FIFTH DAY

Light Immortal! Light Divine!
Visit Thou these hearts of Thine,
And our inmost being fill!

THE GIFT OF KNOWLEDGE

The Gift of Knowledge enables the soul to evaluate created things at their true worth in their relation to God. Knowledge unmasks the pretense of creatures, reveals their emptiness, and points out their only true purpose as instruments in the service of God. It shows us the loving care of God even in adversity, and directs us to glorify Him in every circumstance of life. Guided by its light, we put first things first, and prize the friendship of God beyond all else. “Knowledge is a fountain of life to him that possesseth it.”

THE GIFT OF UNDERSTANDING

Understanding, as a Gift of the Holy Ghost, helps us to grasp the meaning of the truths of our holy religion. By Faith, we know them but, by Understanding, we learn to appreciate and relish them. It enables us to penetrate the inner meaning of revealed truths and, through them, to be quickened to a newness of life. Our faith ceases to be sterile and inactive, but inspires a mode of life that bears eloquent testimony to the faith that is in us; we begin to “walk worthy of God in all things pleasing, and increasing in the knowledge of God.”

SIXTH DAY

If Thou take Thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay;
All his good is turned to ill.

PRAYER

Come, O Blessed Spirit of Knowledge, and grant that I may perceive the Will of the Father; show me the nothingness of earthly things, that I may realize their vanity and use them only for Thy glory and my own salvation, looking ever beyond them to Thee, and Thy eternal rewards. Amen.

SEVENTH DAY

Heal our wounds - our strength renew;
On our dryness pour Thy dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away!

THE GIFT OF COUNSEL

The Gift of Counsel endows the soul with supernatural prudence, enabling it to judge promptly and rightly what must be done, especially in difficult circumstances. Counsel applies the principles furnished by Knowledge and Understanding to the innumerable concrete cases that confront us in the
course of our daily duty as parents, teachers, public servants and Christian citizens. Counsel is supernatural common sense, a priceless treasure in the quest of salvation. “Above all these things, pray to the Most High, that He may direct thy way in truth.”

**PRAYER**

Come, O Spirit of Counsel, help and guide me in all ways that I may always do Thy Will. Incline my heart to that which is good; turn it away from all that is evil, and direct me by the straight path of Thy Commandments to that goal of Eternal Life for which I long. Amen.

**EIGHTH DAY**

*Bend the stubborn heart and will,*
*Melt the frozen, warm the chill,*
*Guide the steps that go astray!*

**THE GIFT OF WISDOM**

Embodying all the other Gifts, as Charity embraces all the other Virtues, Wisdom is the most perfect of the Gifts. Of Wisdom, it is written, “All good things come to me with her, and innumerable riches through her hands.” It is the Gift of Wisdom that strengthens our Faith, fortifies Hope, perfects Charity, and promotes the practice of Virtue in the highest degree. Wisdom enlightens the mind to discern and relish things divine, in the appreciation of which, earthly joys lose their savor, whilst the Cross of Christ yields a divine sweetness according to the words of the Savior: “Take up thy cross and follow Me, for My yoke is sweet and My burden light.”

**PRAYER**

Come, O Spirit of Wisdom, and reveal to my soul the mysteries of heavenly things, their exceeding greatness, power and beauty. Teach me to love them above and beyond all the passing joys and satisfactions of earth. Help me to attain them and possess them forever. Amen.

**NINTH DAY**

*Thou, on those who evermore Thee confess and Thee adore,*
*In Thy sevenfold Gifts, descend: Give them comfort when they die; Give them life with Thee on high; Give them joys which never end.*

Amen.

**THE FRUITS OF THE HOLY GHOST**

The Gifts of the Holy Ghost perfect the supernatural virtues by enabling us to practice them with greater docility to divine inspiration. As we grow in the knowledge and love of God under the direction of the Holy Ghost, our service becomes more sincere and generous, the practice of virtue more perfect. Such acts of virtue leave the heart filled with joy and consolation and are known as Fruits of the Holy Ghost. These Fruits, in turn, render the practice of virtue more attractive and become a powerful incentive for still greater efforts in the service of God.

**PRAYER**

Come, O Divine Spirit, fill my heart with Thy heavenly Fruits: Thy Charity, Joy, Peace, Patience, Benignity, Goodness, Longanimity, Mildness, Faith, Modesty, Continency and Chastity that I may never weary in the service of God, but by continued faithful submission to Thy inspiration may merit to be united eternally with Thee in the love of the Father and the Son. Amen.
O, Holy Ghost, I offer Thee the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, His most Precious Blood, the sorrowful, humble, pure, obedient and Immaculate Heart of Mary, to repair for all my offenses and negligences. I consecrate myself unreservedly to Thee. I place all my trust in Thee. Help me to make Thee better known and loved throughout the world. Give me an intense zeal for souls to console Jesus, strengthen my love and confidence in our Blessed Mother.

THE IMMACULATE SPOUSE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

O Mother of God, sanctified by the Holy Ghost in thy Immaculate Conception, pray for me.

O Mother of God, sanctified by the Holy Ghost in the sweetness and brightness of thy Annunciation, pray for me.

O Mother of God, sanctified by the Holy Ghost in the flames of Pentecost and the fire of thy uncreated Love, pray for me.

O ye Apostles of the Lamb, filled with the Holy Ghost at Pentecost, and crowned with living fire, pray for me.

A certain artist has depicted Mary as the Spouse of the Holy Spirit. The picture shows Mary standing upon a globe, which represents the world. Above is the Blessed Trinity. Directly over her head hovers the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove. Graces, represented by rays of light, stream from Him into Mary's heart, and from thence pour themselves upon the earth in seven streams, symbolizing the seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit granted to men through Mary's mediation. In several passages of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit Himself calls Mary His Spouse. Even at the first instant of her conception, He imparted to her so great a fullness of grace that all the Angels and Saints combined have not attained such a degree of perfection.

Enraptured by Mary's beauty, the Holy Spirit exclaims in admiration: "How beautiful art thou, My Love!" (Cant. 4:1) But it was above all at the Incarnation of the Son of God that Mary became the true Spouse of the Holy Spirit, for she conceived the Eternal Word in the power of the Holy Spirit.
Through Mary, with Mary, and in Mary, the Holy Spirit brought forth the God-man and, in like manner, He brings forth, every day, to the End of Time, the elect children of God. St. Louis Grignon de Montfort says: “The Holy Spirit imparted to Mary His immeasurable gifts, and has made her the dispenser of all His graces, so that she distributes His gifts and graces to whom she will, as much as she wills, and how and where she wills. No grace is given by Heaven to man except through her virginal hands.” St. Bernard and St. Alphonsus and many other theologians hold the same opinion.

To enable Mary to fill her new sublime office as Mother of all God’s children, she required another plenitude of grace, and this she received from the Holy Spirit at His coming on Pentecost. Mary had joined the Apostles in the Cenacle and, for nine days, had prayed with them and sighed for the coming of the Divine Comforter. It was due chiefly to her prayers and ardent desires that the Holy Ghost came down with such treasures of grace.

Through Mary, we must seek grace, for she is the Spouse of the Holy Spirit, and all graces are dispensed through her hands. Let us often greet Mary as the Spouse of the Holy Spirit.

**Immaculate Heart of Mary, Pray for Us!**

“Thou art all fair, O Mary, and the stain of original sin is not in thee. Thou art the glory of Jerusalem, Thou art the joy of Israel, Thou art the honor of our people.”

(Introit of Mass - Feast of the Immaculate Conception) (100 days Indul., every time)

Most pure Heart of my Immaculate Mother, be pleased to obtain for me from the Sacred Heart of Jesus that gravity of mind whose fruit is a pure heart, that my soul may harbor none but good thoughts, determine none but generous deeds, keep its eagerness for the things of Eternity, and be so deeply penetrated by the thought of them that all other pre-occupations may seem only as they will appear at the moment of death, as they are in the sight of God, emptiness, vanity, nothingness. (Rev. Mother Goetz, R.S.H.)

**Sweet Heart of Mary, Be My Salvation!**

(300 days Indulgence)
"Put you on the armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the deceits of the devil. For our wrestling is not against flesh and blood; but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the world of this darkness, against the spirits of wickedness in the high places. Therefore, take unto you the armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and to stand in all things perfect. Stand, therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of justice; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; in all things taking the shield of Faith, wherewith you may be able to extinguish all the fiery darts of the most wicked one; and take unto you the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God."