

Gifts of the Holy Spirit and Virtues

<p>Fear of the Lord: We respect God as God, and love God above all things. Sometimes this gift is called “wonder and awe” in God’s presence because it reminds us that He is great and all-powerful. Because of such respect, we see the evil of sin, do not want to sin, and do not want to face the punishment due to sin.</p>	<p>Hope is a supernatural virtue by which we trust in God’s promise of eternal salvation.</p>
<p>Piety: We are humble before God, realizing that all of our blessings come from Him and that we ought to worship Him. We are mindful that we are children of God and Christians.</p>	<p>Temperance is the virtue by which we hold our passions and desires, especially the sensual ones, under control. Subvirtues include chastity, sobriety, and moderation.</p>
<p>Fortitude: We have courage to live and to defend our faith. We are strong against temptation and persecution. We are faithful to Christ even when it is difficult to do so, even when we face martyrdom.</p>	<p>Justice is the virtue by which we always give to God or our neighbor what is due him. Subvirtues include religion, brotherly love, generosity, and obedience.</p>
<p>Knowledge: We receive and accept the faith. With faith, we see everything in relationship to God and our eternal destiny. We “know” what is of God and what is not.</p>	<p>Fortitude is the virtue by which we confront with courage any difficulty or danger, even death itself, for the service of God and the welfare of neighbor. Subvirtues include meekness, magnanimity, righteous anger.</p>
<p>Understanding: Having faith, this gift gives us deeper insight into it so that we better live it and explain it to others. We understand God’s will for us.</p>	<p>Faith a supernatural virtue by which we believe all that God has revealed to us through Christ and His Church.</p>
<p>Counsel: With this gift, we are better able to make good and decisions, to know the difference between right and wrong, and to advise others. We are docile to the inspirations of the Holy Spirit.</p>	<p>Prudence is the virtue that directs our actions to the true good in every situation and enables us to choose the right means of achieving it. Subvirtues include humility and diligence.</p>
<p>Wisdom: This gift enables us “to think with the mind of Christ,” to appreciate divine things, to see the work of God in our lives, and to set our hearts on the what is truly important—God, virtue, prayer, and everlasting life.</p>	<p>Love (Charity) is a supernatural virtue by which we love God above all things for His own sake, and love our neighbor as ourselves.</p>

The Supernatural or Theological Virtues are Faith, Hope, and Charity, which are infused directly by God at Baptism.

The Cardinal Virtues are Prudence, Justice, Fortitude, and Temperance, which can be developed through reason with the assistance of grace.