



NOVENA TO THE **HOLY SPIRIT**

Beginning from the Friday after the Ascension Thursday, we prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday.

We can improve our wait with the help of this prayer guide, and other personal devotion plans that might help us listen to our Lord.

He tells us to wait until the 'power' comes upon us from on high! (Lk 24:49)

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT TO ME?

At Baptism, we are made children of God because the same Spirit of God who rested on Jesus comes to dwell in us. (Gospel of St. Luke, chapter 3)

The Holy Spirit is the presence of God in us. He is a friend, a teacher and an ever present help.

I will not leave you as orphans. I will come to you, just a little while now, ... you will see me; because I live, you will live also. (Gospel of St. John)

Like a gift of himself to us, the Spirit is as a close companion to lead and guide us everyday. Are we ready to let Him?

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Come, Holy Spirit, come.
And from your heavenly home
Shed a ray of light divine.

Come, Father of the poor.
Come, source of all our store.
Come, within our bosoms shine.

You, of comforters the best;
You, the soul's most welcome guest;
Sweet refreshment here below;

In our labor, rest most sweet;
Grateful coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.

O most blessed Light divine,
Shine within these hearts of yours,
And our inmost being fill.

PRAYER TO THE **HOLY SPIRIT** (CONT'D)

Where you are not, we have naught,
Nothing good in deed or thought,
Nothing free from the taint of ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour your dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away.

Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.

On the faithful, who adore
And confess you, evermore
In your sevenfold gift descend;

Give them virtue's sure reward;
Give them your salvation, Lord;
Give them joys that never end.
Amen. Alleluia.

P.S- It might prove helpful to say this prayer for each day of the Novena.

Day one

the 'gift' of God!



"And See , I am sending you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high (the Gospel of St. Luke)."

Come Holy Spirit and fill the hearts of the faithful and enkindle in us the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created and You shall renew the face of the earth.

St. Josemaría

Jesus has kept his promise. He has risen from the dead, and in union with the eternal Father, he sends us the Holy Spirit to sanctify us and to give us life (text from a writing titled "Great Unknown")

Pope Francis

The first gift of every Christian existence is the Holy Spirit. It is not one of the many gifts but rather the fundamental Gift. Without the Spirit, there is no relationship with Christ.
(General Audience, March 2021)



TODAY'S ACT FOR THE SPIRIT

We thank God for sending his Spirit to us.

Knowing this, can we act with a sense of gratitude to Him and be more generous today?

Day two

the gift of wisdom



" if any of you is lacking in wisdom, let him ask God, who gives all generously... and it will be given to you"
(Letter of St. James 1:5)

**Blessed Spirit of Wisdom, help me to seek God.
Make him the center of my life and order my
steps to him, so that love and harmony may reign
in my soul.**

St. Josemaría

The divine message of victory, the joy and peace of Pentecost should be the unshakable foundation of every Christian's way of thinking, acting and living.

Pope Francis

In the Creed we profess that He is the "giver of life".

How good it would be...to say when we wake up each morning: "Come, Holy Spirit, come into my heart, come into my day"



TODAY'S ACT FOR THE SPIRIT

With the gift of wisdom, I should think deeply about a situation, conflict or experience, praying to see them as God does.

Day three

the gift of understanding



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The Spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding (From the prophet Isaiah)

Blessed Spirit of Understanding, enlighten my mind, that I may know and love the truth of faith and make them truly my own.

St. Josemaría

A sure way to be humble is to contemplate how, even without talents, fame or fortune, we can be effective instruments if we go to the Holy Spirit so that He may grant us his gifts (Furrow, 283).

Pope Francis

Prayer is the 'lung' that gives breath to disciples of all times; without prayer it is not possible to be a disciple of Jesus (General Audience, June 2019)



TODAY'S ACT FOR THE SPIRIT

I would plan to have a moment of personal prayer today and seek understanding from you Oh Spirit!

Day four

the gift of knowledge



"The Spirit of Truth would lead you to the complete truth..."
(the Gospel of St. John)

Blessed Spirit of Knowledge, help me to know good from evil. Teach me to do what is right in the sight of God. Give me clear vision and firmness in decision do your holy will. Make me prudent and courageous too.

St. Josemaría

Get to know the holy Spirit, the great Stranger, on whom depends your sanctification (The Way, 57)

Pope Francis

God's love works through the Holy Spirit, in every human being with none excluded.
(Weekly Catechesis, 2023)



TODAY'S ACT FOR THE SPIRIT

I would cultivate the habit of listening more today; because, you Lord can speak from people I least expect.

Day five

the gift of counsel



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"It is not you who speaks but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you (the Gospel of St. Matthew)."

Blessed Spirit of Counsel, enlighten and guide me in all my ways, that I may always know and do your holy will. Make me prudent and courageous too.

St. Josemaría

Our Lord Jesus wants it: we have to follow him closely. There is no other way. This is the task of the Holy Spirit in each soul (The Forge, 860).

Pope Francis

It is the Spirit in us that drives us ..., and this is the true freedom of the children of God (Weekly Catechesis, 2023)



TODAY'S ACT FOR THE SPIRIT

Counsel is also called right judgement. Ask for the will of God to be done as you chose to act right even when it seems hard.

Day six

the gift of fortitude



"But you would receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you would be my witness."
(from the Acts of the Apostles)

Blessed Spirit of Fortitude, uphold my soul in every time of trouble or adversity. Make me loyal and confident too.

St. Josemaría

Our Lord Jesus wants it: we have to follow him closely. There is no other way. This is the task of the Holy Spirit in each soul (The Forge, 860).

Pope Francis

The Spirit empowers, and without Him, we lose the strength to 'change the world' like the first disciples did. (General Audience February, 2023)



TODAY'S ACT FOR THE SPIRIT

With the gift of fortitude, we experience the courage to overcome our fears.

Can we make a constant effort to speak the truth at all times today?

Day seven

the gift of piety



"God is spirit and those who worship him , must worship him in spirit and in truth" (the Gospel of St. John 4:24).

Blessed Spirit of Piety, possess my heart incline it to a true faith in You, to a holy love of You my God, that I may wholeheartedly seek You, who are my Father and find in You my best, my truest joy.

St. Josemaría

Through the gift of piety, the Holy Spirit reminds us with certainty that we are children of God. And being children of God, how can we be sad? (Friends of God, 92)

Pope Francis

The Spirit of God pours love into our hearts, he makes us feel loved and teaches us how to love. He is the motor of our spiritual lives.
(Homily, Mass of Pentecost June 2022)



TODAY'S ACT FOR THE SPIRIT

With the gift of piety, we can worship God more meaningfully and with a lot of affection!

'I want to love you Lord, with my whole heart!'

Day eight

the gift of holy fear



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"For your immortal Spirit is in all things" (the book of Wisdom 12).

Blessed Spirit of Holy Fear, penetrate in my most inner heart, that I may be mindful of your presence. Make me fly from sin, and intense reverence for God and those around me who are made in God's image too.

St. Josemaría

The Advocate is in the centre of your soul: listen to him and be docile to his inspirations. (The Way, 57)

Pope Francis

The Spirit of God pours love into our hearts, he makes us feel loved and teaches us how to love. He is the motor of our spiritual lives.
(Homily, Mass of Pentecost June 2022)



TODAY'S ACT FOR THE SPIRIT

With the gift of holy fear,
'I want to love you Lord, with my whole heart!'

Day nine

All seven gifts!



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The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD
(from the Prophecy of Isaiah)

Come Holy Spirit and fill the hearts of the faithful and enkindle in us the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created and You shall renew the face of the earth.

St. Josemaría

Ask with me for a new Pentecost, which will one day set the world alight! (Furrow, 213).

Pope Francis

The Spirit makes us see everything in a new way, with the eyes of Jesus...in the great journey of life the Spirit teaches us where to begin,...how to walk.
(Homily, Mass of Pentecost June 2022)



With the gifts of the Holy Spirit and his presence as a gift in us, we can find new ways to share the joy of such a close friend with others today! Can you think of one?

Day ten

the gift of Prayer



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When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place, and suddenly from heaven there came a sound... (Acts 2:1-2a)

" Holy Spirit, I do not know your face-but I know you are the strength ,that you are the light and that you are able to make me go forth and to teach me how to pray " -Pope Francis

PRAYER TO THE **HOLY SPIRIT**

(composed by St. Josemaría)

Come, O Holy Spirit!

Enlighten my mind to know your commands;
strengthen my heart against the snares of the
enemy; inflame my will...

I have heard your voice, and I don't want to harden
myself and resist, saying "Later..., tomorrow."

Nunc coepi! Now I begin! In case there is no
tomorrow for me.

O Spirit of truth and wisdom, Spirit of
understanding and counsel, Spirit of joy and peace!

I want whatever you want. I want because you
want, I want however you want, I want whenever
you want.

Amen.