**Sermon Notes – Sunday 4th December 2022**

**‘I believe in the Holy Spirit’**

* What picture comes to mind when you hear the word ‘spirit’? Does it correspond in any way with the (old fashioned) use of the word ‘ghost’? What is our use of those two words today?
* Can you put into words your own experience of the Holy Spirit?
* Why do you think the authors of the Apostles Creed lumped the Holy Spirit into the last paragraph along with

“… the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,

the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting?”

* How does the Holy Spirit “grow” the fruit of the Spirit? Can you relate any personal experiences of this in your own life? (See Galatians 5.22f

***Looking at 1 Corinthians 12.1-11***

* There is a lot of discussion of “spiritual” things in the world today. Paul gives a clear test of how to determine whether something “spiritual” is true, wholesome and for our good. (verse 3) How can we relate this to things around us, i.e. astrology, crystals, meditation, etc.
* Why does Paul keep emphasising that all the gifts are from “the same Spirit”? (verses 4-6)
* Why is it important to remember that the gifts are all given “for the common good”? (verse 7)
* What gifts of the Spirit do you feel you have been given? How did you become aware of this?
* Are there any particular gifts you would like to be given? Why?
* The gifts of tongues has often generated a lot of discussion. How does Paul describe the use of this gift? (See also 1 Cor 14)
* Paul reminds us that all the gifts of the Spirit are given for building up the Body of Christ. Take time to pray and ask God to give us those gifts of the Spirit that would be helpful for the “common good” for

a) our life group

b) our church

c) you

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