



What are the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit?

The standard interpretation has been the one that St. Thomas Aquinas worked out in the thirteenth century in his *Summa Theologiae*:

Wisdom is both the knowledge of and judgment about “divine things” and the ability to judge and direct human affairs according to divine truth.

Understanding is penetrating insight into the very heart of things, especially those higher truths that are necessary for our eternal salvation – in effect, the ability to “see” God.

Counsel allows a man to be directed by God in matters necessary for his salvation.

Fortitude denotes a firmness of mind in doing good and in avoiding evil, particularly when it is difficult or dangerous to do so, and the confidence to overcome all obstacles, even deadly ones, by virtue of the assurance of everlasting life.

Knowledge is the ability to judge correctly about matters of faith and right action, so as to never wander from the straight path of justice.

Piety is, principally, revering God with filial affection, paying worship and duty to God, paying due duty to all men on account of their relationship to God, and honouring the saints and not contradicting Scripture. The Latin word *pietas* denotes the reverence that we give to our father and to our country; since God is the Father of all, the worship of God is also called piety.

Fear of God is, in this context, “filial” or chaste fear whereby we revere God and avoid separating ourselves from him – as opposed to “servile” fear, whereby we fear punishment.

These are heroic character traits that Jesus Christ alone possesses in their plenitude but that he freely shares with the members of his mystical body (i.e., his Church). These traits are infused into every Christian as a permanent endowment at his baptism, nurtured by the practice of the seven virtues, and sealed in the sacrament of confirmation. They are also known as the sanctifying gifts of the Spirit, because they serve the purpose of rendering their recipients docile to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in their lives, helping them to grow in holiness and making them fit for heaven.

These gifts, according to St. Thomas Aquinas, are “habits,” “instincts,” or “dispositions” provided by God as supernatural helps to man in the process of his “perfection.” They enable man to transcend the limitations of human reason and human nature and participate in the very life of God, as Christ promised (John 14:23). Aquinas insisted that they are necessary for man’s salvation, which he cannot achieve on his own. They serve to “perfect” the four cardinal or moral virtues (prudence, justice, fortitude, and temperance) and the three theological virtues (faith, hope, and charity). The virtue of charity is the key that unlocks the potential power of the seven gifts, which can (and will) lie dormant in the soul after baptism unless so acted upon.

Parish Newsletter

Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth

&

St. James', Kinross

In the Catholic Diocese of Dunkeld - Scottish Charity Number: SC001810

Pentecost Sunday - Year B - 19/05/24 - taking us into the 7th Week in Ordinary Time

Congratulations to the girls and boys receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday in Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth. Please keep them in your prayers.

An appeal for your help...

The boys and girls of Primary 5 in Our Lady's are looking for help to equip the garden they are hoping to create in the front area of the school after learning more about God's great gift to us of Creation. They would be grateful for any of the following items if you are able to donate them: bird feeders, bird food, off-cuts of wood, bamboo canes, loose bark chippings, hanging baskets, brackets for hanging baskets, watering cans, hoses, old plates, bird baths, etc.

If you are able to donate items please speak to a member of staff at Mass or contact the school on: 01738 477570 or at ourladys@pkc.gov.uk. If necessary it might be possible for larger items to be collected from donors.

Many thanks for your support and prayers as the children learn how to be good stewards of God's Creation.

Dates for your Diary - Parish Social Events:

Teas/Toasties/Soup in Our Lady of Lourdes' church hall on Sunday 26th May after morning Mass

Parish BBQ in Our Lady of Lourdes' on Sunday 18th August (time to be confirmed)

Parish BBQ in St. James' on Sunday 25th August at 2.00p.m.

Contact details:

Parish Priest - Fr. Martin Pletts

Permanent Deacon - Rev. Des Connors

Our Lady of Lourdes', 42 Struan Road, Perth PH1 2JP, Telephone: 01738 626979,

E-Mail: ourladyoflourdes@dunkelldioocese.org.uk

St. James', 5 High Street, Kinross KY13 8AW, Telephone: 01577 863329,

E-Mail: stjames@dunkelldioocese.org.uk

Parish Mobile Number: 07540534480

Our Lady of Lourdes' Website: ourladyoflourdes@perth.church

St. James' Website: www.catholickinross.com

Office Hours for the Parish Secretary (Dianne Mitchell): Thursday 10.00a.m. to 12.00 noon

(Phone 01738 626979 only in order to speak to the Parish Secretary)

Parish Secretary's E-Mail addresses: ololadmin@dunkelldioocese.org.uk or stjamesadmin@dunkelldioocese.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator E-Mail for Our Lady's: ololpsc@dunkelldioocese.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator E-Mail for St. James': stjamespsc@dunkelldioocese.org.uk

& Mobile Number (St. James'): 07720811055

Scottish Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency: www.scssa.org.uk

Telephone Number for the Diocesan Curial Offices: 01382 225453

Dunkeld Diocesan Website: www.dunkelldioocese.co.uk

Times of Holy Mass, Confessions, etc.

Monday 20th May

No public Mass

St. James' Parish:

Children's Catechism Class after school
Prayer Group Meeting in the Church at 7.30p.m.

Tuesday 21st May

Votive Mass of the Holy Angels (White)

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

Holy Rosary at 9.30a.m.
Holy Mass at 10.00a.m.
Tea/Coffee in the church hall after Mass - all are welcome
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions 6.00 - 7.00p.m.

Wednesday 22nd May

Optional Memoria of St. Rita of Cascia (White)

St. James' Parish:

Holy Rosary at 9.30a.m.
Holy Mass at 10.00a.m.
Tea/Coffee in the church hall after Mass - all are welcome
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions 6.00 - 7.00p.m.

Thursday 23rd May

Votive Mass of the Most Holy Eucharist (White)

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

Holy Rosary at 9.30a.m.
Holy Mass at 10.00a.m.

Friday 24th May

Votive Mass of the Most Precious Blood of Jesus (Red)

St. James' Parish:

Holy Rosary at 9.30a.m.
Holy Mass at 10.00a.m.

Saturday 25th May

Vigil Masses of the Most Holy Trinity - Yr. B. (White)

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

Confessions 4.00 - 4.45p.m.
Vigil Mass at 5.00p.m.

Continued...

St. James' Parish:

Holy Mass at 7.00p.m.
Confessions after Holy Mass

Sunday 26th May

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity - Yr. B. (White)

St. James' Parish:

Holy Mass at 9.00a.m.

Our Lady's Parish:

Holy Mass at 11.00a.m.

Readings for Pentecost Sunday - Year B (18th & 19th May)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak.

Psalm 103(104)

Response: Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Galatians 5:16-25

If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you.

OR

A reading from the 1st Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 12:3-7,12-13

In the one Spirit we were all baptised.

SEQUENCE

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Alleluia!

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John 15:26-27,16:12-15

The Spirit of truth will lead you into the complete truth.

OR

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John 20:19-23

As the Father sent me, so am I sending you: receive the Holy Spirit.

Sacramental Celebrations in both parishes:

In Our Lady of Lourdes' Confirmations will take place during the 11.00a.m. Mass on Sunday 19th May and First Holy Communions on Saturday 1st June at 11.00a.m. Mass. In St. James', Kinross, First Holy Communions will take place on Sunday 2nd June at 9.00a.m. Mass. (There are no Confirmations in St. James' this year). Please pray for all the children concerned and for their families as they move forward and deepen their relationship with the Good Lord.

Clive's fundraiser for Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF)

The Edinburgh marathon on 26th May is looming. SCIAF does tremendous work supporting the poor, homeless, hungry, disadvantaged people of our world in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. All the money raised goes directly to them. Once again thank you very much for your support - Clive **There is now a collection box at the back of both churches for those of you who prefer to donate cash.** bit.ly/43Xpqnp