



JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY – MAY 2016 DISCOVERING WAYS TO LIVE THE YEAR OF MERCY

The Holy Spirit, the Comforter

Jesus encourages us to act as He acted, to do as He did. This may appear impossible. However, to help us with this task, He has given us a unique gift – the Holy Spirit Who abides in all of us. Leaving this world, Jesus prepares his disciples, and especially us, for difficult times and challenges. He promised he will not leave us orphans, but will send a Comforter, Who will support and work for us and with us. Christ assures us that the Holy Spirit will never abandon us, and will lead us to the truth which the world cannot accept He will remain with us and within us, will teach us and remind us of Jesus' words.

In another text, Jesus tells us that the Holy Spirit is the source of truth Who reveals to us our sinfulness and shows us the way to righteousness, and Who convinces us that God's forthcoming judgment is unavoidable, He lets us see the future and reveals Christ's glory. The Holy Spirit has worked among human beings since the beginning of the world, but from the day of Pentecost He has begun to live and act in all the faithful.

People often forsake the ways of God, and go their own ways leading to perdition of soul and body. In order to save souls, and lead them on the way to salvation, Christ gave us one more gift – a gift above all gifts. Ten days after His Ascension, He sent us His Holy Spirit. And this Spirit of God given to us, He lives in us, and leads all who want to submit to His holy guidance along the divine path of a Christian life. And you, my beloved, have received this gift, this great, enlightening, holy gift that in the soul of each individual receives, guides, and hears our prayer. What an inexhaustible treasure this is, what a wonderful heavenly gift, what happiness it is to be a Christian! In this Jubilee Year of Mercy let us ask the Holy Spirit to sustain us and inspire us to perform the works of mercy for the body and for the soul.

Our Prayer for the Season of Pentecost

Heavenly King, Advocate, Spirit of truth, who are everywhere present and fill all things. Treasury of Blessings and Bestowed of Life, come and dwell within us; cleanse us of all that defiles us, and, O Good One, save our souls.

Our activities for the Season of Pentecost

The Holy Spirit grants to all, who open themselves to him, the power to do God's work. Let us promise that we will be especially mindful of our neighbors, those less fortunate among us, and be ready to manifest to them God's love and mercy! Let us be on guard that our hearts not be a den of thieves, but rather a dwelling place of the Holy Spirit.