

On the Epistle: the Fruits of the Spirit

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Death, judgment, heaven, and hell – these are critical realities of every human soul. Just so, the knowledge of our being worthy of heaven should be important to us. And, as the Fruits of the Spirit are the first fruits of eternal life (and signs of our predestination for that blessed land), so knowledge of them should be especially important to us.

Today, we speak on the fruits of the Spirit as found in today's Epistle (Gal. 5)

The “works of the flesh” are called “works” because God has nothing to do with them; sins are purely the work of man. Again, we can surely say any un-repentant act of impurity, New Age practice, strife, envy, quarrel, drunkenness, “and such like,” are all signs of future damnation. In opposition to this, the “fruits of the Spirit” are so called because God is their primary cause; again, in the docile soul, the fruits are the natural productions of God which every Christian should possess in some degree.

St. Thomas Aquinas (Commentary on Galatians, Lecture 6) presents the twelve fruits in a logical manner whereby we may easily think upon them; we appended a short examine in parenthesis to help define the particular fruit in question.

St. Thomas says five relate directly to God and seven relate indirectly to God.

Relating to God: **Charity** (do I love God more than myself, do I wish to please Him above all); **Joy** (does my love of God bring me gladness?, am I joyful for His friendship?); **Peace** (does my Joy obtain for me a measure of tranquility whereby I can say, ‘my heart is at peace?’); **Patience** (in a passing trial, is my Peace preserved?); **Longsuffering** (in a pro-longed trial, is my Joy preserved, again, at least, in some degree?) Again, Patience and Longsuffering preserve my Peace and Joy, respectively, when I am afflicted with some evil.

Relating to things outside of God, of which there are three kinds:

Things beside man, namely, his fellow man: **Goodness** (do I wish for my fellow man what I myself wish for?, e.g., do I wish heaven for my enemy?); **Generosity** (do I willingly share my time, my talent, my goods with others?, e.g., do I share my toys, let someone else have the bigger donut after the 10:30 am Mass?); **Mildness** (do I refrain from revenge when my neighbor offends me?, e.g., do I bless and not curse when someone cuts me off in traffic?)

Things above man: **Faith** (do I believe all revealed truth or that truth which the Church demands my assent for the salvation of my soul?, e.g., The Creed and all things therein related e.g., the Immaculate Conception, Perpetual Virginity)

Things beneath man, namely, his body: **Modesty** (do I dress, walk, talk, sit and otherwise behave in ways worthy of heaven?, do I even care?); **Continency** (do I hold fast with a reasonable mind when base desires afflict it?); **Chastity** (do I use creatures properly so that they help me to heaven and not to hell?)

To end, “the fruits of the Spirit are perfections that the Holy Spirit forms in us as the first fruits of eternal glory.” CCC 1832. As such, they are a reference point to help us determine whether or not we are on the right road, that is, the road to heaven or on the road to hell. Said again, they help us know if the good Spirit is with us or not.

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Thy faithful, enkindle in them the fire of Thy love and Thou shall renew of the face of the earth. May we all be dry wood for such a fire.



St Francis de Sales Catholic Church

An apostolate of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter in the Archdiocese of Atlanta preaching the Gospel & sanctifying souls according to the liturgical books of 1962.

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14th Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 2026, A.D.

Pastor: Fr Chris Hathaway, FssP – pastor@fsspatl.com

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Joseph Favole, FssP – assistant@fsspatl.com

Fr. Brian Austin, FssP, - in residence

Rev. Mr. Doug Anderson, Deacon

Office Manager: Ms. Julieta Sanchez – officemgr@fsspatl.com

Church Office Hours: 8:15 am to 4:15 pm, Monday – Friday

Bookstore – open Sundays after the 9 am & 10:30 am Masses and 1st Saturdays after the 9 am Mass.

Baptism: Contact the parish three months before a birth.

Marriage: Contact the parish six months before a wedding.

Inquiring about the Catholic Faith? Call the office.

Daily Mass Times

Mon. & Wed.: 6:30 am & 9 am.

Tues. & Thurs.: 6:30 am & 12 noon.

Fri.: 6:30 am & 7 pm (followed by Holy Hour).

Sat.: 7 am & 9 am.

Sunday Mass Times

7 am low Mass

8:30 am low Mass

10:30 am high Mass

1 pm low Mass

Confessions are heard in the confessional box ½ hour before each Mass.

Church Hours

Mon.-Thurs.: 6 am - 5 pm

Fri.: 6 am - 9 pm

Sat.: 6:30 am - 5 pm

Sun.: 7 am - 5 pm

Office Hours

Monday - Friday:
8:15 am – 4:15 pm.

Closed on Holy Days

Liturgical Calendar for the Upcoming Week

DATE	FEAST	CLASS/COLOR	COMMEMORATION
Sun 08-30	14th Sunday after Pentecost	2/G	
Mon 08-31	St Raymond Nonnatus, <i>Confessor</i>	3/W	
Tues 09-01	St Giles, <i>Confessor</i>	4/W	Twelve Holy Brothers
Wed 09-02	St Stephen of Hungary, King & <i>Confessor</i>	3/W	
Thu 09-03	St Pius X, <i>Pope & Confessor</i>	2/W	
Fri 09-04	Sacred Heart of Jesus	3/W	St Lawrence Justinian
Sat 09-05	Immaculate Heart of Mary	3/W	
Sun 09-06	15th Sunday after Pentecost	2/G	

Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week

Sun 08-30	(7 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (frf) (8:30 am) Alex & Marissa Mueller (frf) (10:30 am) Holy Souls in Purgatory (frh) (1 pm) Viola Stephens (frh)	rb J&B Yost rb M Correa rb E Shryock
Mon 08-31	(6:30 am) Bishop Ludovick Minde (9 am) Lucy D'Souza +	rb V Stephens rb A-M Fernandes
Tues 09-01	(6:30 am) Xavier de Jesus Almonte (12 pm) Requiem for Fr. K Baker, SJ (frh)	rb Maxwell family
Wed 09-02	(6:30 am) Serena Stausell (9 am) Corbin Boekhaus	rb Christina rb P Cella
Thu 09-03	(6:30 am) Frank J Stillwell + (12 pm) Marko Ivanzicevic	rb M R Stillwell rb L Chancey
Fri 09-04	(6:30 am) Larry Brake + (7 pm) Richard Marosy +	rb S Russell rb R Marosy
Sat 09-05	(7 am) Ian Fincher (9 am) Luke Elliano	rb christina rb Maxwell family
Sun 09-06	(7 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (frh) (8:30 am) Francis (Frank) Joseph Bentz + (frh) (10:30 am) Maurice Rigaux + (frf) (1 pm) Gloria J Smart + (frf)	rb Insinga family rb C Jagiella rb M-T Zigui

Today, and next Sunday, after the 8:30am & 10:30am Masses, KoC will host a Lifesavers Drive to raise money for The Children of the Immaculate Heart, a group which helps displaced women & children.

This week, Monday, staff meeting (1 pm), Wednesday, **Inquiry Class** (7 pm); Thursday, Adoration (5:30-8 pm), Confession (6-7 pm); First Friday, 6:30 am Mass & devotions, 7 pm Mass & Holy Hour; First Saturday, 7 am & 9 am Mass & devotions.

Last week's collection: cash \$3,662.82; online \$6,356.50; total: \$10,019.32.

Attendance: 7 am-69; 9 am-197; 10:30 am-250; 1 pm-124; 640 total souls.

God is patient; He gives the sinner time to repent & change his life

Men are wont to punish quickly; not so God. He endures long the revolt of the wicked. It is not the will of God that a sinner should die, but that he should be covered from his wicked ways, and live (Ez. 18:23). God often gives men long warning of coming judgments. He gave those who lived in the days of Noah a warning of a hundred and twenty years; to the Ninivites, forty days; to the Jews a warning of forty years before the destruction of Jerusalem. A storm does not break out at once; we are forewarned by the gathering of clouds and the darkness; so, God warns us of coming punishment. He does not at once cut down the barren tree (Lk 13:8,9). God's manner of action is opposite that of man. Man constructs slowly and destroys quickly. God constructs the universe in six days, but He took seven days for the destruction of the little town of Jericho. Every man prefers to build up, rather than to destroy; much more so God.

God is patient with us because He has compassion on our weakness, and because He desires to make conversion easy to the sinner.



It is time to register your child(ren) for CCD. You may do on the website: <https://www.fsspatl.com/ccd-program> or pick up a form from the vestibule. The first day of class is Sunday, 13 September, 9:30 am to 10:15 am.

SFdS needs money counters ASAP! If you can volunteer your time & talent on Tuesday mornings for this critical work, please contact the office. Thank you!!

Church hours have changed see front on bulletin.

The bookstore is scheduled to open September 6, 2026. Please let the office know if you would like to volunteer. Hours: 9:45-10:15 am, 12:15-12:45 pm, 2:15-2:30 pm.

In your charity, please pray for: Sonja Brown, Jamie & Baby Graebner (8/30), Tommy Kinsella (8/23), Leonard Frederick Jr. (8/16), Anne Clairzine & Kesner Devosier (8/6). (Prayer intentions will be posted for a month; they are renewable.)

Our Lady of Good Counsel Homeschool Co-Op is accepting families for the 2026-2027 academic year. We will meet once a week. Please email ourladyofgoodcounselco.op@gmail.com for more information!

2026 AAA status at SFdS as of August 26, 2026: \$58,975.50 owed; \$9,279.47 pledged; \$66,931.93 paid (113.49% of goal); from 88 donors (22% of parish).

Thank you for your support! (Every dollar a parish raises above its goal, up to 125%, returns to that parish assessment-free. All funds over 125% go to the parish's long-term endowment.)

Maxim of St Francis de Sales

Frequently kiss in your heart the crosses which our Lord Himself has placed in your arms. Heed not whether they are of perfumed or precious wood; they are more truly crosses when they are of coarse, heavy, ordinary wood.