

## Holy Spirit: Gifts & Power



*I always remember being a little disappointed when, as a 10-11 year old, I undertook the Sacrament of Confirmation. My parents had told me that I would at the end of the service get some gifts. Now, I was expecting some toy soldiers and Lego ... turned out to be a Bible and some Rosary beads! I tried to hide the disappointed look on my face. Neither had I really paid much attention to the Catechist who had attempted to teach me, leading up to the big day, about the gifts of the Spirit. When my mother reminded me about these particular gifts as I stood holding my presents it really didn't make the situation any better!*

*This week sees us focus on the gifts of the Holy Spirit. God's Spirit resides within each and every one of us. The Spirit is the 'Paraclete'. God has ensured that His Spirit will guide us, move us and motivate us. It will strengthen us and encourage us to do the right thing. There are many occasions on our lives when all of us will need help like this ... just look at what is happening in the news at the moment!*

[Mr Doust]



**Scripture:**

There are different kinds of gifts; but they are all from the same Spirit. There are different ways to serve; but all these ways are from the same Lord. And there are different ways that God works in people; but all these ways are from the same God.

God works in us all in everything we do. Something from the Spirit can be seen in each person, to help everyone. The Spirit gives one person the ability to speak with wisdom. And the same Spirit gives another the ability to speak with knowledge. The same Spirit gives faith to one person. And that one Spirit gives another gifts of healing. The Spirit gives to another person the power to do miracles, to another the ability to prophesy. And he gives to another the ability to know the difference between good and evil spirits.

The Spirit gives one person the ability to speak in different kinds of languages and to another the ability to interpret those languages. One Spirit, the same Spirit, does all these things. The Spirit decides what to give each person.

**Prayer:**

Holy Spirit, our Comforter, and our Friend, as we stand on Your Word, we ask that You rain down on us. Let Your power fall on us and change our hearts. Open heaven wide and pour out the rain of Your Holy Spirit over our church and our lives. Change us, renew us, empower us. We need Your touch again. Precious gift from heaven, send us Your cleansing rain. Amen.