

Hymns to the Holy Spirit

1. **Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest,**

And in our souls take up Thy rest;
Come with Thy grace and heavenly aid
To fill the hearts which Thou hast made.
To fill the hearts which Thou hast made.

O Comforter, to Thee we cry,
O heavenly gift of God Most High,
O fount of life and fire of love,
And sweet anointing from above.
And sweet anointing from above.

2. **Holy Spirit, Draw us near.**

Make every stain disappear.
Purge us with fire til there is no more
Darkness, anger or fear.
Let us walk in the light,
In the power of Your might;
O, Lord, set Your people free.
Bring Your Body together,
Shining with Your glory bright,
In perfect unity.
Holy Spirit, draw us near.
Make every stain disappear.
Purge with fire til there is no
more darkness, anger or fear.

3. **Holy Spirit, Flow Through Me**

Holy Spirit, flow through me
Holy Spirit, flow through me
And make my life,
What it ought to be
Holy Spirit, flow through me!

Holy Spirit, rest on me
Holy Spirit, rest on me
And use me Lord
to win the lost to Thee

Holy Spirit rest on me

Holy Spirit, flow through me
Holy Spirit, flow through me
That others Lord
May see YOU in me
Holy Spirit, flow through me!

4. **Speak to My heart, Holy Spirit**

Give me the words that will bring new life
Words on the wings of the morning
the dark night will fade away
If you speak to my heart

Speak to my heart, Holy Spirit
Message of love to encourage me
Lifting my heart from despair
How you loved me and cared for me
Lord, just speak to my Heart

Speak to my Heart Lord
Give me your Holy Word
If I can hear from you, then I'll know what to do
I won't go alone, I'll never go on my own
Just let your Spirit guide and let your word abide
Speak to my Heart

This Novena is comprised of several different sources including THE WAY OF THE CROSS by St Alphonsis Liguori; A NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT by The Franciscan Mission Associates; and TITLES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, by Keith A. Fournier. These sources were originally compiled and edited with comment by Fr. Patrick A. Smith in November 2000 for the parishioners of St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church in Washington, D.C. I am happy to re-present this novena to the parishioners of St Augustine Catholic Church with major revisions to the "Reflections" section done in May 2012 in prayerful preparation for our mutual journey in faith toward our commemoration of the great Feast of Pentecost on May 29, 2014!

A Novena to the Holy Spirit

The novena in honor of the Holy Spirit is the oldest of all novenas since it was first made at the direction of Our Lord Jesus Himself when he sent his apostles back to Jerusalem to await the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost (Acts 1). It is still the only Novena officially prescribed by the Church. Addressed to the Third Person of the Holy Trinity, it is a powerful plea for the LIGHT, STRENGTH, GUIDANCE and LOVE so sorely needed by anyone seeking to live the Christian Life or be liberated from the limitations of the world around us!

Daily Invocation to the Holy Spirit*

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created: And you shall renew the face of the earth

DAY ONE

Leader: A Reflection on the Holy Spirit

“...And then Jesus breathed on them and said, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit’ (John 20:22). “Then the LORD God formed the man out of the dust of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.” (Genesis 2:7). What the breath of God did for Adam, the Holy Spirit does for us ~for the two are one and the same. Before God breathed into Adam, he was a corpse. Without the Gift of the Holy Spirit, our efforts to live like Christ are as good as dead. We **need** the Holy Spirit!

Let Us Pray (All)

Almighty and eternal God, Who has chosen to re-generate us by water and the Holy Spirit, and has given us forgiveness of our sins, please give us a fresh anointing of your sevenfold Spirit: The Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, the Spirit of Counsel and Fortitude, the Spirit of Knowledge and Piety, and the Spirit of Holy Fear so that ALL we do may begin with your inspiration, continue with your saving help and reach completion in accord with your holy will. Amen.

CLOSING INVOCATION:

BREATHE IN ME HOLY SPIRIT, THAT ALL MY THOUGHTS MAY BE HOLY; ACT IN ME, HOLY SPIRIT, THAT MY WORK MAY ALSO BE HOLY; FILL MY HEART HOLY SPIRIT, THAT I MAY LOVE ONLY WHAT IS HOLY; STRENGTHEN ME HOLY SPIRIT, EVER TO DEFEND WHAT IS HOLY; GUARD ME ALWAYS HOLY SPIRIT, THAT I MAY EVER REMAIN HOLY; PRESERVE ME HOLY SPIRIT, THAT MY BODY MAY REMAIN YOUR DWELLING; IN MY LAST HOUR, CALL ME HOLY SPIRIT, TO ENJOY THE HOLINESS OF HEAVEN. AMEN.

DAY TWO*

Leader:

A Reflection on the Gift of FEAR

This Gift stirs in us a sense of holy dread, not over the thought of hell or punishment, but from a deeply felt reverence and genuine concern for God's heart that not only loves, but also bleeds! The first concern of this Gift of the Fear of the Lord is not how our sins affect us, but on how they affect God! The Gift of Fear fills us with a profound respect for what pleases God, and makes us dread nothing so much as to offend Him by sin. Fear of the Lord protects us from being consumed by worldly desires that might in any way separate us from our Beloved Redeemer who deserves both our praise – and our obedience.

Let Us Pray (All)

Come Spirit of Holy Fear, penetrate my inmost being, that I may place you first in my life, for you alone are my Lord and God. Help me to shun all things that are contrary to your good pleasure. Lord, I love you with all my heart. I am sorry for having offended you. Don't allow me to offend you again. Make it so that I will always love you, so that ALL I do may begin with your inspiration, continue with your saving help and reach completion in accord with your will. Amen.

BREATHE IN ME HOLY SPIRIT, THAT ALL MY THOUGHTS MAY BE HOLY; ACT IN ME, HOLY SPIRIT, THAT MY WORK MAY ALSO BE HOLY; FILL MY HEART HOLY SPIRIT, THAT I MAY LOVE ONLY WHAT IS HOLY; STRENGTHEN ME HOLY SPIRIT, EVER TO DEFEND WHAT IS HOLY; GUARD ME ALWAYS HOLY SPIRIT, THAT I MAY EVER REMAIN HOLY; PRESERVE ME HOLY SPIRIT, THAT MY BODY MAY REMAIN YOUR DWELLING; IN MY LAST HOUR, CALL ME HOLY SPIRIT, TO ENJOY THE HOLINESS OF HEAVEN. AMEN.

DAY THREE*

Leader:

A Reflection on the Gift of PIETY

Young people speak of “having a crush” on another person; being head over heels in love! The Gift of Piety births in our hearts a similar type of love - but toward God! Imagine that. Having a crush on God! So, Piety is less about being pious in the sight of God and more about being passionate out of love for God! But Piety not only inspires us to love the Lord with all our hearts but also to love all that he loves: His creation, his Bride (the Church), his Saints, his Commandments, his Son, and every one of our brothers and sisters on this earth for whom his Son died and rose.

Let Us Pray (All)

Come O Blessed Spirit of Piety, take possession of my mind and my heart; my thoughts and my attitude; my outlook and perspective. Kindle in me such a love for God that I may find satisfaction only in His service and willingly embrace without complaint, the call to serve others. I do love you Lord with all my heart. I am sorry for having offended you. Make it so that I will always love you, so that ALL I do may begin with your inspiration, continue with your saving help and reach completion in accord with your will. Amen.

BREATHE IN ME HOLY SPIRIT, THAT ALL MY THOUGHTS MAY BE HOLY; ACT IN ME, HOLY SPIRIT, THAT MY WORK MAY ALSO BE HOLY; FILL MY HEART HOLY SPIRIT, THAT I MAY LOVE ONLY WHAT IS HOLY; STRENGTHEN ME HOLY SPIRIT, EVER TO DEFEND WHAT IS HOLY; GUARD ME ALWAYS HOLY SPIRIT, THAT I MAY EVER REMAIN HOLY; PRESERVE ME HOLY SPIRIT, THAT MY BODY MAY REMAIN YOUR DWELLING; IN MY LAST HOUR, CALL ME HOLY SPIRIT, TO ENJOY THE HOLINESS OF HEAVEN. AMEN.

DAY FOUR*

Leader:

A Reflection on the Gift of FORTITUDE

The Christian life is not easy. Courage or Fortitude is essential. By the Gift of Fortitude the soul is strengthened against natural fear. This gift imparts to the will an impulse and energy which moves it to undertake without hesitation the arduous tasks, to face dangers, and to endure without complaint even the slow martyrdom of lifelong tribulations. Without Fortitude, perseverance in doing what is right, loving and just is impossible. For this reason, Jesus **commands** us to “*Take courage!*” (Matt 14:27). We must choose to “open” the Gift of Fortitude each day.

Let Us Pray (All)

Come Spirit of Fortitude; uphold my soul in time of trouble and adversity. Sustain my efforts toward holiness, strengthen my weakness; give me courage against all the assaults of the evil one so that I may never be overcome by my fears. Help me to resist temptation and instead choose to love you Lord with all my heart and to repent for the times I have offended you. Help me never to offend you again. Make it so that I will always love you, so that ALL I do may begin with your inspiration, continue with your saving help and reach completion in accord with your will. Amen.

BREATHE IN ME HOLY SPIRIT, THAT ALL MY THOUGHTS MAY BE HOLY; ACT IN ME, HOLY SPIRIT, THAT MY WORK MAY ALSO BE HOLY; FILL MY HEART HOLY SPIRIT, THAT I MAY LOVE ONLY WHAT IS HOLY; STRENGTHEN ME HOLY SPIRIT, EVER TO DEFEND WHAT IS HOLY; GUARD ME ALWAYS HOLY SPIRIT, THAT I MAY EVER REMAIN HOLY; PRESERVE ME HOLY SPIRIT, THAT MY BODY MAY REMAIN YOUR DWELLING; IN MY LAST HOUR, CALL ME HOLY SPIRIT, TO ENJOY THE HOLINESS OF HEAVEN. AMEN.

DAY FIVE*

Leader:

A Reflection on the Gift of KNOWLEDGE

If a person does not know God who is the Source of all knowledge then what he thinks he knows he will only understand partially. The Gift of Knowledge enables the soul to easily grasp the things of God and of his creation according to their true nature. This Gift enables the recipient to unmask the pretenses of creatures, reveals their emptiness and points out that nothing has value apart from God. Knowledge reveals that the greatest things in life aren't things at all. Knowledge asks: “*What would it profit a man to gain the whole world, and lose his soul?*” (Mk 8:36)

Let Us Pray (All)

Come Spirit of Knowledge, infuse my mind with a deeper awareness of you. For to know you is to love you and to love you is to serve you with joy. Help me, also, to know myself and to recognize your presence deep within me and in others. Then, I can better love you, Lord, with all my heart. I will better see how my actions can offend you. Then, help me to never offend you again. Make it so that I will always love you, so that ALL I do may begin with your inspiration, continue with your saving help and reach completion in accord with your will. Amen.

BREATHE IN ME HOLY SPIRIT, THAT ALL MY THOUGHTS MAY BE HOLY; ACT IN ME, HOLY SPIRIT, THAT MY WORK MAY ALSO BE HOLY; FILL MY HEART HOLY SPIRIT, THAT I MAY LOVE ONLY WHAT IS HOLY; STRENGTHEN ME HOLY SPIRIT, EVER TO DEFEND WHAT IS HOLY; GUARD ME ALWAYS HOLY SPIRIT, THAT I MAY EVER REMAIN HOLY; PRESERVE ME HOLY SPIRIT, THAT MY BODY MAY REMAIN YOUR DWELLING; IN MY LAST HOUR, CALL ME HOLY SPIRIT, TO ENJOY THE HOLINESS OF HEAVEN. AMEN.

DAY SIX*

Leader:

A Reflection on the Gift of UNDERSTANDING

Understanding, as a gift of the Holy Spirit, helps us to grasp the MEANING of the truths we profess. By faith we accept our religious beliefs, but by the gift of Understanding we learn to appreciate and relish them; penetrating the inner meaning of revealed truths. Excited to embrace our newly appreciated life in Christ, our faith ceases to be sterile, routine and inactive – but instead becomes a force that inspires a fresh, expectant, and confident outlook that transforms an ordinary life into an extraordinary testimony!

Let Us Pray (All)

Come Spirit of Understanding, enlighten my mind so that I can truly grasp the meaning of all you have revealed through your Word and your Church. Give me a clear vision of You at work in the ordinary events of my life. Protect me from confusion and deception so that in all circumstances I will love you Lord with all my heart and repent for the times I offend you. Help me never to offend you again. Make it so that I will always love you, so that ALL I do may begin with your inspiration, continue with your saving help and reach completion in accord with your will. Amen.

BREATHE IN ME HOLY SPIRIT, THAT ALL MY THOUGHTS MAY BE HOLY; ACT IN ME, HOLY SPIRIT, THAT MY WORK MAY ALSO BE HOLY; FILL MY HEART HOLY SPIRIT, THAT I MAY LOVE ONLY WHAT IS HOLY; STRENGTHEN ME HOLY SPIRIT, EVER TO DEFEND WHAT IS HOLY; GUARD ME ALWAYS HOLY SPIRIT, THAT I MAY EVER REMAIN HOLY; PRESERVE ME HOLY SPIRIT, THAT MY BODY MAY REMAIN YOUR DWELLING; IN MY LAST HOUR, CALL ME HOLY SPIRIT, TO ENJOY THE HOLINESS OF HEAVEN. AMEN.

DAY SEVEN*

Leader:

A Reflection on the Gift of COUNSEL

Can you use some advice? Are you facing a difficult dilemma? Are you unsure about what path to take next? Maybe you need a counselor: A Wonderful Counselor! The Gift of Counsel can be described as “supernatural common sense” That is, a sense that is common to those open to the Holy Spirit. This gift enables the believer to judge promptly and rightly what must be done, especially in difficult circumstances. Counsel applies the principles furnished by the Gifts of Knowledge and Understanding to the many concrete cases that confront us in the course of our daily lives as parents, teachers, public servants and children of God in society.

Let Us Pray (All)

Come Spirit of Counsel, lead me and guide me along the right path. In the courtroom of life, may I never be so foolish as to rely on my own counsel. Take up my case and help me follow your instruction as my Advocate and Guide so that I can love you Lord, with all my heart and never offend you again. Make it so that I will always trust you, so that ALL I do may begin with your inspiration, continue with your saving help and reach completion in accord with your will. Amen.

BREATHE IN ME HOLY SPIRIT, THAT ALL MY THOUGHTS MAY BE HOLY; ACT IN ME, HOLY SPIRIT, THAT MY WORK MAY ALSO BE HOLY; FILL MY HEART HOLY SPIRIT, THAT I MAY LOVE ONLY WHAT IS HOLY; STRENGTHEN ME HOLY SPIRIT, EVER TO DEFEND WHAT IS HOLY; GUARD ME ALWAYS HOLY SPIRIT, THAT I MAY EVER REMAIN HOLY; PRESERVE ME HOLY SPIRIT, THAT MY BODY MAY REMAIN YOUR DWELLING; IN MY LAST HOUR, CALL ME HOLY SPIRIT, TO ENJOY THE HOLINESS OF HEAVEN. AMEN.

DAY EIGHT*

Leader:

A Reflection on the Gift of WISDOM

Through the Prophet Isaiah, God says: “*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways, my ways (55:98) . Similarly, St. Paul writes: “The natural person does not accept what pertains to the Spirit of God, for to him it is foolishness, and he cannot understand it ...” (1 Cor 2:14). The Gift of Wisdom embodies all the other gifts and enlightens the mind to see things, events, and circumstances, as God sees them; from His saving perspective!*

Let Us Pray (All)

Come Spirit of Wisdom, teach me all that you want me to know. Help me not to be seduced by the “wisdom” of the world but instead to be transformed by the renewal of my mind, so that I may be able to judge what is pleasing to God. For I love you Lord with all my heart and I am sorry for the times I have offended you. Make it so that I will always love you, so that ALL I do may begin with your inspiration, continue with your saving help and reach completion in accord with your will.

Amen

BREATHE IN ME HOLY SPIRIT, THAT ALL MY THOUGHTS MAY BE HOLY; ACT IN ME, HOLY SPIRIT, THAT MY WORK MAY ALSO BE HOLY; FILL MY HEART HOLY SPIRIT, THAT I MAY LOVE ONLY WHAT IS HOLY; STRENGTHEN ME HOLY SPIRIT, EVER TO DEFEND WHAT IS HOLY; GUARD ME ALWAYS HOLY SPIRIT, THAT I MAY EVER REMAIN HOLY; PRESERVE ME HOLY SPIRIT, THAT MY BODY MAY REMAIN YOUR DWELLING; IN MY LAST HOUR, CALL ME HOLY SPIRIT, TO ENJOY THE HOLINESS OF HEAVEN. AMEN.

DAY NINE*

Leader:

A Reflection on the FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Jesus said: “*By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.*”(John 15:8) The fruit that our Lord is talking about is the fruit of the Holy Spirit or the “effect” that the Holy Spirit has on our lives! The **Gifts of the Spirit** enable, equip and empower us to put into practice the Christian life. When we RECEIVE these gifts, the **Fruits of the Holy Spirit** become visible in our lives. In short, the Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Generosity, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-control of the Holy Spirit also become the hallmarks of OUR lives as followers of Jesus (Galations5:22)

Let Us Pray (All)

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me! Free me from the rotten fruits of sin: fear, immorality, jealousy, rage, selfishness, rivalry, envy, hurtful speech, drunkenness. Instead, open my heart to the inspiration and guidance of the Holy Spirit so that the Fruits of the Spirit may be the visible in my life. Then, I WILL love you, Lord, with all my heart. I will repent of anything that leads me away from you. So that ALL I do may begin with your inspiration, continue with your saving help and reach completion in accord with your saving plan for my life. Amen.

BREATHE IN ME HOLY SPIRIT, THAT ALL MY THOUGHTS MAY BE HOLY; ACT IN ME, HOLY SPIRIT, THAT MY WORK MAY ALSO BE HOLY; FILL MY HEART HOLY SPIRIT, THAT I MAY LOVE ONLY WHAT IS HOLY; STRENGTHEN ME HOLY SPIRIT, EVER TO DEFEND WHAT IS HOLY; GUARD ME ALWAYS HOLY SPIRIT, THAT I MAY EVER REMAIN HOLY; PRESERVE ME HOLY SPIRIT, THAT MY BODY MAY REMAIN YOUR DWELLING; IN MY LAST HOUR, CALL ME HOLY SPIRIT, TO ENJOY THE HOLINESS OF HEAVEN. AMEN.