



NIGHT 3

THE HOLY SPIRIT OF FREEDOM

HAIL, HOLY QUEEN

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,
Hail our life, our sweetness, and our hope!
To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve.
To thee do we send up our sighs,
mourning and weeping, in this vale of tears!
Turn, then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us,
and after this our exile,
show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

TRUE OR FALSE QUESTIONS

- ☐ 1. Commandments take away from a human person's freedom.
- ☐ 2. Love must be freely chosen, so it cannot be commanded that a person love.
- ☐ 3. The more a person obeys God, the freer he is.
- ☐ 4. Before creating the world, God the Father chose us in Christ to be holy and blameless.
- ☐ 5. God never desired that Satan be in Heaven with Him because God created Him as evil to test us.
- ☐ 6. Christ tells us that living in truth will make us free.
- ☐ 7. Christ shows us that with greater freedom comes far less suffering on earth.

THE HOLY SPIRIT OF FREEDOM

FREEDOM IN ETERNITY

- An expression of God's freedom is the Holy Spirit — perfect, true love freely exchanged in truth between the Father and the Son
- "Now the Lord is Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."
- 2 Corinthians 3:17

THE BEGINNING — FREEDOM IN THE CREATED ORDER AND SLAVERY AFTER THE FALL

- God freely made all angels and men, who possessed freedom to love and attain the happiness He planned for them to glorify Him, to bless all creation, and to complete His work in creation
- Fall of the Angels — Satan and his followers enslave themselves **in pride** by living according to the evil of their will rather than in obedience to the goodness of God's will, and **in envy** of Man's freedom and God's generosity towards them
- Fall of Man — Adam and Eve: Slavery of Original Sin
 - Freedom in God lost through bondage to:
 - The World — vanity, wealth, and power
 - The Flesh — sensuality, comfort, and pleasure
 - The Devil — pride, malice, and lies
 - Freedom according to the Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church
 - Freedom is the power given by God to act or not to act, to do this or to do that, and so to perform deliberate actions on one's own responsibility. Freedom characterizes properly human acts. The more one does what is good, the freer one becomes. Freedom attains the proper perfection when it is directed toward God, the highest good and beatitude. Freedom implies also the possibility of choosing between good and evil. The choice of evil is an abuse of freedom and leads to the slavery of sin.
- CCC 363

HISTORY PRIOR TO MAN'S DELIVERANCE AND SALVATION

God's repeated call to freedom — Covenant

- Adam and Eve (Family) — Prophecy of the Woman and Her Seed (**Gen. 3:15**)
- Noah (Household) — Covenant under the sign of the rainbow
- Abraham (Tribe) — Call to be a blessing to all the families of the earth
- Moses (Nation) — Deliverance and the gift of the Law
- David (Kingdom) — His throne shall last forever
- Jesus (Universal Church) to re-introduce freedom in mercy by grace and adoption — True Family and the Definitive Kingdom
 - The freedom to **do the Father's will** as God's children
 - The freedom to **sacrifice our will through Christ** to the Father
 - Freedom in **cooperation with the Holy Spirit** as sanctifying grace — divinization

HISTORY IN THE FINAL AGE OF THE CHURCH

From Pentecost to the Last Judgment

- Jesus: "My kingship is not of this world." (*John 18:36*)
- The Church rules **in** this world as the ultimate power but is not **of** the world. It's citizens are:
 - Freed from sin and spiritual death for holiness, sanctification, and eternal life
"For this is the will of God, your sanctification."
- *1 Thessalonians 4:3*
 - Freed from error and ignorance for truth and on-going intellectual formation
"If you continue in My word, you are truly My disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."
- *John 8:31-32*
 - Freed from idolatry or ignorance of God for worship in Spirit and Truth
"You worship what you do not know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in Spirit and Truth."
- *John 8:23*
 - Freed from malice for mercy
"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy."
- *Matthew 5:7*
 - Freed from disorder in soul and body for purification in the soul and the resurrection of the body
"Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God."
- *Matthew 5:8*

"I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die."
- *John 11:25-26*
 - Freed from selfishness and fear for service of mission and of communion
"There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear."
- *1 John 4:18*
- This Final Age since Pentecost (the End Times) is an unfolding drama concerning life or death, Heaven or Hell for all all human person because of Christ placing all history in His humanity — All humans souls are either:
 - Triumphant in heaven
 - Suffering purgation in purgatory
 - Journeying on earth to either Heaven, Purgatory, or Hell
- The Four Last Things
 - Death — Particular Judgment
 - General Judgment
 - Heaven
 - Hell

CONFIRMATION NIGHT THREE
The Holy Spirit of Freedom
Sept. 29th

FINDING TRUTH FOR FORMATION IN THE TRUTH

FREEDOM — COOPERATION WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

- Remain in a state of grace in a life of on-going conversion and virtue
- Seek truth in accord with right reason and revelation, and live in Truth
- Worship God, especially at Mass, in Spirit and in Truth
- Accept and share mercy; do not incite or perpetrate malice, or remain imprisoned by anger
- Allow your suffering to sanctify your soul; treat your body as a temple of the Holy Spirit and your heart a altar of Christ's Sacrifice
- Focus on giving yourself as Christ to others in fearless love of God and neighbor

HOW TO EXPERIENCE THE FREEDOM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT — BELIEVE, CELEBRATE, LIVE, PRAY

- Believe — Renew your Baptismal Promises each morning for freedom from Satan and sin, and instead life in the Holy Spirit and grace. Then pray the “Hail, Holy Queen,” who is Mother of all those who believe in God.
- Celebrate — Freely cooperate with the Holy Spirit and Worship in Spirit and Truth:
 - If you are aware of grave or mortal sin(s) — **Go to Confession** to restore a life of freedom in sanctifying grace and the Holy Spirit.
 - **Attend Mass when required** and **receive communion in a state of grace**
This nourishes a life of holy freedom
- Life — Ask the Holy Spirit and your guardian angel to remind you:
 - To acknowledge Christ's Presence in the Eucharist at points during each day
 - To call upon Mary at points during each day
 - To call upon the Holy Spirit to increase your freedom for true love of God and of neighbor
 - In times when you are tempted to sin out of fear
 - In times when you are tempted to sin by “eating” forbidden fruit
- Prayer — Examination of Conscience and sincere “Act of Contrition,” “Our Father,” “Hail Mary,” and “Glory Be” before going to sleep
- **Central Focus**
 - **Getting into and remaining in a state of grace by obeying God, which bears fruit by:**
 - Giving **clarity of vision**— Purity of Heart
 - Putting **love of God and neighbor into action**

CLOSING REFLECTION

Are their things I possess that actually “possess” me: things that I am unable to say “no” to using in excessive and sinful ways, at the expense of my really and freely loving God and others?

Is my life more virtual than real — does my life involve interacting with images more than in engaging with other persons I actually see, of directly experiencing the created order of the Creator, and of praying to God?

Does another human person — either out of fear or excessive attachment — control me to the point that I am not free to love God first and to love others appropriately?