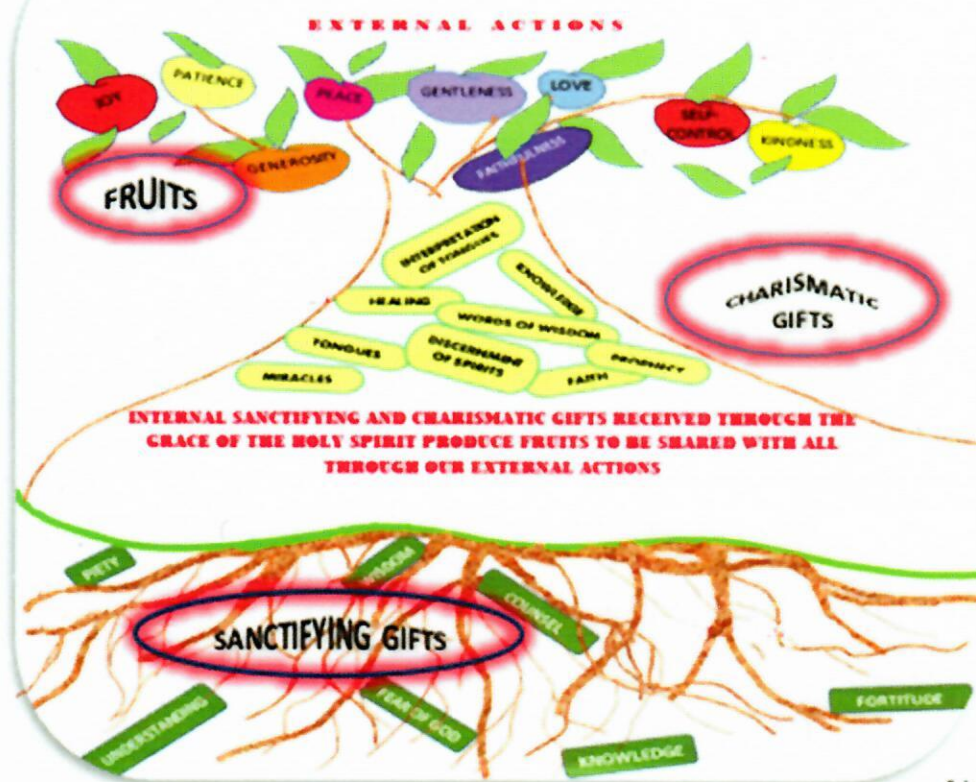


DESIRE THE GIFTS - LIVE THE FRUITS

PEACE

GIFTS AND FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



John 16:33 *I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!*

Matthew 5:9 *Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.*

PEACE... We often pray for it, especially when opposing signs of peace are manifested. These can be world, national, or city wars, civil unrest and violence, political disagreements, or as personal as disputes with your next-door neighbor. These signs of opposition are sometimes instigated and exaggerated by the media or our friends and family. However, often they

are fed by our own imaginations, pride, or fear. So, how do we gain peace in the midst of all these affective factors? There are several ways, and all include Our Lord Jesus. Remember when Jesus assisted the prostitute who was receiving punishment for her sinful deeds in [John 8:6-8](#). Instead of fighting with the Pharisees physically, Jesus wisely made His point without bloodshed. Jesus felt love and compassion for the prostitute, and a desire to see her live a holier life, in peace. Again, in [Matthew 26:51-52](#) when Jesus was captured in Gethsemane, Peter drew his sword and cut off the ear of a soldier trying to capture Jesus. Jesus emphasized that violence was not the way to handle the situation, and then healed the soldier. Jesus, in turn, spoke to the soldiers questioning His arrest, there was discussion. These are peaceful methods. Allow God's peace to enter first inwardly so that it can be conveyed outwardly with the mindset of Jesus, Our Lord. He desires that His grace soaks into our very spirit so that our desire for holiness matches His desire for our holiness. Daily ask Jesus to fill you afresh with the Holy Spirit so that we will bear the fruit of peace to both ourselves and others. **HOLY SPIRIT COME!**

INTERCESSORY PRAYER TO ST. OLIVER PLUNKETT THE FRUIT OF PEACE:

St. Oliver, your love and determination to not abandon your people in times of distress is what I pray for. Please ask Our Lord to have pity on me in my own times of war both inward and outward. Pray I may be enlightened to have strong faith as you did until your martyrdom. Ask Jesus to show me how to reconcile and forgive with perfect sincerity and peace. **AMEN**

