

Spirit of the Family of the Incarnation

(6thPortal)

Presentation

Here is the 6th « portal » to the spirituality of the Family of the Incarnation. It should really be presented as the first or as the key that opens all the doors to « the School of the Incarnation ».

It is indeed the Spirit of the Word Incarnate, the Spirit of Jesus, that enables us to welcome the Incarnation as a mystery to admire, enables us to enter into this mystery as « school of life », « school of prayer », « school of liberty», and enables us to welcome the present moment as the meeting place with God...

« Our Spirit will be the Spirit of the Word Incarnate » are the first words of P. Baudouin right at the beginning of the rule that he began to write in his refuge in Sables d'Olonne.

P. Baudouin and the Spirit

In the Primitive Rule: the first words

The Spirit source of the liberty of the children of God, Ch 8, B

Anyone who knows Holy Scripture even a little, sees in each passage that the Holy Spirit acts without haste, and if he acts strongly, he arranges everything graciously.

The Spirit breath of prayer, Ch 10, A

We adore in silence, we love, we pray, etc...following the divine breath. If we are in front of the Blessed Sacrament, we may lay our feelings and interior faculties at the feet or in the heart of Jesus, or better withdraw them within ourselves where our good Saviour speaks to them by his Spirit... The infinite Spirit of Jesus penetrates our soul with its faculties and our body with its senses a little like (but much better than) fire penetrates the iron that it has reddened and we don't think about it

The Spirit to live the meeting together of the brothers, ch 12, D 4

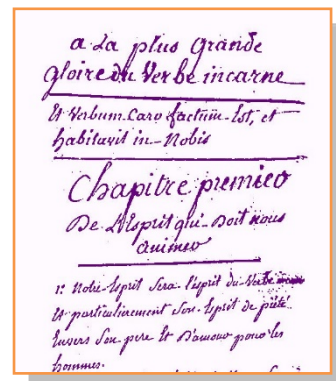
After the Veni Sancte (Come Holy Spirit ...) we shall sit, we...

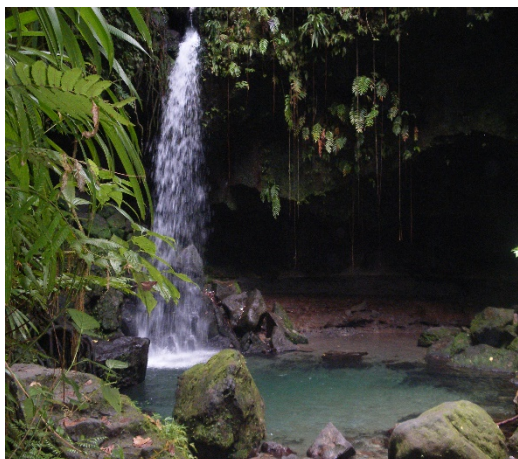
In the letters

The Holy Spirit, life giving water: "but the water that I shall give will become a spring of water within, welling up for eternal life. » Jn 4, 14

This water is, I believe, the Holy Spirit... Water purifies, washes, cleanses, quenches thirst, refreshes, makes the earth fruitful by watering it...

This divine Spirit again is compared to water that springs from a source, because the Spirit springs from the eternal source of the Father and Son... who as a source flows in us and brings about in the soul all the effects that water produces in the body; it washes or purifies the soul, quenches thirst, refreshes it, makes it fecund in the fruits of sanctity." Without me, you can do nothing". Without the Holy Spirit all is sterile like a land without water.





This water flows unceasingly. The Holy Spirit is always at work in souls that have not blocked the channel...29 July 1827

If anyone thirsts : « On the last day, the great day of the festival, Jesus stood and cried out : Let anyone who is thirsty come to me! Let anyone who believes in me come and drink ! As scripture says, « from his heart shall flow streams of living water. » *Jn 7, 37-38*

...it is not enough just to desire a little, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we must thirst for them. That is why few people do not receive what they ask for, because they not do thirst for them. The prayers of the thirsty are always answered.

Why is it, my daughter, that so many believers are so dry, and so sterile! It is because their faith is no longer a thirst, no longer loving, it is a fire underneath the ashes and that does not give heat. They say that they are living, they appear dead, they are like the trees in Winter that are living but that have no strength in them... Today, especially, where the faith is almost extinct, it is no longer a flame but a wick that smokes.

Jesus invites us to drink and those who drink become rivers. What do they drink those who drink at Jesus' source? They drink... and, thirstier after having drunk than they were before, they quench their thirst by pouring their living waters into the hearts of others. (1813)

A common treasure on « the Spirit »

At the heart of our spirituality : The Spirituality of the Incarnation is the Spirit of Jesus living in the situations, and life – conditions lived by the men and women of today hence the necessity to discover it in the sharing on the Word, encounters, days of deepening our faith as in the “**Fraternities of the Incarnation**” and the week ends « **the Mustard Seed** » We need to be attentive to the presence of the Word Incarnate in human experiences,
“to the seeds of the Word Incarnate”



Our spirituality is an experience of docility to the Spirit...

The spirit is first. We are not the first actors, "*it is the Spirit that does it*", who moulds to his image. We just have to be students docile to his "*impulse*".

The Spirit guides us in our search. Our search passes by :

- our attention to his presence and his action in the life of the men and women of today.
- our listening to the Word, in the Scriptures, the sharing of life and celebration.
- our path of prayer, of adoration, thanksgiving and offering.
- our sharing of spiritual experience, from receiving the experience of our founder and of each other.
- our mission for the present day.

The spirit of the Incarnation is a family spirit.

The Incarnation is a school. Look at this life, and see there the Spirit of Jesus at work, recognise Him, make Him known. Reveal a God who is close. Live the proximity of Jesus, *here and now*. It is "*let us take this century...*"

To live in truth: To be coherent. Like Jesus... what happens is that very often we are free towards what is exterior, but not inside ourselves and between us. This runs counter to the Spirituality of the Incarnation : "*The Spirit will make us free*".

This Spirit of Jesus sends you to search into the depths of your being for what is essential, helps you feel deeply loved by the Father through the Son. He makes you free from your ties and your slaveries and invites you to walk along with Him in peace, day after day.

Word of God.

**« Ruminare the Word ...
to the breath of the Spirit. »**



- **Jn 16, 5-15 et 14, 15-26** : the work of the Spirit promised by Jesus,
- for us today ?

- **Ac 2 : The account of Pentecost**

- account from the past, account for us today?

- **Rom 8 : The Spirit source of freedom**

- what freedom have we need of ?

- **I Cor 12 – 14 : the gifts of the Spirit** (choose passages)

Practise

The Spirit of Jesus is always the one who takes the first steps towards us when we want to go towards God.

So our « practise » can only be in the direction of an effort to welcome him:

- when we wish to pray,
- when we wish to nourish ourselves with the Scriptures and taste them,
- when we wish to respect and welcome in their differences the people who cross our paths,
- when we wish to love, to pardon



- **I re-read my life :**

What place is there for the Spirit of Jesus?

- **I search :**

How can I welcome him better in my life?

