

## **SOCIETY OF APOSTOLIC EXECUTIVES**

**June 16 Breakfast Meeting**

### **FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**Apostolic Executive Mission Statement: Educate, guide and inspire business owners and executives to live the Gifts and FRUITS of the Holy Spirit in their business decisions and actions.**

The Spirit is present within us by virtue of our Baptism. The power of the Holy Spirit is intensified in the Sacrament of Confirmation, when the seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit are explicitly transmitted to us and we begin to bear the twelve Fruits of the Holy Spirit.

The difference as understood by Catholics is that the Gifts are given by the Holy Spirit, but not everyone has them to use to the same degree. The Fruits can be worked on by us and developed. They are not habits, permanent qualities, but acts. The Fruits of the Spirit are perfections that the Holy Spirit forms in us as the first fruits of eternal glory. CCC, paragraph 1832.

**The tradition of the Church names twelve Fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity.** CCC, paragraph 1832; Galatians 5:22.

It is the FRUIT of **GENTLENESS** that the Holy Spirit would like us to use in dealing with others. When we bear the Fruit of Gentleness we have freedom to pardon injuries, correct faults, and rule our own spirit well. The executive who has developed the Fruit of Gentleness is gracious, with a kindly disposition and controlled strength. He or she has a disposition that is even-tempered, tranquil, unpretentious, and that has his or her passions under control. The executive's character is equitable, reasonable, forbearing, moderate, fair and considerate.

In Galatians 6:1, Paul tells us that if a man is trapped in some sin, those who are spiritual will restore him gently. If we are truly filled with the Holy Spirit, we will show gentleness, not hardness, not condemnation, as we try to restore an employee through mentoring.