

# **The Gifts of The Holy Spirit**

## **The Gift of Wisdom**

Considered the first and greatest of the gifts, wisdom enables us to know God and God's love. Wisdom illumines the mind and the heart, directing it to a purer and deeper love for God.

Reflection and Discussion: How do you see God's love in your life? How do you think God sees you?

## **The Gift of Understanding**

Understanding allows us to "penetrate to the very core of revealed truths." It enables us to relate all truths to one's supernatural purpose and further illuminates our understanding of Scripture.

Reflection and Discussion: What kinds of things must you do in your life to grow in understanding of God's ways?

## **The Gift of Counsel**

The gift of counsel enables us to judge right and wrong and choose correctly what will help us become holy.

Reflection and Discussion: What do you think is the best way to practice counsel? How can you help others to do so?

## **The Gift of Fortitude**

The gift of fortitude instills in us the courage to overcome obstacles and difficulties that come with living our Faith.

Reflection and Discussion: During Lent, we are encouraged to fast, pray and give alms. How do these practices strengthen fortitude? Are there other ways you can practice fortitude in school or at home?

## **The Gift of Knowledge**

The gift of knowledge enables to us to see things from God's point of view, showing us a path to follow on the way to holiness.

Reflection and Discussion: How does prayer or reading scripture help you see from God's point of view? What other things can you do to see God's point of view?

## **The Gift of Piety**

The gift of piety inspires in us a relationship with God so we may come to recognize our total reliance on Him and come before God with humility, trust, and love. Pope Francis said that is piety "is not mere outward religiosity; it is that genuine religious spirit which makes us turn to the Father as his children and to grow in our love for others, seeing them as our brothers and sisters."

Reflection and Discussion: What can you do in your life to develop a relationship with God? What difference might this make in your life?

## **The Gift of Fear of the Lord**

Commonly misunderstood as a fear of a God ready to “get” us, the gift of the fear of Lord instills in us an awe and wonder at the majesty of God – a fear of separating ourselves from God and offending Him as the same as a child fears offending his father. Pope Francis said that it is “a joyful awareness of God’s grandeur and a grateful realization that only in him do our hearts find true peace.”

Reflection and Discussion: What in nature can lead you to see God’s awesomeness? What other practices can put us in touch with God’s awesomeness?