



**THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH** — Jesus said: “When the Advocate comes, Whom I will send you from the Father, the Spirit of truth Who comes from the Father, He will testify on My behalf. . . . He will guide you into all the truth” (Jn 15:26; 16:13).

# *Following the Holy Spirit*

---

**DIALOGUES, PRAYERS, and DEVOTIONS  
INTENDED TO HELP EVERYONE  
KNOW, LOVE, AND FOLLOW  
THE HOLY SPIRIT**

---

By  
REV. WALTER VAN DE PUTTE, C.S.SP.

*Illustrated by G. Soler*



**Dedicated to ST. JOSEPH**  
Patron of the Universal Church

**CATHOLIC BOOK PUBLISHING CORP.**  
New Jersey

## PREFACE

**M**ANY questions come to our minds when there is mention of the Holy Spirit. Does He exist? Did He exist from all eternity? What is He, in Himself and in the Holy Trinity? What relationship do we have with Him? What is particularly attributed (by way of “appropriation”) to Him? Where can we obtain authentic information about the Holy Spirit, about His activity in us?

What is His role with respect to our supernatural life, to the special means put at our disposal, such as, Sacraments, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass? What are the “Gifts of the Holy Spirit,” the “Fruits of the Holy Spirit”? What are the reasons for a special devotion to the Holy Spirit? In what way should we pray to the Holy Spirit and what should we particularly pray for? Finally: How can we be said to be “**FOLLOWING THE HOLY SPIRIT**”?

We know that we are called to follow Christ, to imitate Him, as is so well taught in *The Imitation of Christ*. This is a fundamen-

---

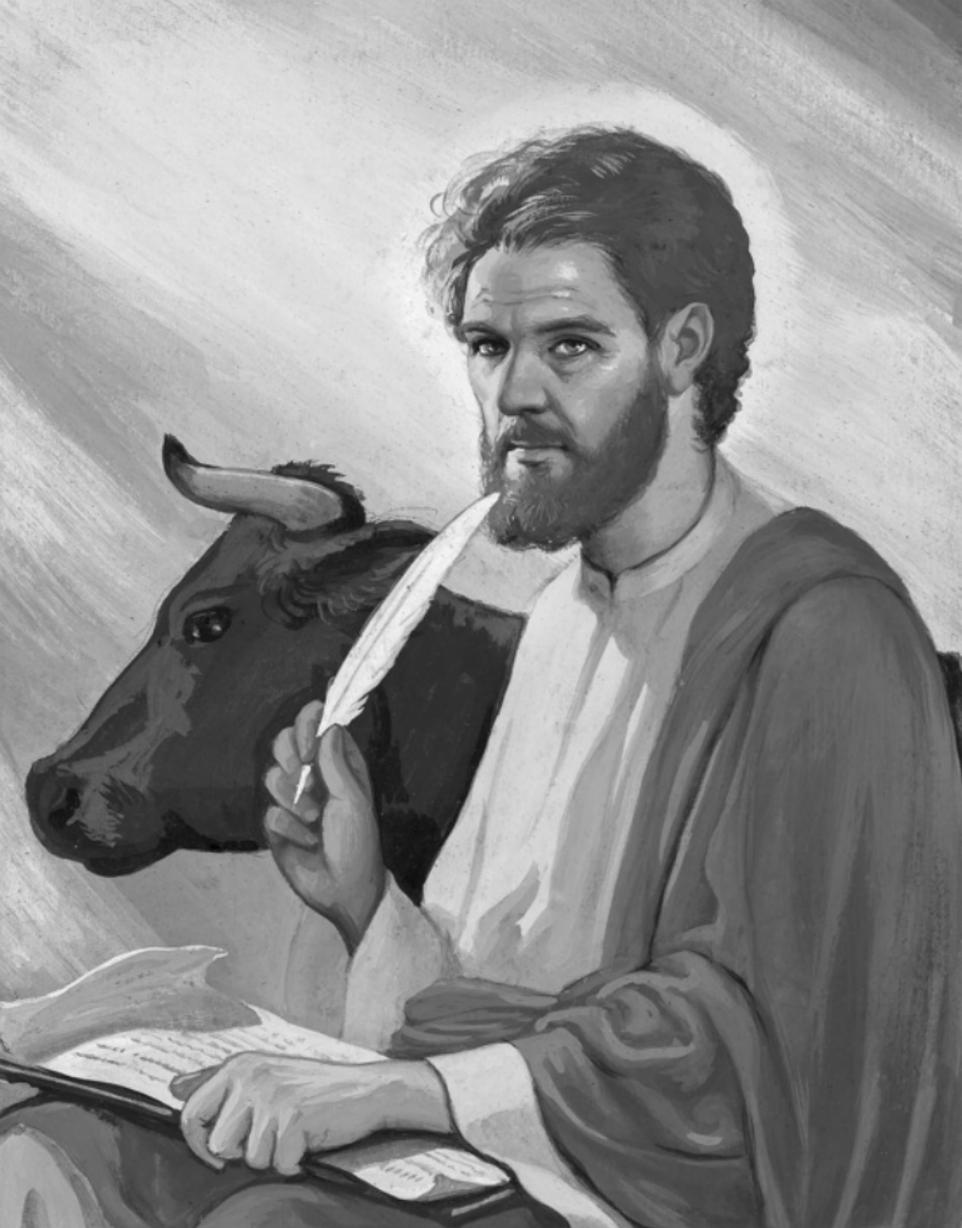
## CONTENTS

---

Preface .....	5
1. St. Luke and the Holy Spirit .....	11
2. A Holy Witnessing .....	17
3. Paul, Follower of the Holy Spirit ...	32
4. Pentecostal Lessons .....	43
5. A Selection of Prayers .....	50
6. Prayers of Petition .....	61
7. Prayers for Others .....	69
8. The Supernatural Life and the Holy Spirit .....	80
9. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit .....	96
10. More Prayers to Receive the Holy Spirit .....	109
11. The Fruits of the Holy Spirit .....	113
12. Devotion to the Holy Spirit .....	119
13. The Beatitudes .....	124
14. The Holy Spirit and the Church ...	134
15. The Missionary Church .....	142
16. The Christian Cooperative .....	151
17. A Collection of Prayers .....	159
18. Childlike Abandonment .....	166
19. Other Examples of Abandonment ..	173
20. Prayers of Confidence .....	183

---

21. Love . . . . .	189
22. Love for Neighbor . . . . .	197
23. Mary, Exemplar of Love for God . . .	202
24. Devotion to Mary . . . . .	207
25. The Gift of God . . . . .	212
26. Inspired and Inspiring Thoughts . . .	220
27. Fidelity . . . . .	225
28. Calls to Fidelity . . . . .	234
29. Joseph, Faithful Servant . . . . .	239
30. The Spirit Uses the Poor and Lowly	246
31. Angels and the Angelus . . . . .	251
32. The Spiritual Renewal of the Church . . . . .	260
33. Vatican Council II Speaks of the Spirit . . . . .	264
34. The Family Spirit . . . . .	274
35. "Nearer My God to Thee" . . . . .	282



**ST. LUKE, INSPIRED WRITER**—Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, St. Luke composed two books of the New Testament: “The Gospel according to St. Luke” and “The Acts of the Apostles.” The second is sometimes called “The Gospel of the Holy Spirit.”

## Chapter 1

### ST. LUKE AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

(Imitating the method of the author of *The Imitation of Christ* we here begin colloquies between the Holy Spirit and a Follower of the same Spirit.)

*Follower:*



**W**E KNOW, Holy Spirit, that all Scripture is inspired by You. We know also that all the Gospels refer to You and that St. Paul in many Epistles is not forgetful of You. But whom do You consider to be, as it were, Your evangelist?

Luke, we well know, must have been a compassionate physician. Some call him “Our Lady’s chronicler” because of what he wrote about the Mother of Jesus.

*Holy Spirit:*



Though all the Holy Scriptures are equally inspired by Me, it is very true that inspiration does not mean dictating. We leave great liberty to the human. Each one has his own style, his own preferences.

## Chapter 5

### A SELECTION OF PRAYERS

#### The Lord's Prayer

**O**UR FATHER, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

#### The Hail Mary

**H**AIL Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women; and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us, sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

#### An Act of Faith

**O** MY God, I firmly believe all the sacred truths that Your Holy Church believes and teaches, because You have revealed them, Who can neither deceive nor be deceived. Amen.

## Chapter 6

### PRAYERS OF PETITION

*Follower:* 

**I** FEEL sorry for so many men and women today who live as if they had no Father in heaven, no intercessors of whom the greatest is Jesus Christ, and no Holy Spirit Who is always ready to enlighten, comfort, console, guide, and inspire faith and confidence as well as love for God and neighbor.

Children most naturally ask for things from their parents and thereby virtually confess their dependence on them. How is it possible for us, children of God, especially when we have been adopted by God as “Children of God,” not to ask for the things that God knows to be good for us for time and for eternity?

When this is done in the proper spirit, we realize that asking in this way is an acknowledgment of our dependence on God and the necessity of being submissive to Him. At the same time, it helps us really mean it when we say, as Christ taught us: “Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

## Chapter 20

### PRAYERS OF CONFIDENCE

#### 1. Prayer of St. Theresa

**L**ORD, I recognize how weak I am, but every day I recognize in my weakness an occasion for salutary (confidence). You deign to impart to me the wisdom that makes me “glory in my infirmities.”

This is a very great grace. In it I find peace and rest for my heart. I have now learned to know Your “character”: You give as being God, but You expect from us *humility*.

#### 2. Prayer of St. Augustine

**L**ORD Jesus Christ, Son of the living God! On the Cross, with arms extended, for the redemption of humanity, You drank the bitter cup of intolerable sufferings. Help me, who come as poor to You Who are rich, as wretched to You Who are merciful. Prevent my ever leaving You. Feed me and grant me the grace of being truly nourished by You. Amen.

#### 3. Prayer of St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi

**Y**OUR Providence, O Lord, is so great that You take care of all Your creatures as if