

# The Catholic Tugboat

A Children's Guide to God



May 6, 2018 Cycle B, Sixth Sunday of Easter

Volume IV, Issue 23

## Bible Secrets

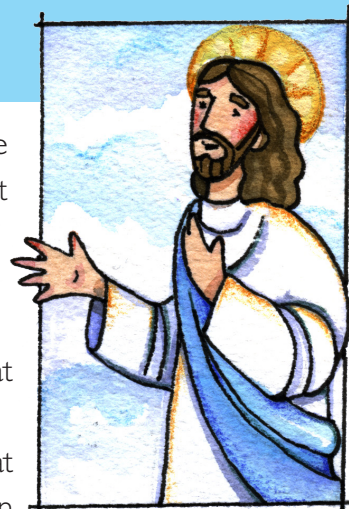
***This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. John 15:13***

This is one of Jesus' most important teachings. What is important about it is how different it is from other 'loves' we know. When we are *in love*, we are talking about a noun, what two people *feel*. When we describe being loved, or loving another, we are still talking about a feeling.

But the love that Jesus is describing is a verb, an action. When Jesus says, "Love," he means *act for the good of*

*another* (even when we don't like them). To treat another well, (especially when we don't like them), is to 'lay down our life,' or sacrifice, for that person.

This is the kind of love that gives life, the kind that began an entire religion and still gives life to this Faith today!



## Catholic I.D.

"'Holy Spirit' is the proper name of the one whom we adore and glorify with the Father and the Son." (CCC 691) But, the Holy Spirit has been called by other names and titles.

Jesus called the Holy Spirit the **Paraclete**. This word means, "he who is called to one's side." Because of this action, 'being by one's side,' the Holy Spirit has been called the **Consoler**, the **Counselor**, and the **Advocate**.

The Holy Spirit is called the "Spirit of Truth" in John's Gospel, the "Spirit of adoption" by Paul, and the "Spirit of glory" by Peter. The Holy Spirit does not speak of Himself, but He brings with Him, all that His titles and names describe! (CCC 687)

# spirit of...

## MAY IS FOR MARY...

Besides Jesus, there was probably no one closer to the Holy Spirit than Mary:

"And the angel said to her in reply, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you...'" (Luke 1:35)

Hundreds of years ago, a "30 Day Devotion To Mary" developed. It was first celebrated in August and September. But, it was quickly moved to May because May signals the beginning of Spring and new growth.

When we think of new growth and fruitfulness we think of Mary's 'Yes!' to God's Holy Spirit. Because of this 'Yes,' a new age in salvation history began. It's impossible to count the fruits that come when one says 'yes!' to the Holy Spirit! Have you ever said 'yes' to God? What happened?



# Witness: Gentiles

'Gentile' is a word used for people from a non-Jewish family or clan. In today's First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles, the Jewish people who followed Jesus were astonished and couldn't believe their eyes (or ears): The Holy Spirit was pouring out His gifts on Gentiles.



As 'The Chosen People,' the Jewish followers of Jesus believed that the Messiah was for them. But the Gentile followers of Jesus Christ opened their eyes and ears to a new truth. They said 'yes!' to God and began to speak in tongues. Filled with the Holy Spirit, they could not contain themselves, and gave praise and glory to God just like the Jewish believers in Christ.

As it did to Peter, it soon became clear to everyone that "God shows no partiality." (Acts 10:34) The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob was the same God who sent his Son in Jesus Christ. This God invites everyone, and offers salvation to all who believe in His Anointed One, His Chosen, Jesus Christ.

Why do you think 'inviting everyone' was so surprising to the Jewish followers of Jesus?



## Defective Tugboat<sup>^</sup> Challenge

With only two more Sundays in *The Great Sunday*, it is time to take a look at what the Holy Spirit does on His own. Look up and read the following passages. Then, write down the evidence you find showing the Holy Spirit is active in our world.



1. **Romans 8:2** \_\_\_\_\_
2. **Ephesians 2:18** \_\_\_\_\_
3. **John 15:26** \_\_\_\_\_

Answers: The Holy Spirit is present when... 1. we are freed from sin and death, 2. we sense that in Jesus, we are near to the Father, 3. we believe in Jesus more confidently and see others giving testimony to Him.

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