I come with My mercy, with My desire to forgive and heal you, and with a love for you beyond your comprehension – I love every bit as great as the love I have received from the Father; “As much as the Father has loved Me, I have loved you...” (Jn. 15:9)

I come – longing to console you and give you strength, to lift you up and bind all your wounds. I bring you My light, to dispel your darkness and all your doubts. I come with My power, that I might carry you and all your burdens; with My grace, to touch your heart and transform your life; and My peace I give to still your soul.

I know you through and through. I know everything about you. The very hairs of your head I have numbered. Nothing in your life is unimportant to me. I have followed you through the years, and I have always loved you - even in your wanderings. I know every one of your problems. I know your needs and your worries. And yes, I know all your sins. But I tell you again that I love you– Not for what you have or haven’t done – I love you for you, for the beauty and dignity My Father gave you by creating you in his own image. It is a dignity you have often forgotten, a beauty you have tarnished by sin. But I love you as you are, and I have shared My blood to win you back.

If you only asked Me with faith, My grace will touch all that needs changing in your life, and I will give you the strength to free yourself from sin and all it’s destructive power. I know what is in your heart – I know your loneliness and all your hurts – the rejections, the judgments, the humiliations, I carried it all for you. And I carry it all for you, so you might share My strength and victory.

I know especially your need for love – how you are thirsting to be loved and cherished. But how often you thirsted in vain, by seeking that love selfishly, striving to fill the emptiness inside you with passing pleasures – with the even greater emptiness of sin. Do you thirst for love? “Come to Me all you who thirst...” (Jn. 7:37). I will satisfy you and fill you. Do you thirst to be cher-

ished? I cherish you more than you can imagine – to the point of dying on the cross for you.

There is nothing I cannot forgive and heal; so come now, and unburden your soul. No matter how far you may wonder, no matter how often you forget Me, no matter how many crosses you may bear in this life; there is one thing I want you to always remember, one thing that will never change. I THIRST FOR YOU – just as you are.

You don’t need to change to believe in My love, for it will be your belief in My love that will change you. You forget Me, and yet I am seeking you every moment of the day – standing at the door of your heart and knocking. Do you find this hard to believe? Then look at the cross, look at My heart that was pierced for you. Have you not understood My cross? Then listen again to the words I spoke there – for they tell you clearly why I endured all this for you: “I THIRST...” (Jn. 19:28).

Yes, I THIRST FOR YOU – as the rest of the psalm – verse I was praying says of me: “I looked for someone to console Me and I found none...” (Ps. 69:20). All your life I have been looking for your love – I have never stopped seeking to love you and be loved by you. You have tried many other things in your search for happiness; why not try opening your heart to Me, right now, more than you have ever done before.

Whenever you do open the door of your heart, whenever you come close enough, you will hear Me say to you again and again, not in mere human words but in spirit. “No matter what you have done, I love you for your own sake. Come to Me with your misery and your sins, with your troubles and needs, and with all your longing to be loved. I stand at the door of your heart and knock. Open to Me, for I THIRST FOR YOU...”

Sin can never satisfy you, or bring the peace you seek. All that you have sought outside of Me has only left you more empty, so do not claim to the things of this life. Above all, do not run from Me when you fall. Come to Me without delay. When you give Me your sins, you give Me the joy of being your Savior.

(Meditation based on the spiritual teachings of Saint Teresa of Calcutta).

“Jesus is God, therefore His love, His thirst, is infinite. He, the creator of the universe, asked for the love of His creatures. He thirsts for our love... These words: ‘I Thirst’-do they echo in our souls?”

Saint Teresa of Calcutta.

You must never doubt My mercy, My acceptance of you, My desire to forgive, My longing to bless you and live My life in you. I THIRST FOR YOU.

The Six Apparitions 1917

There were six Marian apparitions to the shepherd children from May 13 to October 13, 1917. All of these operations took place on the 13th of the month except for the August apparition.

May 13, 1917

The children were tending their sheep near the Cova da Iria in Fatima, a few miles from their home. A beautiful young woman dressed in white appeared to them over the holm Oak. The lady said she was from heaven and wanted the children to return to the same place at the same hour on the 13th of each month for six months. She asked the children to pray the Rosary every day.

June 13, 1917

Our Lady again asked the children to pray the Rosary every day, and she asked Lucia to learn to read and write. She revealed that Jacinta and Francisco would die soon, but Lucia would live longer. She then revealed that God wished to establish in the world devotion to her Immaculate Heart, and her heart would be a refuge and a way to lead people to God.

July 13, 1917

The lady disclosed a three-part secret to the children.

August 19, 1917

The children missed their scheduled meeting with the Lady at the Cova da Iria on Aug. 13 because they were detained by the anti-clerical civil authorities. The children resisted efforts to have them deny the apparitions. They were put in prison and released on August 15, the feast of the Assumption. The Lady that appeared to the children a few days later, on August 19 at Valinhos near their home in Aljustrel. The Lady asked the children to continue to come to the Cova da Iria on the 13th of each month and to pray the Rosary every day. She told them that she would perform a miracle the last month (October).

September 13, 1917

The Lady asked the children to continue to pray the Rosary for the end of the war. She told them that Jesus as well as Saint Joseph would appear in October.

October 13, 1917

The most dramatic of the apparitions. Some 55,000 people gathered on a rainy day near Cova da Iria in Fatima and witnessed the “miracle of the sun.” Some 20,000 other people witnessed the miracle from as far away as 25 miles. The sun started spinning and grew larger. It looked like it was going to fall on the earth.

People feel to their knees in fear. The people then noticed that their clothes were completely dry even though they have been standing in the rain for sometime. Even unbelievers and skeptics witnessed the phenomenon. The secular newspaper, *O Século*, had a front page story on “How the sun danced at midday in Fatima.”

While the people were looking at the miracle of the sun, the three children saw a sequence of apparitions. Saint Joseph was seen with the Christ child, and they appeared to bless the world. The Blessed mother was seen robed in white with a blue mantle; then she appeared as Our Lady of Sorrows and then as Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. The Lady revealed her identity to the children as “Our Lady of the Rosary.” She

asked them to pray the Rosary every day and to have a chapel built at Vova da Iria, The site of the apparitions.

Angelic apparitions of 1916

The six apparitions of our lady to the children at Fatima were preceded by three apparitions of the angel of peace in 1916 at or near their home in the hamlet of Aljustrel. The angel of peace prepared the children for the Marian apparitions that would follow. He taught them several prayers, and, in his final apparition and autumn 1916, he gave the children holy Communion.

THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The Fatima apparitions occurred during World War I, which was also a time when secular payments such as Freemasonry and communism were manifesting open hostility to the Christian faith.

In 1911, the Freemasons in Portugal passed a law separating Church and State. One of their leaders Alfonso Costa, even predicted that into generations Catholicism would be completely eliminated in Portugal. The apparitions of Fatima, therefore, occurred during a critical time in the life of Portugal and the world.

The Secrets of Fatima

During the apparition on July 13, 1917, Our Lady revealed to the shepherd children a three-part secret. There is concern by some that the third part of the secret has yet to be fully revealed, but sister Lucia before her death testified that “no secret remains.”

The first secret

The first part of the secret shared by Our Lady was a vision of hell, after which she taught the children a prayer to be recited after each decade of the Rosary: “O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to heaven, especially those most in need of thy mercy.”

The second secret

The second part of the secret concerned the end of World War I and the warning of a worst war during the pontificate of Pope Pius XI if people did not cease offending God. (Pius XI was not elected until 1922). There was also the warning that if people did not convert, Russia would “spread her errors throughout the world, causing wars and persecution of the Church. “Moreover, “the good will be martyred; the Holy Father will have much to suffer; various nations will be annihilated.” The lady though, told the shepherd children: “in the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph. “



Sister Lucia

The third secret

The third part of the secret was kept hidden by Sister Lucia until she was ordered by the bishop Leiria, Spain, on Jan. 3, 1944, to write it down. This letter was placed in the secret archives of the Holy Office in 1957. Pope Saint John XXIII in 1959 and Blessed

Pope Paul VI In 1965 read the letter but declined to publish it. After the May 13, 1981 attempt on his life Pope Saint John Paul II asked for the letter. He later authorized the disclosure of the secret in conjunction with the May 13, 2000 beatification ceremony for Francisco and Jacinta Marto.

The secret describes an angel with a flaming sword in his left hand crying out: “Penance, penance, penance.” Then a bishop dressed in white (thought to be the Holy Father) joins other bishops, priests and men and women religious in ascending a steep mountain, with a big cross on top. On the way to the mountain, The Holy Father goes through a city half in ruins, and “he prays for the souls of the corpses” he sees. At the top of the mountain, he kneels before the cross and was killed by a group of soldiers who fire bullets and arrows at him. Other bishops, priests, men

and women religious and lay people are also killed. Then two angels gather up the blood of these martyrs into a crystal aspersion and sprinkle the souls on their way to God. Some have claimed that the full third secret of Fatima has not been revealed. Sister Lucia, however, has confirmed the full text of the secret in two meetings with the secretary of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and the bishop of Leiria-Fatima. In the second meeting, sister Lucia made it very clear that “everything has been published; no secret remains.”

The Consecration of Russia

On June 13, 1929 when Sister Lucia was in residence at the Dorothean convent in Tuy, Spain, she had a remarkable vision of the most holy Trinity with Jesus on the cross and the Blessed Virgin at his side. After this vision, Our Lady spoke to Sister Lucia, telling her: "the moment has come in which God asked the Holy Father, in union with all the bishops of the world, to make the consecration of Russia to my Immaculate Heart, promising to save it by this means."

For a variety of reasons, the consecration of Russia as requested by our lady did not occur until March 25, 1984. Pope Pius XII consecrated the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on October 31, 1942, following the requests of Sister Lucia, the bishops of Portugal and Blessed Alexandrina da Costa (1904-1955). On July 7, 1952, he also consecrated the Russian people to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

These consecrations, however, were not done in communion with all the bishops of the world. After the assassination attempt of 1981, Pope St. Paul II decided to carry out the consecration as Our Lady of Fatima had requested. On December 8, 1983 he sent out letters inviting all Catholic and Orthodox the bishops to join him in prayer for the act of consecration, which took place at St. Peter's Square on the feast of the Annunciation, March 25, 1984, before a statue of our Lady of Fatima. In this act, Saint John Paul II said: "In a special way we entrust and consecrate to you those individuals and nations which particularly need to be thus entrusted and consecrated."

"Although some have argued that Saint John Paul II Did not consecrate Russia properly, sister Lucia herself confirmed that the 1984 consecration corresponded to what our lady requested. In the letter of November 8, 1989, she wrote: "yes it has been done just as our lady asked, on 25 March, 1984." She confirmed this again in 2001.



**ONE CANDLE
MAY LIGHT A THOUSAND**

*When you are finished with
your Bulletin pass it on.*

COME, HOLY SPIRIT, TEACH US HOW TO PRAY

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

ONE HOUR WITH JESUS



In the Garden of Gethsemani, before His crucifixion, Jesus asked His Apostles, "Could you not keep watch with me for one hour?" Spending one hour with Jesus thus became a tradition in the Church.

Let us set aside at least one hour a week in front of the Blessed Sacrament praying for peace in the world.

Editors Note: We have available in the A.H.S. office material to help your parish get started with adoration -material for your committee, bulletin, etc...all you need to know about Eucharistic adoration. It's yours for the asking, just send our office a card or letter today!

THE BEST TIME YOU WILL SPEND ON EARTH

"Jesus wants us all to come to Him in the Blessed Sacrament. He is there in person, just waiting for you. Nowhere on earth are you more loved, than by Jesus, living and truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. The time you spend with the Blessed Sacrament is the best time you will spend on earth. Each moment you spend with Jesus will deepen your union with Him and make your soul everlasting more glorious and beautiful in heaven, and will help bring about everlasting peace on earth."

(Saint Mother Theresa)

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*Holy Spirit
of God,
renew the
face of
the earth
by granting
a new
Pentecost
in our time.*

APOSTLES of the HOLY SPIRIT
2709 Woodburn Avenue
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HOLY SPIRIT BOOK MARKS

The Dove representing the Holy Spirit - The Halo shows the holiness - The Rays, seven in number represent the seven gifts given us in confirmation. Dark red background and gold edges on the front, and black and white on the back. The bookmark measures 6" by 2"

*Colorful Bookmark
1 to 10 free upon request*

**Serve God by asking the Holy Spirit to
whom you should give one hand to hand.**



Let us pray the prayer on the bookmark
for our church that she may experience
a New Pentecost in our time.

LET US DAILY COUNT OUR BLESSINGS AND GIVE THANKS