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# THE HOLY SPIRIT

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THEOLOGY THURSDAYS

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Yes, We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the life giver, Who proceeds from the Father, Who, with the Father and the Son, is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.





# EPICLESIS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

LITURGY OF ST MARK (CYRIL)



And send down from Your holy height, and from Your prepared mansion, and from Your unbounded bosom, and from the throne of the kingdom of Your glory, the Paraclete—Your Holy Spirit who is an **hypostasis**, the **immutable**, the **unchangeable**, the **Lord**, the **Giver of Life**, who spoke in the **Law, the Prophets, and the Apostles**; who is **present in every place**, yet not place contains Him; who, on **His own authority and not as service**, works sanctification on whom He wills, according to Your **good pleasure**; who is **single in His nature and manifold in His working**, the fountain of the divine graces; who is of **one essence with You; who proceeds from You**; the **sharer of the throne of the kingdom of Your glory**, with Your Only-begotten Son, our Lord, God, Saviour, and King of us all, Jesus Christ— upon us, we Your servants, and upon these Your precious gifts which have been set forth before You, upon this bread and this cup, that they may be sanctified and changed.



Jesus says to Nicodemus: 'The wind (or spirit) blows where it wishes; you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from, or where it is going' (John 3:8). We know that the wind is there, we hear it in the trees as we lie awake at night, we feel it on our faces as we walk on the hills. But if we try to grasp and hold it in our hands, it is lost. So it is with the Spirit of God. We cannot weigh and measure the Spirit, or keep it in a box under lock and key... Like the air, the Spirit is source of life, 'everywhere present and filling all things', always around us, always within us. Just as the air remains itself invisible to us but acts as the medium through which we see and hear other things, so the Spirit does not reveal to us his own face, but shows us always the face of Christ.

In the Bible the Holy Spirit is also likened to fire. When the Paraclete comes down upon the first Christians on the day of Pentecost, it is in 'cloven tongues, as of fire' (Acts 2:3). Like the wind, fire is elusive: alive, free, ever moving, not to be measured, weighed, or constricted within narrow limits. We feel the heat of the flames, but we cannot enclose and retain them in our hands





# THEOLOGY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

01

God is Spirit (John 4:24)

02

The Father, the Word and the Holy Spirit, these three are One (1 Jn 5:7)

03

'Giver of Life' (Gen 2:7)

04

Proceeds from the Father (Jn 15:26)







# BLASPHEMY AGAINST THE HOLY SPIRIT

“Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men.

Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come. (Matt 12:31-32)





# WORKS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



## Old Testament

Noah (Gen 6:3), Moses (crossing the red sea; Ex 15:8,10), Balaam (Num 23:7), Joshua (Deut 34:9), Samson (Judges 14:6), David (2 Kingdom 23:2), Nehemiah (9.20), Isaiah (11:2), Joel (3:1), Jeremiah (38:31-34), Ezekiel (36:25-27)

## New Testament

Jesus (Lk 1.35; 3:22; 4:1; 10:21; 24:49), Disciples (Acts 1.8; 2.4; 8.14-17), Phillip (Acts 8.5-8), Paul (19:1-7, Acts 21.4)

## In the Sacraments

Called to sanctify the visible gifts set forth (bread, wine, person, oil, water) into invisible gifts that forgives our sins, saves us and leads us into eternal life and renewal

## In Us

Received in Baptism, renewed through Repentance, living a life of Humility



# PRAYER

Your Holy Spirit, O Lord, whom You had sent forth upon Your holy Disciples and honourable Apostles at the third hour, we ask You our good [Lord], not to take Him away from us, but rather to renew Him within us! A pure heart create in me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me! Do not cast me away from Your presence and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me!

But we ask You our Lord Jesus Christ, the Logos, Son of God, to renew Him within us: The Spirit of uprightness and life-giving, the Spirit of prophecy and chastity, the Spirit of holiness, justice and authority. Our almighty God, the Light of our souls illuminating every person who comes into this world, have mercy upon us.

O heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, who is present everywhere and fills all; You are the Treasure of goodness and the Life-Giver; graciously come and abide in us, O good One, purify us of all iniquities and save our souls.

