

## BAPTISMAL AND CONFIRMATION GRACES to Equip the Saints

Adam and Eve had everything and a personal relationship with God in the garden. By sin they lost all but their human life and free will. Jesus died in our place condemned for our sins so that we could have a personal relationship God and brought back into His family.

Grace is the free and undeserved help that God gives to us so we can respond to His call to become His adopted children, partakers of His divine life." CCC #1996.

### First Graces from God:

Our Human Life; Jesus Christ our Savior; the Holy Spirit and His power and His Church to guide us.

### General Graces: (1 Cor 13:13)

**Faith** - in God, Jesus and His Church

**Hope** - in God's promises of eternal happiness in heaven

**Love** - God's power of unconditional love (vs 4-8)

**SANCTIFYING GRACE (PERSONAL):** is a permanent gift, a stable and supernatural disposition that perfects us. It giving us divine power to love others as Christ loved us. Isaiah 11: 2 (These come in seed form with Baptism.)

**Wisdom** -to know the purpose and plan of God.

**Understanding** -to know the essence of something.

**Counsel** -to choose the right means to God's end.

**Fortitude** -to be steady in will to do good.

**Knowledge** - to know God, myself and grow in perfection

**Piety** - to reverence God.

**Fear** - to greatly respect God and fear losing His love.

(See footnote of 11:2 in *New American Bible*.)

### Revelation/Spiritual Direction Graces:

Joel 3:1 and Acts 2:17

**Prophecy** - Ways of knowing God's direction for life

**Visions** - seeing a spiritual reality

**Dreams** - having the spiritual break through in sleep

### Pentecost graces after the Resurrection:

Acts 2:4 : speaking in new languages and prophecy

Acts 10:46, 11:15 and 19:6

### ACTUAL GRACES:

are temporary supernatural interventions by God to enlighten the mind and strengthen the will to perform supernatural actions that lead to heaven and build up our brothers and sisters here on earth according to their need at the time.

By Fr. Bob Hilz, St. Mark's, Plano, TX 75075; email: bobhilz1@juno.com, (Gifts #1.5.09.wpd)

## Some MINISTRY GRACES in the CHURCH

**CONFIRMATION GRACES:** are Adult powers to build up our brothers and sisters which when used produce great fruit in our own lives, (Gal 5:22; Ezekiel 47:12; Rev 22:1-3)

### First Ministry List: 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

Teaching:       **Word of Wisdom**  
                      **Word of Knowledge**

Sign:             **Faith**  
                      **Healing (15 ways)**  
                      **Miracles**

Revelation:     **Prophecy (1 Cor 14)**  
                      **Discernment of spirits**  
                      **Tongues (5/6 ways)**  
                      **Interpretation of Tongues**

These are ministry gifts for all of us and growth in the Body of Christ.

### Second Ministry List: 1 Corinthians 12:28

**Apostles, Prophets, Teachers, Miracle workers, Healers, Assistants, Administrators,** and Those who speak in tongues (St. Paul says set your hearts on the greater gifts: **faith, hope and charity/love:** 1 Cor 13:4-8.)

**Third Ministry List:** Romans 12:6-8 (one Body, different members, **graces differ according to God's favor**)

Prophecy, Ministry (administration), Teaching, **Exhortation (preaching)**, **Giving alms** (freely, beyond the 10% tithe owed to God), **Ruling**, authority with care (officials) **Physical and Spiritual Works of Mercy** (cheerful service to the poor)

**Fourth Ministry List:** Ephesians 4:11 (in roles of **service to build up the Body of Christ on earth**)

Apostles, Prophets, **Evangelists, Pastors,** and Teachers. **1 Peter 4:9:** "Put your gifts at the service of one another, each in the measure he has received."

**FRUIT of the Holy Spirit:** Galatians 5:22. (As we flow in the grace of the Holy Spirit our lives bear fruit like trees planted in God's running water.) **Love, Joy, Peace, Patient endurance, Kindness, Generosity, Faith, Mild-ness, Self-control/chastity, Gal 5:22)**

N.B.: There are many other graces of the Holy Spirit not in these lists: music, bi-location, stigmata, corporal and spiritual works of mercy, single for the Lord, etc.