

Strengthened by the Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

New
Testament
Reading

“Therefore, I tell you that nobody speaking by the spirit of God says, ‘Jesus be accursed.’ And no one can say, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ except by the Holy Spirit.”

1 Corinthians 12:3

When we truly know and love God, we’re going to act differently than people who don’t know Him. We’re going to make choices that others might not make, and we’re going to say things others might not say.



When we love the Lord and are filled with the Holy Spirit through the Mysteries of Baptism and Chrismation, we are given the strength to be able to resist temptation and to make better choices.



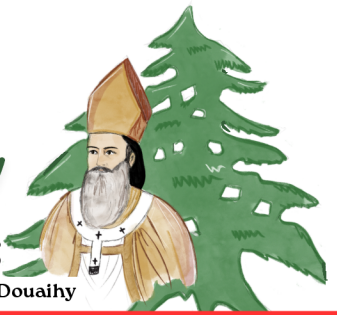
Of course, it is still possible to sin and make bad choices as a Christian. When we do, this is when the Holy Spirit will nudge us to go to Confession to find healing and forgiveness.

The Lord has given us the gift of His Holy Spirit to help lead us in the way we should go, and to fix our steps when we mess up. Let us thank God for this gift and try to always be aware of the Holy Spirit working in our lives.

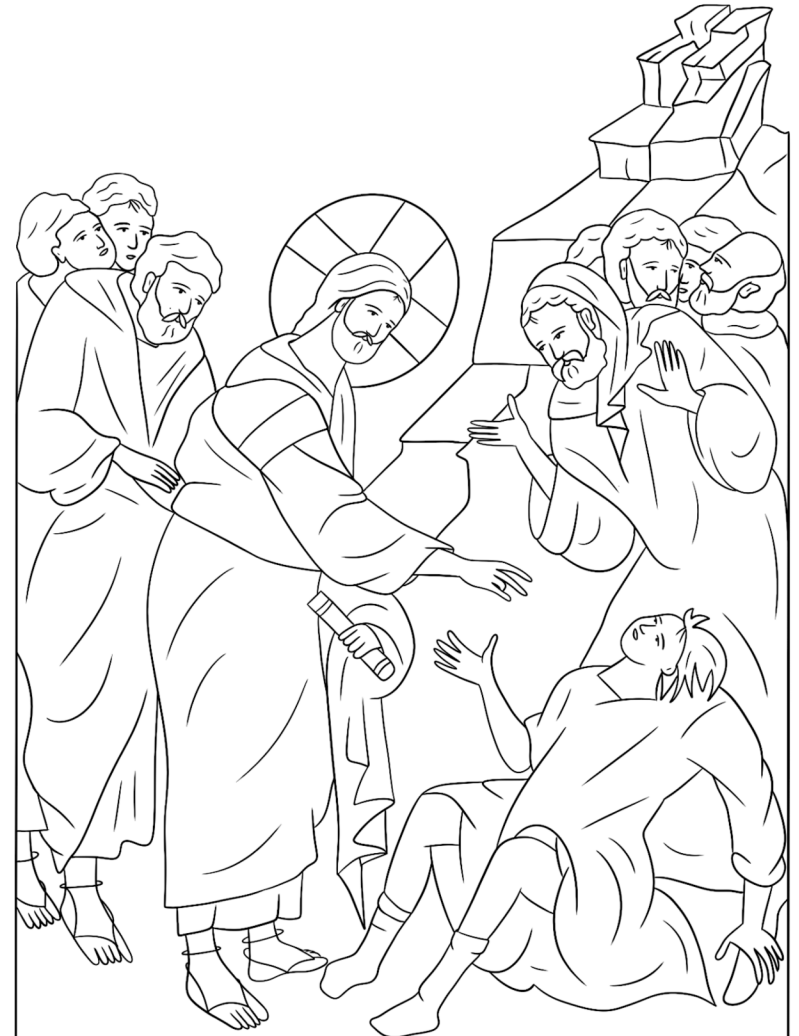


Cedar
Kids

The Way of Blessed Estephan Douaihy



10th Sunday of Pentecost, Vol 2, No. 47



[Jesus] cured the mute person
so that he could speak and see.

All the crowd was astounded, and said,
“Could this perhaps be the Son of David?”





Gospel Corner

Matthew
12:22-32

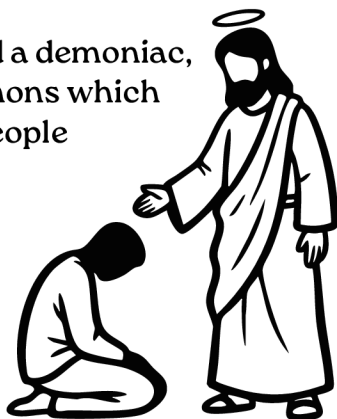
In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, he created everything good. All of God's creation was good, because God himself is good. So what exactly is evil, and how did it enter creation?



Because God wants all His creation to love Him in return, from the beginning He gave the angels and humans free will. In order to love someone, a person must be free to love. Out of pride, some of the angels turned away from God and became known as demons. Then, when God made the first people in his image and likeness, they eventually disobeyed God and sin entered humanity.

These actions - when some of the angels rejected God out of pride, and when humanity used free will to turn away from God - caused evil to enter creation. Evil is not a scary monster, but rather the absence of goodness.

In today's Gospel, Jesus encountered a demoniac, meaning a man overpowered by demons which left him blind and mute. When the people brought the demoniac to Jesus, he immediately cured him.



Jesus showed his Divine power and deep mercy by healing the man. While the man was in darkness - Jesus brought him into the light. While the man was unable to speak - Jesus gave him the ability to communicate and participate in his community. Jesus is greater than any darkness and He always wants to help those who suffer. Jesus wants to give each of us what is good and restore our relationship with Him.

Did you know?

FREE WILL

Free will is a special gift from God. It means that we have the power to choose our own actions. God did not make us like wind-up toys or robots; instead, He gave us minds to think and hearts to decide what to do. Therefore, you decide whether to follow God's rules or to turn away from them.

What you can do

Go to confession sometime this week.

Try to be a good example to those around you so that others can see Christ's love in you.

Pray for your friends and family.

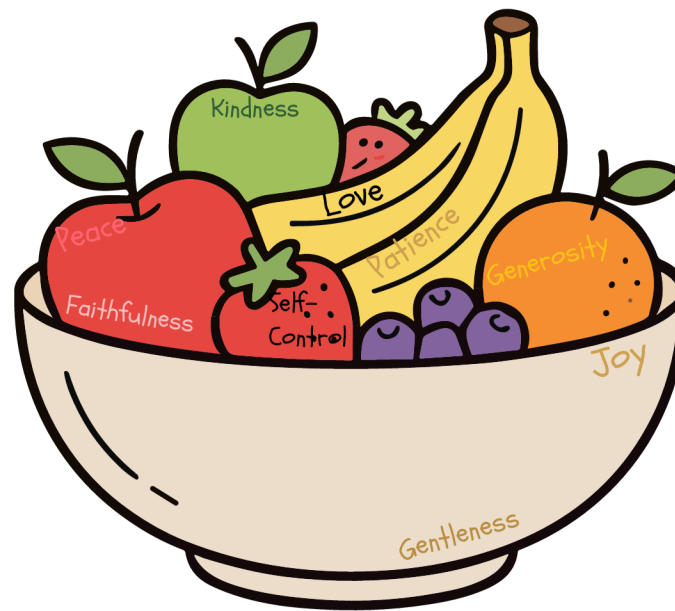
Memorize the Fruits of the Spirit.



Fruits of the Spirit



People will know that we are Christians by the way we act. Saint Paul gives us a list of the "fruits of the Spirit." These are virtues that others should be able to see in our lives. Try to find all nine fruits of the Spirit hidden in the fruit bowl below!



Fruit of the Spirit:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____