

## SILENT SENTENCES 1

### WHAT ARE THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?

The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit were possessed in their entirety by Jesus and are shared by God through the work of the Holy Spirit in the world. Wisdom helps us to see the world through God's eyes, and know the right choices to make in leading a holy life. Understanding helps us comprehend the teachings of the Church, and be sympathetic towards others. The gift of Counsel helps us to know what is right and wrong, which is not always easy when others lead us astray. Fortitude gives us courage and strength to put into practice what we know to be good and true. Knowledge helps us to know God's will in our lives. The gift of Piety helps us to worship and pray to God reverently. Fear of the Lord inspires us to see God's majesty in the world around us, and have a sense of awe and wonder at His creation.

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**THE RIGHT CHOICES TO MAKE IN LEADING A HOLY LIFE.**

**AND WRONG, WHICH IS NOT ALWAYS EASY WHEN OTHERS LEAD US ASTRAY.**

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**FEAR OF THE LORD INSPIRES US TO SEE GOD'S MAJESTY IN**

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# AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

## BIBLE TEXTS

The Great Commission:  
Matthew 28:18-20

HIGHLIGHT THE  
KEY PARTS OF  
THE TEXT.



Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Pentecost: Acts 2:1-12

HIGHLIGHT HOW THE  
HOLY SPIRIT WAS  
PRESENT.

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken.

HIGHLIGHT  
ADJECTIVES WHICH  
DESCRIBE HOW THE  
CROWD REACTED

Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs - we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd:

"Therefore, let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah."

When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" Peter replied, "Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off - for all whom the Lord our God will call."

HIGHLIGHT PETER'S INSTRUCTIONS  
TO THE CROWD AND WHAT THEY  
WILL RECEIVE IN RETURN.

With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." Those who accepted his message were baptised, and about three thousand were added to their number.

# AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

## Case Studies

### THE AMAZON – RECRUITING PRIESTS



Spanning 53,000 square miles, the Diocese of Humaitá has about 85,000 Catholics in a total population of 125,000.

There are 21 priests in the diocese, but many of the Catholics only receive visits three to four times a year, as they live in remote settlements, often on the banks of the great rivers and accessible only by boat.

Consequently, the Catholic Church is hoping to expand its presence and its evangelization work, but this is only possible with the addition of more priests. So, the Diocese of Humaitá is trying to encourage more men to listen to the voice of God and become priests.

The project is starting to bear good fruit. There are six young men now studying at the archdiocesan seminary in Porto Velho. But funding their theological training is difficult, as their home diocese must pay for their study and lodging, and this is a heavy financial burden for an impoverished region. Aid to the Church in Need is helping to provide funding for this important mission, so that people in the Amazon can literally be baptised and supported as Catholics.



### GHANA: BAKING EUCHARISTIC HOSTS



The Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus are a congregation of women religious, who work in healthcare and education, caring for the poor and disadvantaged, especially women and girls.

To help this congregation cover their costs, the Sisters make eucharistic hosts for several of the dioceses in the country. This provides a vital service to the Church, since without hosts, there is no Eucharist.

The number of Catholics is growing and many attend Holy Mass during the week as well. This adds up to a monthly demand for 1.5 million small hosts for the laity and 15,000 larger hosts for the priests.

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### GHANA: BAKING EUCHARISTIC HOSTS



With their 25-year-old and frequently malfunctioning machine, the Sisters could not manage to supply more than 15% of this demand, since the whole process of mixing the dough, cutting and baking the hosts was a long and painstaking one. It could also be quite dangerous, since the worn and damaged electrical cables posed a constant danger of electrical shock.

The Sisters turned to ACN for help, and we provided £20,000 for modern machinery, so that the Sisters can now considerably increase their production.

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### UKRAINE: BUILDING HOUSES

Capuchin Fathers run thriving parishes throughout Ukraine. In addition to celebrating Mass, they also offer many other spiritual opportunities for believers and seekers alike. They are available to anyone who wishes to talk with someone about faith, their personal lives, their questions, and concerns; and in this current time of war and crisis, the need for counselling has greatly grown. Although Lviv is scarcely touched by actual fighting, countless refugees have come here from other parts of the country, needing shelter as well as spiritual support and counsel.

In September 2021, three more Capuchin Fathers came to Lviv. They are planning to offer catechetical sessions for adults and prayer groups. But their most important mission is the confessional. In the cathedral, there are opportunities for confession at all times of day, and the Capuchin Fathers are regularly available to offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

There used to be two Capuchin monasteries in Lviv, but these buildings were confiscated by the communists and are still being used for other purposes today.

Their return seems almost impossible. The three Capuchin Fathers now live in a cramped, two-room apartment. They set up a tiny 'chapel' in a storeroom, and the kitchen doubles as the living room. The small quarters leave nowhere for them to gather with the faithful, meaning that prayer meetings, talks, and Eucharistic adoration mostly take place in private homes or apartments, or even in inns and public houses. In the summertime, the friars can often be found in the parks or on the streets of Ukraine, making music, talking to people about God and



offering them comfort. The Fathers clearly need a suitable space for their pastoral activities, and so they have turned to ACN for help. A property that requires renovation is now for sale. We are planning to help them with a contribution of £39,500, so that they can soon have a house that is better suited to their pastoral needs.