

Meditation on the mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary



The Third Glorious Mystery

The Descent of the Holy Ghost



Method of meditation

To do a good meditation we ought to use the main three faculties of our soul: memory, intelligence, and will. This is a brief explanation of how to meditate:

- 1) Memory: firstly, I try to remember some principles, great realities of our faith or events of Our Lord's life and bring them into my mind so that they may be meditated upon.
- 2) Intelligence (knowledge of God): secondly, I consider these thoughts and try to understand their meaning and the consequences which are attached to them.
- 3) Will (love of God): finally, after a while of consideration, I produce some acts of will in order to apply concretely what I have drawn from my meditation into my own life and I ask God to help me to do so.

With this support, this method can be done like this:

- 1) Memory: read slowly the **extract from the Gospel** (page 2).
- 2) Intelligence: read and think longer about the **first series of considerations upon the Gospel** (page 3).
- 3) Will: read the **second series of considerations** which apply in a more practical way the message of the Gospel (page 4).

End by reading the last consideration which should lead us to make **a real resolution** to apply the examples of this mystery of the rosary in our own life (page 4).

As part of the 1st Saturdays devotions, let us do this **meditation in spirit of reparation** in order to console Our Lady against the outrages committed towards her Immaculate Heart.

1. Gospel Text

And when the days of Pentecost were accomplished, they were all together in one place: and suddenly there came a sound from Heaven, as of a mighty wind coming, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them parted tongues as it is were of fire, and it sat upon every one of them: and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they began to speak with divers tongues, according as the Holy Ghost gave them to speak.

Now there were dwelling at Jerusalem, Jews, devout men, out of every nation under Heaven. And when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded in mind, because that every man heard them speak in his own tongue. And they were all amazed and wondered, saying: "Behold, are not all these that speak Galileans? And how have we heard every man our own tongue wherein we were born? Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia, and Pamphilia, Egypt, and the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews also, and proselytes, Cretes, and Arabians: we have heard them speak in our own tongues the wonderful works of God." And they were all astonished and wondered, saying one to another: What meaneth this? But others mocking, said: these men are full of wine.

But Peter standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice and spoke to them: "This is that, which was spoken of by the prophet Joel: And it shall come to pass in the last days, (saith the Lord) I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy.

"Therefore let all the house of Israel know most certainly, that God hath made both Lord and Christ, this same Jesus, whom you have crucified."

Now when they had heard these things, they had compunction in their heart, and said to Peter, and to the Apostles: "What shall we do, men and brethren?"

But Peter said to them: "Do penance and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of your sins: and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is to you and to your children and to all that are far off, whomsoever the Lord our God shall call." And with very many other words did he testify and exhort them, saying: "Save yourselves from this perverse generation."

They therefore that received his word, were baptised: and there were added in that day about three thousand souls (Acts 2:1-14; 16-17; 36-41).

2. Considerations

1st series

1. After witnessing the Ascension of Jesus into Heaven, the Mother of God, the Apostles, the disciples, and the holy women return to the cenacle. They betake themselves to prayer in preparation for the coming of the Holy Ghost. What a charming picture is this of Holy Church!
2. Although founded by Christ, the Church is still only a lifeless, impotent form. She still lacks the breath of life, a soul, the strength for the conflict. Therefore the young Church prays with great earnestness for the coming of the Holy Ghost. From this fact, I infer that I also must learn to invoke the Holy Ghost. Without Him good in me cannot grow, without Him all is dead.
3. During the forenoon of Pentecost Sunday, the Holy Ghost descends upon the Church in the visible form of tongues of fire. The chosen ones of Christ are transformed, since animated with the Divine Breath.
4. The Church now lives. She speaks and acts through Peter, who on this day as fisherman of the kingdom of Heaven, takes his first draught of fishes. In response to his preaching, three thousand people join the Church and thus bear public witness to the Christ as having sojourned among them, died for them, and risen again from the dead.
5. The Holy Ghost will remain in the Church until the end of the world to be her divine life. He abides with her in the exercise of her infallible teaching office. He abides with both the shepherds and their flocks. These truths are a great joy for me as a child of the Church.

2nd series

6. The descends of the Holy Ghost was like the roar of a mighty wind, to signify that He will drive out of our hearts, like dust before the wind, everything within us that is old and unholy. Remove then from my heart, O Holy Ghost, all weakness and sin.
7. The fiery tongues show that the Apostles are being furnished direct from Heaven with knowledge, wisdom, and the gift of tongues. They are destined to go out among the nations and unite them all in the one Kingdom of Christ. Holy Church speaks with the wisdom of the Holy Ghost. Hence I will always listen to her voice.
8. The Holy Ghost comes amid flames of fire. He ignites in the hearts of men the fire of Divine Love and an enthusiasm that quails not in the face of death. Come, O Holy Ghost, and enter likewise into my lukewarm heart! Set it on fire with Divine Love!
9. The Holy Ghost imparts to the faithful all graces, all His seven gifts. Hence I shall often pray to the Holy Ghost for myself and for all men.

Resolution

10. My resolution: I will continually pay homage to the Holy Ghost and be most faithful member of Holy Church in which He dwells.