

7 • WHAT JESUS SAYS ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT

One of the most widely known prayers of the Orthodox Christian Tradition is the Prayer to the Holy Spirit – “O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest all things; Treasury of blessings and Giver of Life: Come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One!”

The Holy Spirit

- is **God**, the **third person of the Holy Trinity**, personally distinct from the Father and the Holy Spirit but sharing fully in the same divine nature.
- **proceeds** from the Father.
- is **sent into the world** by Jesus Christ.
- **inspires God’s People** to speak God’s Truth and to do His will; and
- is the **Giver of Life**, Who upholds and sustains creation in its existence, life, and growth.



Most of what Jesus says about the Holy Spirit is found in the Gospel of Saint John.

The **Holy Spirit** is the **Comforter**, the **Spirit of Truth**. The Holy Spirit came into the world fifty days after Christ’s resurrection, on the day of Pentecost. We receive the Holy Spirit in the sacrament of **Chrismation**, thereby completing, confirming, and perfecting the new life we receive in the sacrament of **Baptism**.

Look up each of the following passages and write down what Jesus Christ says about the Holy Spirit and His role in our lives.

JOHN 14:15-26

JOHN 15:26-27, 16:1-15

JOHN 20:22-23

ACTS 1:4-8

ACTS 11:16

THE DAY OF PENTECOST

The Holy Spirit descends upon the apostles

Read the following passage. What was the role of the Holy Spirit in the birth of the Church?

ACTS 2:1-4

LIFE IN THE IMAGE OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Read the following quote from Saint Gregory Thaumaturge and then fill in the blanks.

There is one Holy Spirit Who is God and Who is revealed to men through the Son. He is the Image of the Son – the Perfect of the Perfect; Life – the Cause of the Living, the Holy Fountain; Sanctity – the Dispenser of Sanctification, in Whom is revealed God the Father, Who is above all and in all, and God the Son, Who is through all.

As Christians, we live IN _____, THROUGH _____,

leading us TO _____.