

Some Church Statements Regarding the Holy Spirit

(As quoted by Charles Whitehead in Talk 3)

“It is not only through the sacraments that the Holy Spirit makes holy the people, leads them and enriches them with his virtues. Allotting his gifts as he wills (1 COR 12:11), he also distributes special graces among the faithful of every rank. By these gifts he makes them fit and ready to undertake various tasks for the renewal and building up of the Church. These charisms are to be received with thanksgiving because they are fitting and useful for the needs of the Church.”

(“Lumen Gentium” [12], 1964)

“Open yourselves with docility to the gifts of the Holy Spirit!”

“Accept gratefully and obediently the charisms which the Holy Spirit never ceases to bestow on us!”

(Pope Saint John Paul II, 1998)

“Charisms are to be accepted with gratitude by the person who receives them, and by all members of the Church as well.”

(Catechism of the Catholic Church [para 800])

“Whatever their character – sometimes it is extraordinary, like the gift of miracles or the gift of tongues – charisms are intended for the common good of the Church.”

(Catechism of the Catholic Church [para 2003])

“There is no greater freedom than that of allowing oneself to be guided by the Holy Spirit, letting him enlighten, guide and direct us, leading us wherever he will. The Holy Spirit knows well what is needed in every time and every place.”

(Pope Francis, “Evangelii Gaudium”, 2013)

“I expect from you that you share with all in the Church the grace of Baptism in the Spirit.”

(Pope Francis, 2014)

“Our Lord sometimes gives the soul feelings of jubilation and a strange prayer it doesn’t understand. I am writing about this favour here so that if he grants it to you, you may give him such praise and know what is taking place. It seems like gibberish, and certainly the experience is like that, for it is a joy so excessive that the soul wouldn’t want to enjoy it alone but wants to share it with everyone. Oh what blessedness sisters! If only God would give it to us all!”

(St Teresa of Avila, “The Interior Castle”, 1577)

Gifts, Charisms & Fruits of the Holy Spirit

GIFTS (*Isaiah 11:2*)

- Wisdom
- Understanding
- Counsel
- Fortitude
- Knowledge
- Piety
- Fear of the Lord

CHARISMS (*1 COR 12:8-10*)

- Messages of Wisdom
- Messages of knowledge
- Faith
- Healing
- Miracles
- Prophecy
- Discernment of spirits
- Speaking in Tongues
- Interpretation of Tongues

FRUITS (*GAL 5:22-23*)

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Patience
- Kindness
- Goodness
- Faithfulness
- Humility
- Self control

Father Raniero Cantalamessa, preacher to the Pope and the Papal Household for the last 35 years, shares his testimony of encountering the love of God through Christ and Baptism in the Holy Spirit and what inspired his longing for unity in the church. (Recent talk to Alpha Leadership Conference, May 2015) <https://lc17.alpha.org/node/125>