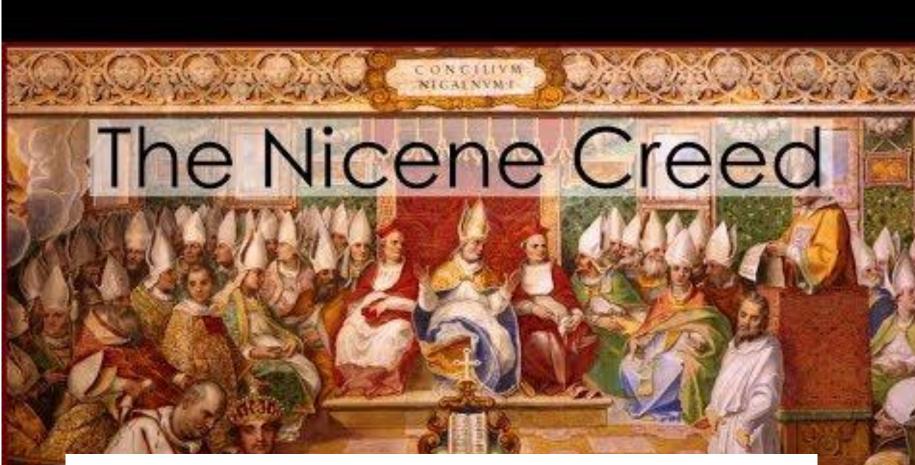
# What does the Church mean when she confesses: **"I believe in the Holy Spirit"?**

683-686

To believe in the Holy Spirit is to profess faith in the Third Person of the Most Holy Trinity who proceeds from the Father and the Son and "is worshipped and glorified with the Father and the Son". The Spirit is "sent into our hearts" (*Galatians* 4:6) so that we might receive new life as sons of God.

# **"I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT"**

687 "No one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God." Now God's Spirit, who reveals God, makes known to us Christ, his Word, his living Utterance, but the Spirit does not speak of himself. The Spirit who "has spoken through the prophets" makes us hear the Father's Word, but we do not hear the Spirit himself. We know him only in the movement by which he reveals the Word to us and disposes us to welcome him in faith. The Spirit of truth who "unveils" Christ to us "will not speak on his own." Such properly divine self-effacement explains why "the world cannot receive [him], because it neither sees him nor knows him," while those who believe in Christ know the Spirit because he dwells with them.

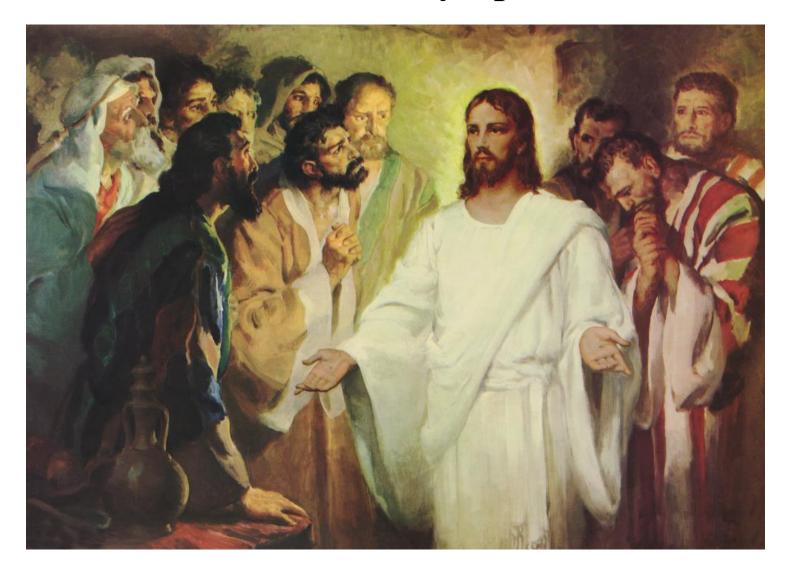


I believe in the **Holy Spirit**, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. Jesus promised, "I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever"

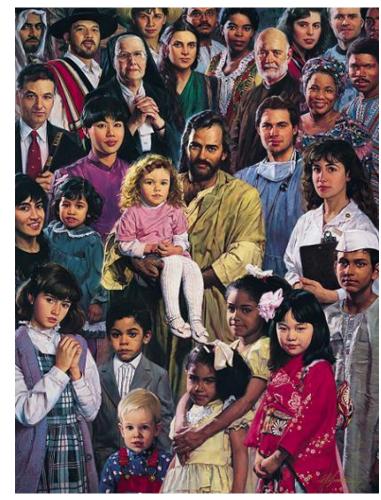


n Remembrance of Me, by Walter Rane, courtesy Church History Museum

And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the holy Spirit.



## Because <u>we are part of the family of God</u>, we can say that our family attorney is the Holy Spirit Himself.



Open your heart to the Holy Spirit and he will come immediately, often imperceptibly, to assist in the struggle regardless of how difficult.

# The Holy Spirit is the mystery of God's love alive in the world.



## "God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!'



# Council of Rome 382

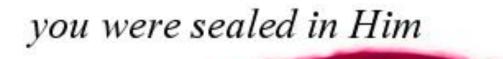


From the Tome of Pope St. Damasus

If anyone denies that the Holy Spirit has all power and knows all things, and is everywhere, just as the Father and the Son: he is a heretic. Catholicism is a religion rich in symbolism, so it's worth looking for it, to understand it when you see it. Here are some Symbols that are used for the Holy Spirit

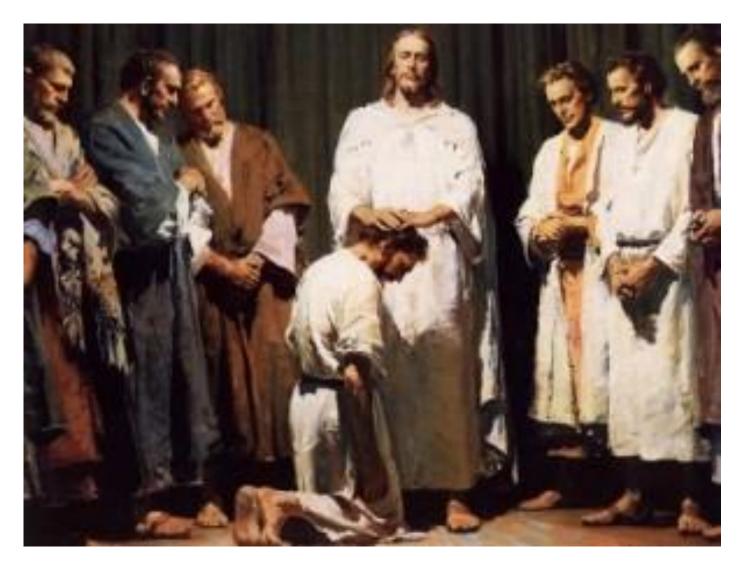






with the Holy Spirit of promise

# Laying on of hands

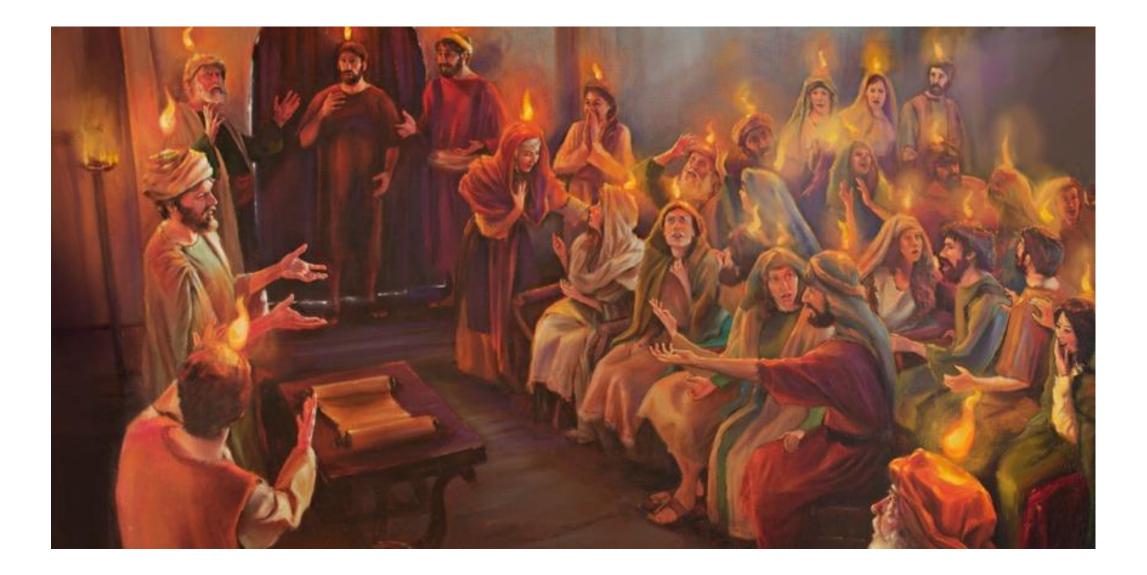




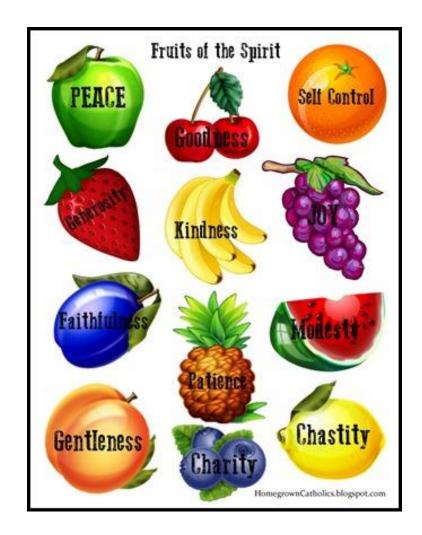


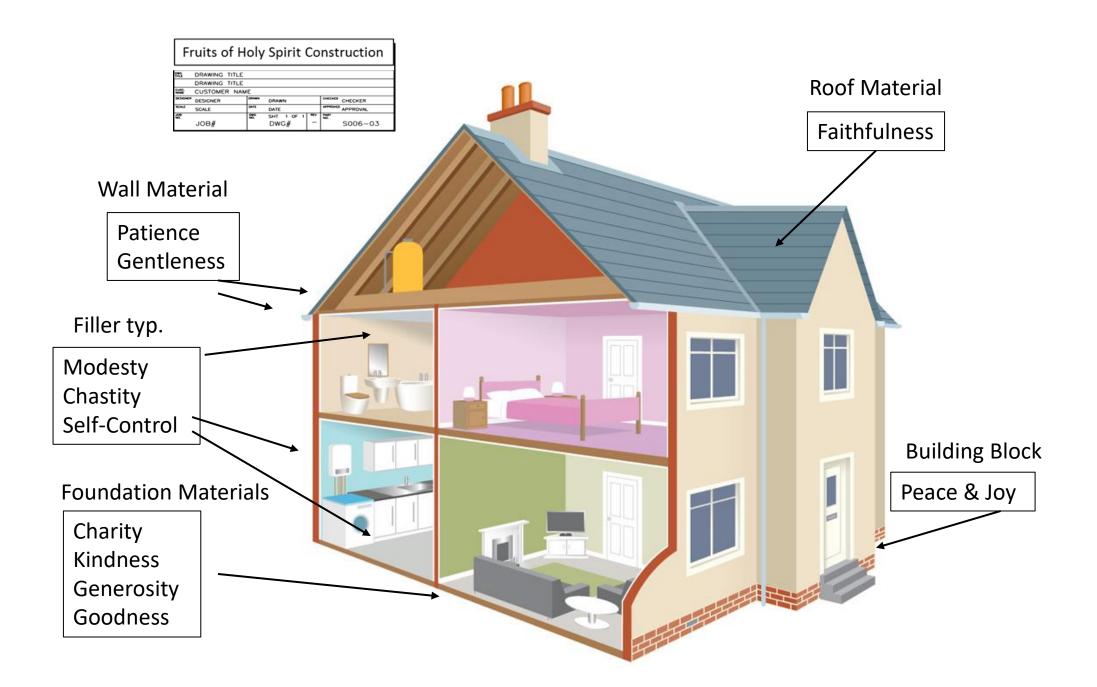












### The Spirit who "...has spoken through the prophets" makes us hear the Father's word...



You have to let the Holy Spirit sing through the actions of your life to experience the music of His Love.



#### DOCTRINAL STATEMENTS

\* Before his Ascension, Jesus said to the Apostles, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

\* Whenever the Father sends his Son, he always sends his Spirit: Their mission is inseparable.

\* The life of the Blessed Virgin Mary shows us the power of the Holy Spirit. She was made by the Holy Spirit into a witness of grace from the moment of her conception. It is also by the power of the Holy Spirit that Mary conceived Jesus, the Son of God.

\* By the anointing of the Holy Spirit at his Incarnation, the Son of God was consecrated as Christ (Messiah).

\* At Pentecost, Peter said of Jesus that "God has made him both Lord and Messiah" (Acts 2:36). From this fullness of his glory, Jesus poured out the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and the Church.

\* The Holy Spirit builds up, animates, and sanctifies the Church. He prepares us to go out and bring others to Christ. He opens our minds to understand Christ's death and Resurrection. He makes present for us the mystery of Christ, especially in the Eucharist, and brings us to communion with God that we may bear much fruit (cf. CCC, no. 737)

### What have we learned:

\* The Holy Spirit is: the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

\*In **Scripture**, some of the **images** of the Holy Spirit are fire, cloud and light, seal, hand, finger of God and dove, water and anointing.

\*The **Gifts** of The Holy Spirit: Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel [Right Judgment], Fortitude [Courage], Knowledge, Piety [Reverence], and Fear of the Lord [Wonder and Awe in God's Presence].

\*The **Fruits** of The Holy Spirit: Charity, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Generosity, Gentleness, Faithfulness, Modesty, Self-control, Chastity.



Ultimately this all points to the author of unmitigated mercy, the flawless advocate of the insignificant, whose death on the cross brings eternal consequence to the word Savior, Jesus The Christ. Amen