

THIRD DAY: *The Gift of Fortitude*

Leader: Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful,

Response: And kindle in them the fire of your love.

Leader: Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created,

Response: And you shall renew the face of the earth.

Leader: Fortitude is steadfastness in doing what is right and good in the face of obstacles and trials. The gift of fortitude overcomes unreasonable fears, on the one hand, and keeps us from being reckless, on the other. It is the special virtue of those who are pioneers in any endeavor. Fortitude makes it possible for us to undertake difficult tasks, to face risks and dangers, and to endure whatever comes without undue anxiety, discouragement or complaint. Without fortitude we cannot hope to persevere in our Christian calling. Nor can we fulfill the mission that is ours by Baptism and Confirmation, to bear witness to the gospel for the salvation of the world. May the Holy Spirit renew in us the gift of fortitude amid all the challenges presented by today's society and culture.

All: Almighty Father, be gracious and bless us with the gift of the Holy Spirit, so that we may persevere with fortitude in doing what we know to be right and good. Strengthen us in our weakness, so that when we are weary, discouraged, or are put to the test, we may overcome every obstacle, and be refreshed on the path to holiness and virtue. May no trial or difficulty keep us from bearing witness to the splendor of truth which radiates from the face of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray, now and forever, Amen.

Our Father...

Hail Mary...

7 Glory Be...