

# What holds us back?

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Rector's Conference

27 February 2019

# Liberation of St. Peter

Acts 12:6-10



Gerard van Honthorst  
ca. 1616

# Chains that bind us

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- What binds us?
- “For freedom Christ set us free” (Gal. 5:1)
- “For you were called for freedom, brothers” (Gal. 5:13)
- Past or current sins; relationships; popular opinion; my own inadequacy?
- Church scandals?

“You duped me Lord, and I let myself be duped!” (Jer. 20:7)

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- Crisis may hold us back
- Be real, grieve, surrender, be healthy
- What is the effect on me?
- Acknowledge, relate, receive, respond!

# Flesh vs. Spirit

Gal. 5:16-23

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“Now the works of the flesh are obvious: immorality, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, hatreds, rivalry, jealousy, outbursts of fury, acts of selfishness, dissensions, factions, occasions of envy, drinking bouts, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.” ...

# Fruit of the Spirit

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“In contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.”

The tradition of the Church lists twelve of them: “charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, chastity” (CCC 1832 – cf. *Gal* 5:22-23 [Vulgate])

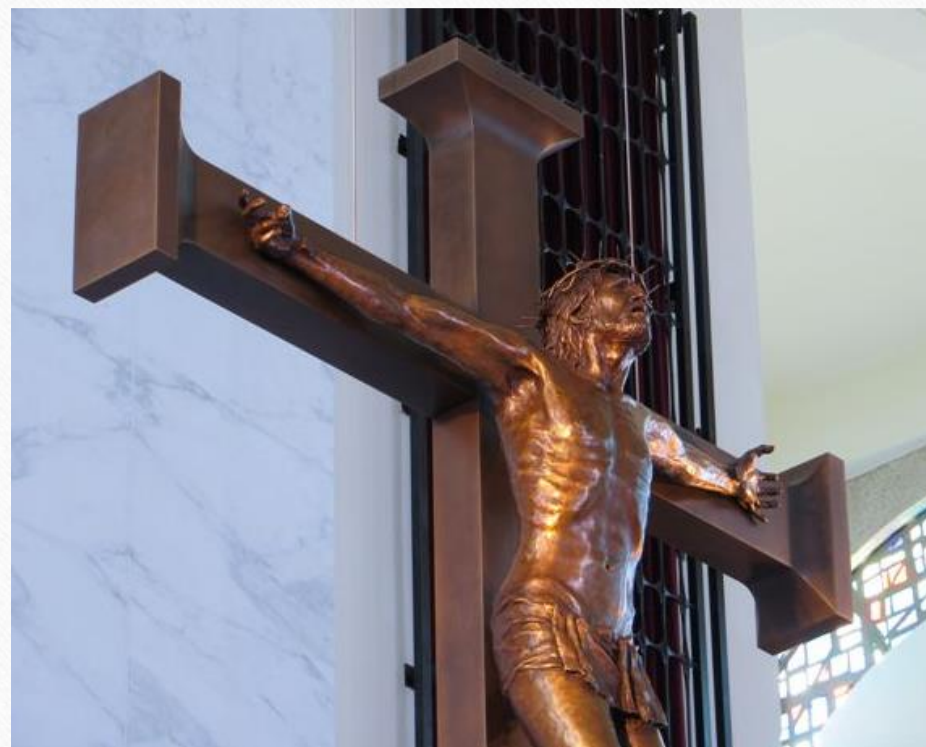
# Ultimate Power Point Presentation

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- Get ready...

# Power of the Cross

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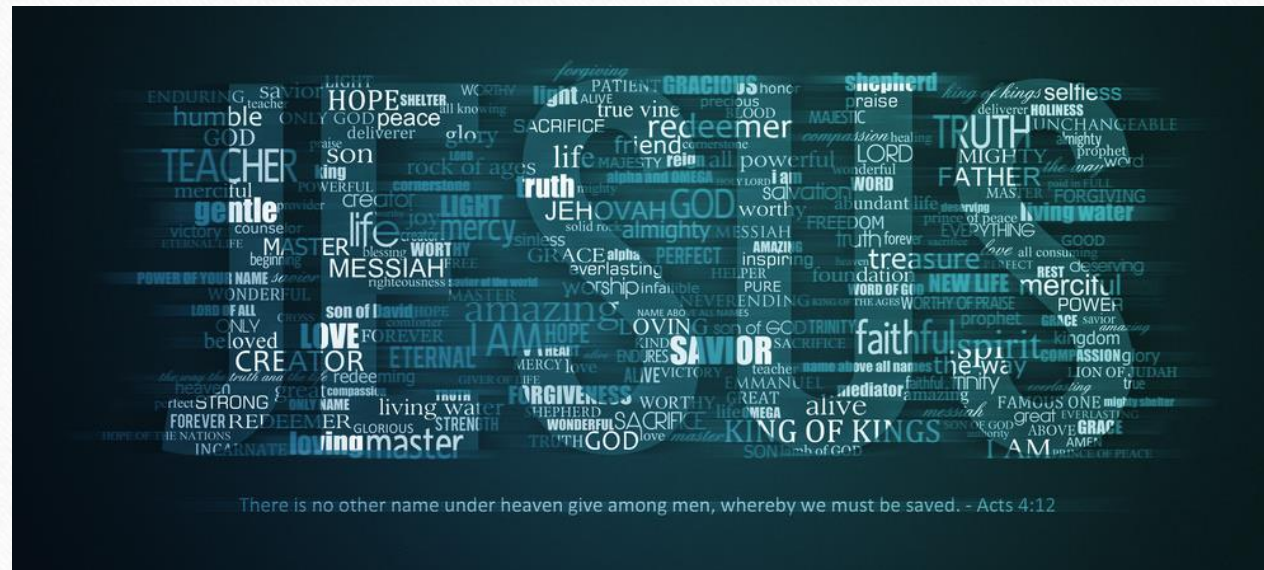


# Power of the Blood

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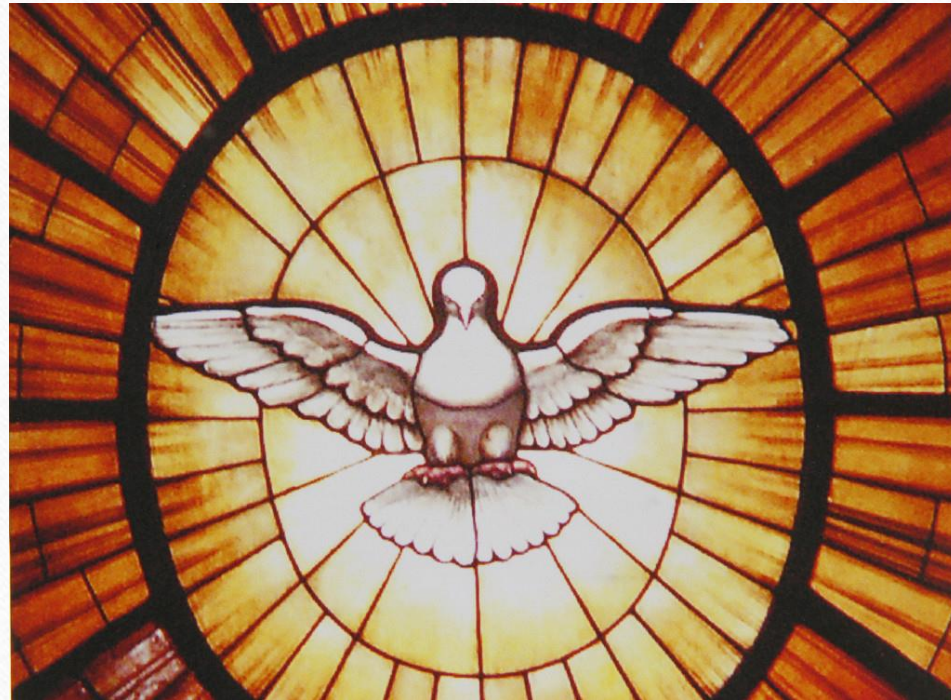
# Power of the Name



There is no other name under heaven give among men, whereby we must be saved. - Acts 4:12

# Power of the Holy Spirit

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# Summit Conclusion: Eight Guidelines

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1. A “change of mentality” to focus on protecting children rather than “protecting the institution”
2. A recognition of the “impeccable seriousness” of these “sins and crimes of consecrated persons”
3. A genuine purification beginning with “self-accusation”
4. **Positive formation of candidates for the priesthood in the virtue of chastity (last month’s conference)**
5. Strengthening and reviewing of guidelines by episcopal conferences, reaffirming the need for “rules”
6. The accompaniment of those who have been abused with an emphasis on listening
7. **Ensure that seminarians and clergy are not enslaved to an addiction to pornography (ongoing)**
8. Combat sexual tourism around the world

# Summit on the Protection of Minors in the Church

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- Chastity formation here at SVDP
- Open discussion ...
- *Ecclesia semper reformada* – as are we!
- Rely upon the Power of the Cross, the Precious Blood, the name of Jesus!
- Allow the Holy Spirit to continue to transform each of us!