

Day Six: The Gift of Understanding

Opening Songs:

God So Loved

Come all you weary Come all you thirsty Come to the well that never runs dry
Drink of the water Come and thirst no more
Come all you sinners Come find His mercy
Come to the table He will satisfy Taste of His goodness Find what you're looking for

**For God so loved He world that He gave us
His one and only Son to save us
Whoever believes in Him will live forever**

Bring all your failures Bring your addictions
Come lay them down at the foot of the cross
Jesus is waiting there With open arms

**For God so loved He world that He gave us
His one and only Son to save us
Whoever believes in Him will live forever
The power of hell forever defeated Now it is well I'm walking in freedom
For God so loved God so loved the world**

*Praise God praise God From whom all blessings flow
Praise Him praise Him For the wonders of His love*

Bring all your failures Bring your addictions
Come lay them down at the foot of the cross
Jesus is waiting God so loved the world

Spirit Fall

Spirit fall Spirit fall Holy Spirit fall fall on me

Like a mighty wind light the fire again
Come and breathe Your breath on me
Like a mighty wind light the fire again
Come and breathe Your breath on me

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Pray:

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created.

And you shall renew the face of the earth.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit:

On my knees I, before the great multitude of heavenly witnesses, offer myself, soul and body to you, Eternal Spirit of God. I adore the brightness of your purity, the unerring keenness of your justice and the might of your love. You are the strength and light of my soul. In you I live and move and am. I desire never to grieve you by unfaithfulness to grace and I pray with all my heart to be kept from the smallest sin against you. Mercifully guard my every thought and grant that I may always watch for your light, and listen to your voice, and follow your gracious inspirations. I cling to you and give myself to you and ask you by your compassion to watch over me in my weakness. Holding the pierced feet of Jesus and looking at his five wounds, and trusting in his Precious Blood and adoring his opened side and stricken heart, I implore you, Adorable Spirit, Helper of my infirmity, to keep me in your grace that I may never sin against you. Give me grace O Holy Spirit, Spirit of the Father and the Son to say to you always and everywhere, "Speak Lord for your servant is listening." Amen

Saint Intercession: St. Jose Brochero (1840-1914) was an Argentinean priest. Immediately after his ordination, Fr. Jose nursed the sick through a cholera

epidemic and emerged unscathed. Then, to serve his parishioners, he built 125 miles of roads and connected his parish with mail and telegraph services and a railway line. Eventually, he contracted leprosy and began to go blind, after which he retired both from active ministry and from single-handedly building the infrastructure of the region. He had spent over 40 years serving as priest, nurse, lobbyist, carpenter, and construction worker.

L: St. Jose **All:** Pray for us.

Pope Francis shares

"Building the unity of the Church, building the Church, this temple, this unity of the Church: this is the task of every Christian, every one of us. When constructing a temple or a building, the first thing one does is find suitable land. Then one lays the cornerstone, the Bible says. And the cornerstone of the unity of the Church, or rather the cornerstone of the Church, is Jesus, and the cornerstone of the unity of the Church is Jesus' prayer at the Last Supper: 'Father, that they may be one!' And this is its strength!" **Give us, O Lord, the gift of understanding. It helps us to perceive more and more how everything is a gift of His love for our salvation.** So it is clear that the gift of understanding is closely related to faith. When the Holy Spirit dwells in our hearts and enlighten our minds, it makes us grow day by day in the understanding of what the Lord has said and done. Jesus himself said to his disciples: I will send the Holy Spirit and he will make you understand all that I have taught you. Understanding the teachings of Jesus, to understand His Word, to understand the Gospel.

Scripture Reading: Philipians 4:6-9

Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you.

Response: The Lord is my shepherd, nothing shall I want.

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in fields of green. Leading and restoring me to waters of peace, the Lord has given to my soul relief.

Response: The Lord is my shepherd, nothing shall I want.

He guides me to walk in the right paths. My Shepherd proves true to His Name. Even if through valleys dark is where the path leads, You are with me and nothing will I fear!

Response: The Lord is my shepherd, nothing shall I want.

Your rod and your staff give me courage. Your goodness and kindness follow me. You anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows, even my foes see all You've done for me.

Response: The Lord is my shepherd, nothing shall I want.

I will dwell in Your house all the days of my life.

Response: The Lord is my shepherd, nothing shall I want.

Reflection

Understanding

What don't you understand about a Church teaching or the ways of faith? Ask the Holy Spirit for understanding, and you will be enlightened. You will increasingly gain a fuller awareness that makes sense of the truths of faith of God's love, of His plans for you, etc., to the extent that it's necessary for your salvation and your work of serving God's kingdom.

Pray Hail Mary, Our Father and 7 Glory Be's

Meditation: “This brings us closer to these people who in some way have very little hope, who have nowhere to go for support,” Pope Francis also lamented that “we all sin in some way by underrating the problem” of the coronavirus. The Holy Father also expressed his admiration for healthcare professionals, because “they are teaching me how to be committed” and “I am grateful for their witness. Doctors, nurses, volunteers who have to sleep on stretchers because there are no more beds in the hospitals and they can't go home. I like to use a word that fits well: the saints next door, pointing out that “many of them aren't believers, many are agnostics or they lead a life of faith in their own way, but in their witness you see this ability to give their all for others. Some of them have died. Regarding those working in the supermarkets and the police, the pope stressed that “they're the ones keeping society functioning, so that the essentials aren't lacking.” May we strive to be filled with the gift of understanding.

Final Prayer:

Come and fill me, O Spirit of Understanding, and enlighten my mind, that I may accept and believe the mysteries of salvation and the truths of Your kingdom in order to stay on the path to heaven and serve your kingdom in my daily life. Help me to discern what is evil, and enlighten me so that I may be holy here on earth and live forever in the light of your glory with a clear vision of You and the Father and the Son. Amen

Closing Song:

Prayer of St. Francis

Make me an channel of Your peace
Where there is hatred let me bring Your love
Where there is injury, Your pardon, Lord and
Where there is doubt, true faith in You.

Make me an channel of Your peace
Where there is despair in life, let me bring hope
Where there is darkness, only light
And where there is sadness, ever joy

O Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love with all my soul

Make me an channel of Your peace
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
In giving of ourselves that we receive
And in dying we are born to eternal life