

## Gift of the Holy Spirit

### WISDOM

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**Wisdom** is the gift of knowing the right choices to make to live a holy life. The gift of wisdom helps you to avoid the things that could lead you away from God.



**Wisdom** is our ability to value spiritual things over worldly ones. It enables us to desire the things of God and correctly order the things in our life. This gift helps us view the world through God's perspective and the light of our faith. It instills a desire to contemplate the things of God.

### The Gift of Wisdom

- Isaiah teaches that followers of Christ will enjoy wisdom, which is the ability to discern right from wrong and to seek justice. Wisdom speaks to the ability to use good judgment, and is grounded in life experience, reflection and integrating life's hard lessons. Catholics believe that one way to practice this gift is to view the body as the sacred property of God.

## Gift of the Holy Spirit

### UNDERSTANDING

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**Understanding** is the gift of comprehension, or the ability to grasp the meaning of the teachings of the Church.

The gift of understanding helps you be tolerant and sympathetic of others.

It helps you sense when someone is hurting or in need of compassion.



**Understanding** helps us grasp the truths of the faith more easily and profoundly. Our human intellect cannot grasp all of God's mysteries, but through the gift of understanding we can be lead to truth, even when we do not fully comprehend. This gift strengthens our insight through prayer, scripture, and the sacraments.

### The Gift of Understanding

- Understanding is the gift of discernment and insight. It helps followers to correctly perceive situations. Catholics teach that understanding can be practiced through learning their faith, and praying for, and carrying out God's purpose in life.

## Gift of the Holy Spirit RIGHT JUDGMENT (COUNSEL)

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**Right Judgment, or Counsel**, is the gift of prudence. The gift of right judgment helps you make choices to live as a faithful follower of Jesus.



**Right Judgment/Counsel** acknowledges the difference between right and wrong and bestows proper judgment. A person with right judgment avoids sin and leads a life for Christ. Counsel inspires us to speak up and encourage others to do the correct thing. It bestows upon us prudence, allowing us to act promptly and rightly in the face of difficult situations.

### The Gift of Counsel

- Counsel refers to the ability to both give and receive good advice, to guide and be guided by others, to encourage and be encouraged. Followers of the faith are taught that if they remain spiritually righteous, others will look up to them and seek their counsel. A way to benefit from this gift is to seek out church elders and priests who can provide spiritual guidance in time of need.

## Gift of the Holy Spirit

### COURAGE (FORTITUDE)

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**Courage, or Fortitude**, is the gift that helps you stand up for your faith in Christ. The gift of courage helps you overcome any obstacles that would keep you from practicing your faith.



**Courage** sustains our decision to follow the will of God in any situation. It allows us to stand up and defend our faith, even when threatened by bodily injury or death. This gift allows us to be steadfast in our decisions to do well and to endure evil even when we do not want to.

## The Gift of Fortitude

- Fortitude is another word for strength and refers to spiritual rather than physical strength. Fortitude is the ability to commit to God despite temptations or external pressures to the contrary. Fortitude is also the ability to endure suffering and hardship in the name of following God's commandments. To exercise fortitude, Catholics put their relationship with Christ first in their lives, no matter what arises.

## Gift of the Holy Spirit

### KNOWLEDGE

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**Knowledge** is the gift of knowing and enlightenment. The gift of knowledge enables you to choose the right path that will lead you to God. It encourages you to avoid obstacles that will keep you from him.



**Knowledge** is awareness to God's plan. It is not simply an accumulation of facts but rather an understanding of God's purpose and how we ought to respond. Knowledge helps bring to light temptations and to discern whether to give in or live a life worthy of God's approval.

### The Gift of Knowledge

- Knowledge refers to being able to educate oneself and build up a base of information from which to operate in the world. The Bible encourages followers to employ knowledge for the good of all humanity. One way Catholics encourage exercising the gift of knowledge is to know and stay true to long-term goals.

## Gift of the Holy Spirit

### REVERENCE (PIETY)

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**Reverence**, or Piety, is the gift of confidence in God.

This gift of reverence inspires you to joyfully want to serve God and others.



**Reverence** is our obedience to God and our willingness to serve him. It is not just obedience through a sense of duty but rather obedience out of love and devotion. It facilitates a deeper respect for God and the Church.

### The Gift of Piety

- Piety is another word for devotion and is the demonstration of commitment to faith. A pious person is one who lives a sin-free, moral life, and who surrenders his own will to that of God. Catholics believe that piety involves stepping out of your own way in order to follow God's calling.

## Gift of the Holy Spirit

### WONDER AND AWE (FEAR OF THE LORD)

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**Wonder and Awe**, or Fear of the Lord is the gift of wonder and respect that encourages you to be in awe of God. The gift of wonder and awe moves you to so love God that you do not want to offend him by your words or actions.



**Wonder and awe** makes us aware of the glory and majesty of God. This gift is also synonymous with “Fear of the Lord”, in which we dread sin and fear offending God. We fear displeasing God and losing our connection with him. Wonder and awe increases our desire to draw closer to God and depart from sin.

## The Gift of Fear of the Lord

- Christians believe that a certain degree of fear of God will help followers lead a moral life. Fear can also be interchanged with awe or reverence, which encourage followers to pay devotion to God. Fear of the Lord is apparent when followers try not to do anything that would cause them to separate from God.