

**PARISH FAMILY ABLAZE (1-22-23): BALTIMORE CATECHISM NO. 2**  
**PART 1, LESSON 9—THE HOLY SPIRIT AND GRACE**

- I. Prayers
  - A. “Signum Crucis”: “In nomine Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti. Amen.”
  - B. “Prayer to the Holy Spirit” (Inside Front Cover)
  - C. Saint and Virtue:
    1. Saint Joseph Cupertino
    2. Generosity
- II. True or False/Fill in the Blanks (1-5, Page 63)
- III. The Holy Spirit and Grace
  - A. Grace from God and Evil from Satan:
    1. Adam: “The Lord God formed Man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life” (Genesis 2:7)
      - a. Holy Spirit = “the breath of life” present as grace
      - b. Gifts of Grace = Truth, Life, Painlessness, Control of Passions, Great Knowledge
    2. Fall of Adam under Satan
      - a. Loss of the Holy Spirit and grace
      - b. Satan’s “gifts”: Lies, Death, Suffering, Slavery to Passions, Ignorance and Error
    3. Redemption through Christ in the Power of the Holy Spirit:
      - a. Restoration of Life in the Holy Spirit with His seven gifts and the restoration of virtue
      - b. Essential Gifts of Grace—Actual/Sanctifying
  - B. Holy Spirit—God (Equal to the Father and the Son)—the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity:
    1. Proceeds from the Father and the Son as Their mutual Love
    2. Holy Spirit’s Role in Salvation:
      - a. Dwells in the Church as her source of life
      - b. Sanctifies souls through the gift of grace
  - C. Church = Mystical Body of Christ
    1. Christ is the Head/Christians are the members of His Body
    2. Holy Spirit is the Soul of the Church—“the Lord, the Giver of Life”
    3. The Holy Spirit as the Fire of God’s Love:
      - a. Moses: Burning Bush and Pillar of Fire
      - b. With Christ: Burning hearts (Emmaus) and Pentecost
    4. The Fire of the Holy Spirit:

- a. “Clothing” and interior light for those raised in glory to Heaven
  - b. Punishment, darkness, and pain for the damned in Hell
- D. Grace: For our salvation (redemption and sanctification)
  - 1. A supernatural gift of the Father
  - 2. Bestowed on us through the merits of Jesus Christ
  - 3. Sustained and active in us by the power of the Holy Spirit
- E. Sanctifying Grace:
  - 1. Confers on us new life = Sharing in the life of God:
    - a. Father = The origin of life
    - b. Son = “The Way, The Truth, and The Life”
    - c. Spirit = “The Lord, the Giver of Life”
  - 2. Effects:
    - a. Makes us holy and pleasing to God
    - b. Makes us adopted children of the Heavenly Father as members of His Son’s Body
    - c. Makes us temples of the Holy Spirit
    - d. Gives us the right to Heaven (living in a “state of grace”)
- F. Actual Grace—a supernatural help of God:
  - 1. To enlighten our mind
  - 2. To strengthen our will to do good and to avoid evil
  - 3. Necessity of Actual Grace for those who have attained the age of reason:
    - a. To resist the power of temptation
    - b. To perform other actions which merit a reward in Heaven
- G. “Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom” (2 Corinthians 3:17):
  - 1. The Holy Spirit and Grace are gifts from the Father through the Son which we can either accept or reject
  - 2. The Holy Spirit and Grace are necessary for supernatural life in Heaven but—when ultimately lost through mortal sin—this loss results in spiritual death and the pains of Hell
- H. Principal Ways of Obtaining Grace:
  - 1. Prayer
  - 2. Sacraments
  - 3. Merit and Grace: Works of Mercy/Daily Activities as Offerings to God through the Sacrifice of His Son in the Power of Holy Spirit

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IV. Discussion Questions:

- A. Why is actual grace important for unbaptized souls or souls who have committed mortal sin? What signs would indicate to an observant Catholic that actual grace is operative in a soul outside the Catholic Church?
  - B. What challenges do Jews or Muslims face in embracing a Trinitarian God? What about a Trinitarian God provokes a sense of wonder, gratitude, and affection?
- V. Mission/Prayer and Blessing