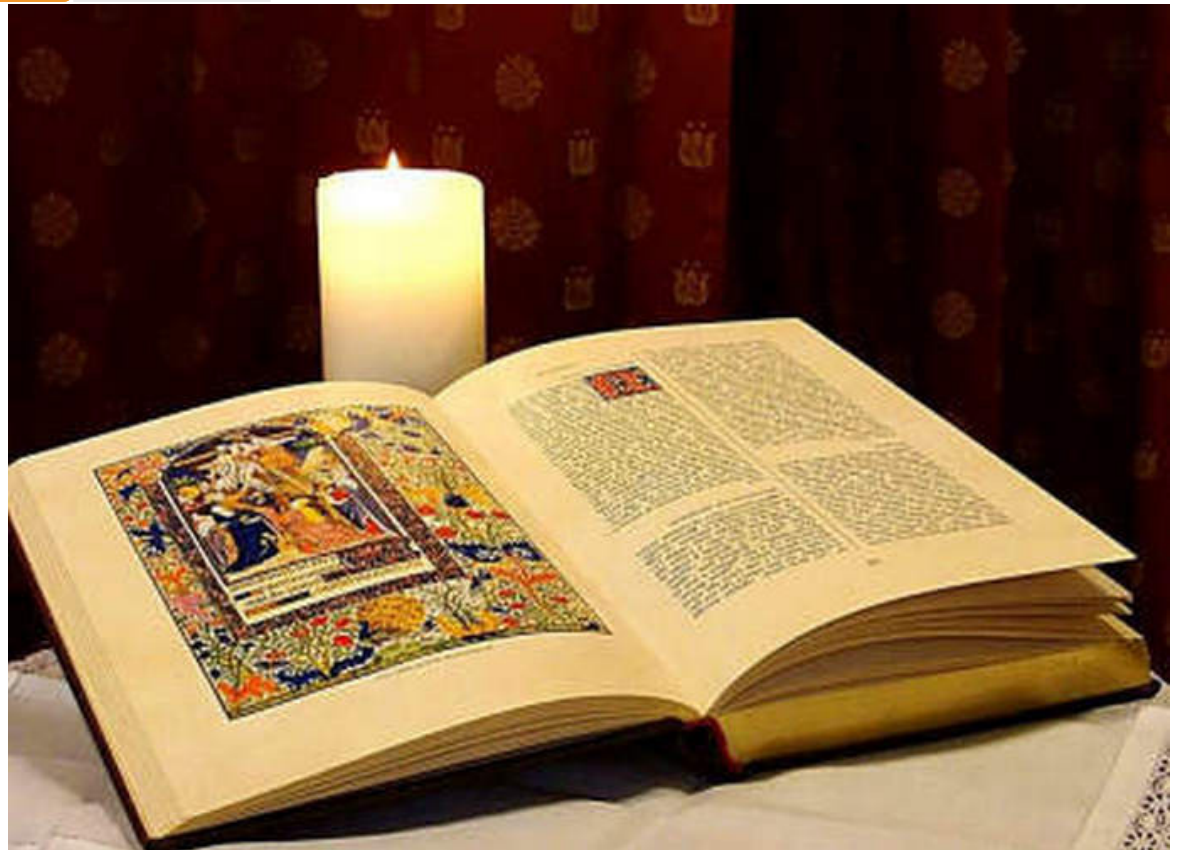


GOSPEL PEARLS

Schisms and heresies are a real danger

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Jesus said to his disciples: "But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning. I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father

has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.” (John 15: 26-27; 16: 12-15)

Jesus promised that by sending the Holy Spirit, the third person in the Holy Trinity, the faithful transmission of His teachings to the Church would be ensured. The Holy Spirit, therefore, not only inspired the writers of the Gospels, but also assists the Church in their correct interpretation. On the other hand, those who have claimed that the Holy Spirit has inspired teachings other than those of the Church, have actually followed their own way of seeing the world and have broken away from the true Church of Christ and, thus, have founded their own Church. Schisms and heresies are a real danger, even today. Lord, may all faithful be guided by the Holy Spirit in their daily work without ever rejecting the perennial teachings of the Church.