

*Meditations in preparation for the Solemnity of St. Joseph
Institute Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará*

Meditation of Day 4 (February 21)

"God the Holy Spirit"

Have mercy on us.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says in number 687: "No one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God." (*1 Co 2:11*). Now God's Spirit, who reveals God, makes known to us Christ, his Word, his living Utterance, but the Spirit does not speak of himself. The Spirit who "has spoken through the prophets" makes us hear the Father's Word, but we do not hear the Spirit himself. We know him only in the movement by which he reveals the Word to us and disposes us to welcome him in faith. The Spirit of truth who "unveils" Christ to us "will not speak on his own." (*John 16: 13*). Such properly divine self-effacement explains why "the world cannot receive [him], because it neither sees him nor knows him," while those who believe in Christ know the Spirit because he dwells with them. (*John 14: 17*).

We can read in chapter 1 of the Gospel of St. Matthew when the Angel of the Lord appears to Joseph in a dream and says: "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to receive Mary, as your wife, because it is through the Holy Spirit that she has conceived." (Cf. Mt, 1:20) Upon waking up, Joseph did what the Angel of the Lord had commanded him. (Mt 1:24) Without hesitation he puts into action what GOD asked him in each circumstance.

In our life also the Holy Spirit is the one who works in us His will and doing so according to his design of love (Cf. Phil 2:13), because the Spirit that God has given us is not a spirit of fear, but of strength, love and self-control. (2 Tim 1:7)

We ask on this day the grace, to act according to the inspirations of the Holy Spirit.