† J.M.J.

Humble Supplication To the Holy Spirit

—St. Alphonsus Liguori, Moral Doctor of the Church



Holy Spirit, divine Paraclete, Father of the poor, consoler of the afflicted, light of hearts, sanctifier of souls! behold me prostrate in Thy presence; Ladore Thee with the most profound submission, and I repeat a thousand times with the seraphs who are before Thy throne: Holy, Holy, Holy! I firmly believe that Thou art eternal, consubstantial with the Father and the Son. I hope that by Thy goodness Thou wilt sanctify and save my soul.

I love Thee, O God of love! I love Thee more than all the things of this world: I love Thee with all my affections, because Thou art infinite goodness that alone dost merit all love; and since, insensible as I have been to Thy holy inspirations, I have been so ungrateful as to offend Thee by so many sins, I ask Thee a thousand pardons for them, and I supremely regret having ever displeased Thee,

O sovereign good! I offer Thee my heart cold as it is, and I supplicate Thee to let a ray of Thy light and a spark of Thy fire enter therein to melt the hardened ice of my iniquities. Thou who hast filled with immense graces the soul of Mary, and inflamed with a holy zeal the hearts of the apostles, vouchsafe also to set on fire my heart with Thy love. Thou art a divine Spirit; fortify me against evil spirits: Thou art a fire; enkindle in me the fire of Thy love:

Thou art a light; enlighten me so that I may know eternal things: Thou art a dove: give me great purity of heart: Thou art a breath that is full of sweetness: dissipate the storms that my passions raise up against me: Thou art a tongue; teach me the manner of praising Thee without ceasing: Thou art a cloud: cover me with the shadow of Thy protection: and if, finally, Thou art the author of all heavenly gifts, ah, I beseech Thee

to grant them to me: vivify me by Thy grace, sanctify me by Thy charity, govern me by Thy wisdom, adopt me by Thy bounty as Thy child, and save me by Thy infinite mercy, so that I may never cease to bless Thee. to praise Thee, to love Thee, at first during my life on this earth, and afterwards for all eternity in heaven.

Amen.

Saint Alfonso Maria de' Liguori, 1696-1787, Ascetical Works, vol. 6: *The Holy Eucharist*, "Pious Exercise to obtain the Seven Gifts of the Holy Ghost," pp. 502-503, 1887, available at archive.org/details/alphonsusworks06alfouoft.