

The Foundations of Supernatural Prayer

Anatomy of the Soul

Fr. Jean-Emmanuel, ocd & Br. Gerard, ocd

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The Sacrament of BAPTISM

Catechism of the Catholic Church

1213 Holy Baptism is the **basis** of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are **freed from sin and reborn as sons of God**; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission: "Baptism is the sacrament of **regeneration** through water in the word."

1227 According to the Apostle Paul, the believer enters through Baptism into **communion** with Christ's death, is **buried** with him, and **rises** with him... The baptized have "**put on Christ**." Through the Holy Spirit, Baptism is a bath that **purifies, justifies, and sanctifies**.

1254 For all the baptized, children or adults, faith must grow after Baptism. For this reason the Church celebrates each year at the Easter Vigil the renewal of baptismal promises. Preparation for Baptism leads only to the threshold of new life. Baptism is the source of that new life in Christ from which the entire Christian life springs forth.

The Grace of Baptism

Catechism of the Catholic Church

1262 ... Immersion in water symbolizes not only death and purification, but also regeneration and renewal... The **two principal effects** are **purification** from sins and **new birth** in the Holy Spirit.

1265 Baptism not only purifies from all sins, but also makes the neophyte "a new creature," an **adopted son of God**, who has become a "**partaker of the divine nature**," member of Christ and co-heir with him, and a **temple of the Holy Spirit**.

1266 The Most Holy Trinity gives the baptized **Sanctifying Grace**, the grace of justification (right with God): enabling them to **believe** in God, to **hope** in him, and to **love** him through the **theological virtues**; giving them the power to live and act under the prompting of the Holy Spirit through the gifts of the Holy Spirit; allowing them to grow in goodness through the moral virtues. Thus the whole organism of the **Christian's supernatural life** has its **roots** in Baptism.

Sanctifying Grace

#1266

Enables the Baptized
through the
Theological Virtues
Of
Faith, Hope & Charity
to ...

To Believe in God

To Hope in God

To Love God & Neighbor

Theological Virtues

Faith, Hope & Charity
are grafted into the
Soul
at
Baptism

- The Theological Virtues of Faith, Hope & Charity allow us to enter into contact with God;
- They are **supernatural** & infinite virtues that are directly infused into our soul;
- This differentiates them from other virtues;
- The Theological Virtues are **God** himself who gives **himself** to us.

Theological Virtues

The Book of Genesis tells us
we were created in
God's Image & Likeness

St. John tells us
God is Love

The Essence of Love is to share itself

God desired that man have his best
What is his best?
Himself

God transforms us into his Image

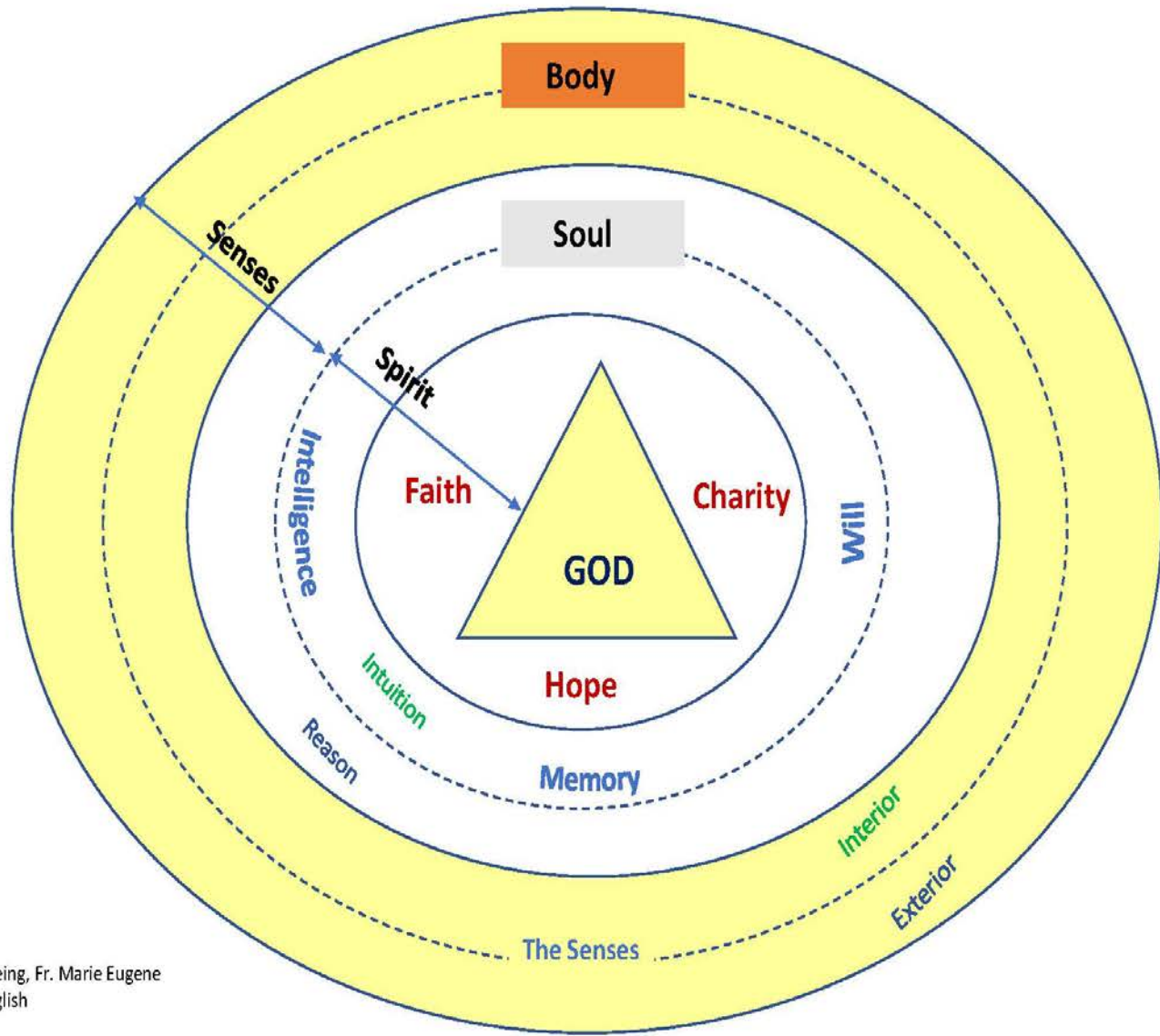
- These virtues render the soul's faculties divine;
- By proxy, man shares divine life;
- In a way, we are made '**equals**' to God by **participation** but not by nature.

Original Sin

Jesus, himself,
said that it is by
Jealousy of the devil
that
death entered the world.

Wisdom 2:24

- Original sin came about through Satan's cunning;
- He was jealous of man's divine nature acquired at Baptism.



Source: Carmel, The Human Being, Fr. Marie Eugene
 Translation from French to English

Body's Senses

Body's **External** Senses

Sight, Hearing, Smell, Touch, Taste

Body's **Internal** Senses

Imagination, Appetites

Theological Virtues Grafted into Soul at Baptism

Theological Virtues

Soul's Faculties

Faith

Intellect

Charity

Will

Hope

Memory

Theological Virtue of
Charity

God
is not
Sensory Love
God
is
Charitable Love

- Charity is a gift that attaches to our will;
- It is not 'love' but charity that transforms our way of wanting;
- As our will is gradually transformed, we love God more;
- In turn this transformation allows us to love others more.

Theological Virtue of
FAITH

You are the Christ
the Son
of the
Living God

Mt. 16:16

- Faith is a gift from God that attaches to the intelligence;
- Faith allows the intelligence to be purified & transformed from an inaccurate understanding of things;
- The more we allow God to act in us the more 'intelligent' we become; it is the 'intelligence of faith';
- Faith gives us a vision of things, an understanding that by ourselves we wouldn't be able to acquire;
- It renews our thinking.

Theological Virtue of **Hope**

I used to think that I didn't have
the time for this or that

OR

Because of my past
there was no hope for a decent
future.

- Hope is a gift that attaches itself to our memory;
- Memory concerns our relationship to time;
- Hope awakens in us another relationship with time that allows us to hope against all hope.

Transformation

Little by little as we allow
God to work in our souls,
The Spiritual Self
is transformed by our
Theological Life

The Spiritual Self
gradually takes over
The Sensory Self
through God's grace.

The **Inside Governs the Outside**

- This spiritual self will then **re-order** both the **imagination** and the **appetites** for the service of good;
- Our deep self has been harmonized; the spiritual and the sensory are in harmony;
- This **transformation** of our deep self makes us more harmonious a being - more efficient, agreeable, likeable;
- God has transformed us.

Transformation

It is also a process of

Liberation

Freedom

from what has kept us in

Slavery

allowing us to become

Fully Human

as all has been put back into its

Rightful Place

- This process is at the same time a process of developing an inner life & of deification;
- God has become the motor of our life;
- He has re-established order in our life;
- We have been freed from our worldly attachments; they have been restored to their rightful purpose.

St. Teresa & Mystical Life

For Teresa
all the Baptized
are invited into
Mystical Life
not just a
Few Elite Souls

- Mystical life is the fulfillment of Baptismal grace;
- It is about an increase of theological virtues of faith, hope and charity in the soul of he who believes the Kingdom of God is found within;
- Silent prayer is the **front door** opening into our soul & the path to **union with God**.