

In the preceding articles there was question of the first two Persons of the Holy Trinity; the Eighth Article and those which follow refer to the third Person, to the Holy Ghost.

The doctrine relative to the Holy Ghost embraces three subjects: His person, His manifestations, His operations.

1. The Holy Ghost is a divine Person, in all things equal to the Father and to the Son: He must be adored and glorified equally with the Father and the Son, from whom He proceeds as from one principle.

2. The Holy Ghost manifested Himself on three occasions: (1) on the banks of the Jordan, under the form of a dove, the symbol of innocence; (2) on Thabor, under the form of a cloud, the symbol of faith; (3) in the Cenacle, or upper room at Jerusalem, under the form of fire, the symbol of charity. This third manifestation was the most solemn; it took place on the day of Pentecost (Acts ii.), and is every year celebrated by the Church.

3. The operations of the Holy Ghost consist in the sanctification of the faithful, by the effusion of charity and all the divine gifts. Whatever has reference to charity and the distribution of heavenly gifts is attributed to the Holy Ghost; thus, the Church, the communion of saints, the remission of sins, which is the resurrection of souls, the resurrection of the body, the eternal glorification of the saints, are so many gifts of the ineffable love of God, and for that reason are so enumerated in the Creed as to follow the article which speaks of the Holy Ghost.

Let us frequently implore, my brethren, the grace of the Holy Ghost, His light and His divine assistance, of which He has given us the pledge in Confirmation. Armed with that help from on high, we will triumph over all our enemies.