



Essential Evangelization

Fruits and Gifts

We learn in St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. The Catechism of the Catholic Church shows us there are 7 unique gifts: Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Courage, Knowledge, Piety and Fear (Awe) of the Lord. These "gifts" are not to be confused with the 9 Fruits of the Holy Spirit found in Galatians Chapter 5, also by St. Paul. The nine fruits are: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self Control. If you are a Christian, that is living your Baptism via a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, you should normally experience all of these in some measure. That is not to say that sometimes our old self rears its ugly head, and that is why we also need the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

But the Gifts are those unique gifts bestowed upon you by God through the power of the Holy Spirit by our Confirmation. There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit, that is to say the same Spirit manifested by our common fruit in Jesus. St. Paul goes on to compare these gifts to the anatomy of the "body", each having its own very unique use and yet one cannot live very effectively without the other. And likewise when one hurts the whole body hurts. And so it is with our Body of Christ.

Do you know what YOUR spiritual gift is? Or maybe you have more than one? Are you using your Spiritual Gift(s) for the greater good? St. Thomas a Becket has many opportunities to use your gifts and to grow in Him. And you may meet some great friends in the process. We need you to be a part of our St. Thomas a Becket Body of Christ! As the cruise commercial so aptly says, "**Get out there**"!!!

"But one and the same Spirit produces all of these, distributing them individually to each person as he wishes."

1 Corinthians 12: 11

*This is one of a series of articles on
Evangelization from the
Evangelization Committee*