

The Gifts of **THE HOLY SPIRIT**



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CPSIA December 2015 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 L/P

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Printed in China

ISBN 978-0-89942-508-5



THE GIFT OF WISDOM

THE First Gift of the Holy Spirit is Wisdom. This is the gift that the Spirit gave to King Solomon so that he could be a good king to the people of Israel.

The Old Testament speaks of how each one of us should seek Wisdom. Wisdom is knowing how to live a good life and choosing how to live it.

Part of Wisdom is common sense. It means listening to those who are older than we are because they have many lessons to teach us. We should especially listen to our parents and grandparents. They tell us stories about what it was like when they grew up, and these stories can help us when we face our own difficulties.

Wisdom also means listening to the voice of the Spirit in our hearts and learning from that Spirit when we are learning about our Faith and how much God loves us. The Holy Spirit grants us the Wisdom that we need not only to learn about God but also to live what we have learned.

You do not have to be smart to be wise. There are many people who know a lot of things but do not know how to live. The person who has Wisdom lives God's love every day.

THE GIFT OF PIETY

THE Gift of Piety is that we are filled with a sense of reverence and we know how to express it. A good example of this is when we enter a church and bless ourselves with the Holy Water. The Spirit reminds us that this is asking God to wash away our sins.

Then, when we genuflect to the tabernacle, the Holy Spirit reminds us that Jesus is present in His Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity. We should genuflect with great respect.

When we go to receive Communion, we should do so with a sense of gratitude and piety. We should not be looking around or joking. We should act as if we were meeting someone very important, because that is what we are doing.

We should also have a sense of piety toward things outside of Church. Every person is someone whom God loves. So we should always show other people respect and act with good manners. We should treat every person just as we would like to be treated.

Likewise, animals and plants are a gift from God, and we should never abuse them. The Gift of Piety helps us do all these things.