

Novena Prayer to the Holy Spirit

(All) O Lord Jesus Christ, before ascending into heaven, You promised to send the Holy Spirit to finish Your work in the souls of Your Apostles and disciples. Grant to us the same Holy Spirit, that He may perfect in our souls the work of Your grace and Your love. Grant us:

the Spirit of Wisdom that we may become detached from the perishable things of this world and aspire only after the things that are eternal,

the Spirit of understanding to enlighten our minds with the light of Your divine truth,

the Spirit of Counsel that we may ever choose the surest way of pleasing God and gain heaven,

the Spirit Fortitude that we may bear our cross with You and that we may overcome with courage all the obstacles that oppose our salvation,

the Spirit of Knowledge that we may know God and know ourselves and grow perfect in the science of the saints,

the Spirit of Piety that we may find delight in serving God,

the Spirit of Holy Fear (awe of the Lord) that we may be filled with a loving reverence toward God and my dread to displease Him in any way.

Mark us, dear Lord, with the sign of Your true disciple and animate us in all things with your Spirit. Amen.

(leader)

First Day: The Holy Spirit:

Only one thing is important: eternal salvation. Only one thing, therefore is to be feared: sin. Sin is the result of ignorance, weakness and indifference. The Holy Spirit is the spirit of Light of Strength and of Love. With His sevenfold gifts He enlightens the mind, strengthen the will and inflames the heart with love of God. To ensure our Salvation we out to pray to the Holy Spirit every day.

Let us pray:

(All) Almighty and Eternal God, You have given us life by water and the Holy Spirit and forgiveness of all sins. Send forth from heaven Your sevenfold Spirit upon us; the spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, the Spirit of Counsel and Fortitude the Spirit of knowledge and Piety and the Spirit of Holy Fear. Amen.

Say one Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be.

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(leader)

Second Day: The Gift of Holy Fear (awe of the Lord):

The gift of Holy Fear fills us with a sovereign respect for God and makes us dread nothing so much as to offend Him by sin. It is a fear that arises not from the thought of hell but from sentiments of reverence and childlike submission to our heavenly Father. It is this fear (awe) that is the beginning of wisdom, detaching us from worldly pleasures that could in any way separate us from God.

Let us pray:

(All) Come, O Blessed Spirit of Holy Fear, penetrate the deepest part of my heart that I may set You, my Lord and God, before my face forever. Help me to shun all things that offend You and make me worthy to appear before the pure eyes of Your Divine Majesty in Heaven, where You live and reign in the unity of the ever Blessed Trinity, God, World without end. Amen.

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(Leader)

Third Day: The Gift of Piety:

The gift of Piety provides our hearts with childlike affection for God as our most loving Father. It inspires us to love and respect for His sake persons and things consecrated to Him, as well as those vested with His authority: His Blessed Mother and the saints, the Church and the Pope, our parents and superiors, our country and its rulers. Those filled with the gift of Piety find the practice of religion not a burdensome duty but a delightful service.

Let us pray:

(All) Come, O Blessed Spirit of Piety, possess my heart. Enkindle within it such a love for God that I may find satisfaction only in His service and for His sake lovingly submit to all legitimate authority. Amen.

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(Leader)

Fourth Day: The Gift of Fortitude:

By the gift of Fortitude, the soul is strengthened against natural fear and supported to the end in the performance of duty. Fortitude imparts to the will an impulse and energy that moves it to undertake without hesitancy the most arduous tasks, to face dangers, to extinguish the love for human respect and to endure without complaint even a slow martyrdom of lifelong tribulation.

Let us pray:

(All) Come, O Blessed Spirit of Fortitude, uphold my soul in time of trouble and adversity. Sustain my efforts toward holiness and strengthen my weakness. Give me courage that I may never be overcome or separated from You, my God and greatest Good. Amen.

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(Leader)

Fifth Day: The Gift of Knowledge:

The gift of Knowledge enables the soul to judge created things at their true worth in their relation to God. Knowledge unmask their emptiness and points out their true purpose as instruments in the service of God. It shows us the loving care of God even in adversity and directs us to glorify Him in every circumstance of Life. Guided by the light of Knowledge, we put first things first and treasure the friendship of God beyond all else.

Let us pray:

(All) Come, O Blessed Spirit of Knowledge, and grant that I may perceive the will of the Father. Show me the nothingness of earthly things that I may realize their vanity and use them only for Your glory and my own salvation, looking every beyond them to You and Your eternal rewards. Amen.

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(Leader)

Sixth Day: The Gift of Understanding:

Understanding as a gift of the Holy Spirit, helps us to grasp the meaning of the truths of our holy religion. By faith we know them, but by Understanding we learn to appreciate them. It enables us to penetrate the inner meaning of revealed Truths. Our faith ceases to be sterile and inactive, but inspires a way of life that bears eloquent testimony to the faith that is in us.

Let us pray:

(All) Come, O Spirit of Understanding, and enlighten my mind that I may know and believe all the mysteries of Salvation. May I merit at least to clearly see the Beatific Vision of You and the Father and the Son. Amen.

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(Leader)

Seventh Day: The Gift of Counsel:

The gift of Counsel endows the soul with supernatural prudence, enabling it to judge promptly and rightly what must be done, especially in difficult circumstances. Counsel applies the principles furnished by Knowledge and Understanding to the innumerable situations that confront us in the course of our daily duty. Counsel is supernatural common sense, a priceless treasure in the quest of salvation.

Let us pray:

(All) Come, O Spirit of Counsel, help and guide me that I may always do Your holy will. Incline my heart to that which is good, turn it away from all that is evil, and direct me by the straight path of Your commandments to that goal of eternal life in heaven for which I long. Amen.

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(Leader)

Eighth Day: The Gift of Wisdom:

Wisdom embodies all the other gifts, as Charity embraces all the other virtues. Wisdom is the most perfect of the gifts. It is the gift of Wisdom that strengthens our Faith, fortifies Hope, perfects Charity and promotes the practice of virtue in the highest degree. Wisdom enlightens the mind to discern and love things divine above earthly pleasures.

Let us pray:

(All) Come, O Spirit of Wisdom, and reveal to my soul the mysteries of heavenly things, their exceeding greatness, power and beauty. Teach me to love them above and beyond all the passing joys and satisfactions of the earth. Help me to attain them and possess them forever. Amen.

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(Leader)

Ninth Day: The Fruits of the Holy Spirit:

As we grow in the knowledge and love of God under the direction of the Holy Spirit, our service becomes more sincere and generous and the practice of virtue more perfect. Such acts of virtue leave the heart filled with joy and consolation and are known as the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. These fruits in turn render the practice of virtues more attractive and become a powerful incentive for still greater efforts in the service of God.

Let us pray:

(All) Come, O Divine Spirit, fill my heart with Your heavenly fruits: Your charity, joy peace patience, benignity, goodness, faith, mildness and temperance. May I never weary in the service of God, but by continued faithful submission to Your inspiration, May I be united with You in heaven in the love the Father and the son. Amen.

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