



*Novena to the Holy
Spirit for a
New Pentecost for
the Church*

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Novena Prayer to the Holy Spirit for a New Pentecost for the Church - Intro

*Begins on Saturday May 27th, 2017, and ends on
Pentecost Sunday June 4th, 2017*

*Novena to the Holy Spirit, we ask the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of Life,
for a Fresh Outpouring of Spiritual Power and Spiritual Gifts for the Church,
the Body of Jesus Christ.*

*We ask the Holy Spirit to awaken the Church and equip her to bring the men
and women of this age to faith in Jesus Christ.*

*We ask for a New Pentecost for the Church, a New Evangelization of the
Church and a new Missionary Age of Christianity.*

*We also ask for the same outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the smallest cell
of the Church, the domestic church of the
Christian family.*

*PATRON: St. John Paul II, the Pope of the Renewal
of the Holy Spirit*

Novena Prayer to the Holy Spirit for a New Pentecost for the Church

Beloved Father, through the life, death and resurrection of your only begotten Son, Jesus the Christ, we have become your adopted sons and daughters. Through Baptism we are now members of His Body, the Church.

Our Savior Jesus taught us that "whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother, and sister, and mother."

We thank you that promise includes each one of us. As members of the family of Jesus we now turn to you in prayer.

Before He ascended to you, Jesus told His early followers to wait in Jerusalem, seeking the outpouring of Holy Spirit. They did as he directed, gathering together with the Mother of the Lord.

On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit fell upon them all, clothing them with power - and equipping them to continue the work and ministry of Jesus Christ.

This once frightened group of men and women then "turned the world upside down with their message." (Acts 17:6)

Led by the Holy Spirit, they left the upper room, and went into the whole world. They proclaimed the Gospel, and did what Jesus did, spreading and revealing His Kingdom.

We ask now for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Church in this age, a New Pentecost.

Too often we have acted like the disciples who Paul met in Ephesus who "never even heard that there was a Holy Spirit". (Acts 1)

Come Holy Spirit, come into the Church of Jesus Christ and Awaken her! Fill her Bishops, priests, deacons, ministers - and all her leaders - afresh.

Baptize the whole Body of Christ. Heal the divisions within the Body of Christ. Come Holy Spirit, Come. Send forth your Fire on the earth! We also ask for a fresh outpouring on the domestic church of the Christian family.

In an age rejecting the truth of Gods loving plan for the family, Holy Spirit, transform Christian families into a sign of the Kingdom, through your power. Make them into the little platoons which will lead a great Awakening of Christianity and turn the world upside down.

*Come Holy Spirit. You reveal the mind of the Lord. You search me, and know me and my needs. I specifically bring to you now my own personal intention:
(Pause for your prayer intention)*

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND THE SON, AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, AMEN

Come Holy Spirit and fill the hearts of your faithful. Come Holy Spirit and Awaken the Church!

Final Blessing:

*May the Blessing of Almighty God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit
come upon you and remain with you forever
AMEN*

Day 1 Reflection

After His Resurrection, Jesus appeared to his disciples over forty days and "charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father" He said, "John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

Right before He ascended to the Father, he told them "you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth." (Acts 1)

And, they did what Jesus said.

*That power of the Holy Spirit, *dunamis* in Greek, from which we derive the English word dynamite, was explosive. It equipped them to continue the redemptive mission of Jesus, as members of His Body, the Church.*

Through our Baptism, we are members of His Body. We are co-missioned to continue His work in our time. We are living in a new missionary age of the Christian Church. We need the power of the Holy Spirit in order to be effective witnesses today!

*Let us pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Let us ask for that *dunamis* , that explosive power, to rouse the Universal Church and awaken the domestic church of the Christian family.*

Come Holy Spirit, in the fullness of your power, and give us a New Pentecost for a New Missionary Age.

Day 2 Reflection

We read in the Acts of the Apostles that, after Jesus ascended they

"returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away; and when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying,

"Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. All these with one accord devoted themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren."

They BELIEVED in this promise of Jesus and prayed for the power of the Holy Spirit to fall upon them.

We have been encouraged by recent successors of Peter to ask the Holy Spirit for a New Pentecost, a Fresh Outpouring of the Holy Spirit, for the whole Church

- and, for a fresh outpouring on the smallest cell of the Church, the domestic church of the Christian family.

Come Holy Spirit and fill the whole Church with the very life of God. Make her radiant in a world which is steeped in darkness.

Day 3 Reflection

We read in the Acts of the Apostles that "When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

"And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

Devout Jews from all over had gathered in Jerusalem for the Feast. They spoke different languages but heard the apostles speaking in their own language."

Peter, who only weeks earlier had denied the Lord out of fear, stood up, empowered by the Spirit and preached one of the most powerful messages ever proclaimed.

That day, over three thousand people were baptized. The pattern, the way of life of the early Church, began, "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

Jesus promised his disciples that they would do the works which he did. By the power of the Holy Spirit, they did. They moved out from the upper room into the world of their age, to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and power.

So can we - because we are his disciples today - with the help of the same Holy Spirit. Come Holy Spirit and set the Universal Church - and the domestic church of the family - on Fire.

Day 4 Reflection

In the 16th chapter of the Gospel of John, Jesus tells the disciples He must return to the Father, in order to send the Holy Spirit, "I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convince the world of sin and of righteousness and of judgment..."

Jesus continued, "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."

The Holy Spirit continues to guide the Church of Jesus Christ in all truth.

One of the ways which that occurs is through her teaching office, which is called the magisterium, from the Latin word for teacher.

There is an assault on the very claim that truth exists today, in this age which Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI referred to as a dictatorship of relativism.

Let us ask for a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the leaders of the Church today, so they have the holy boldness, the courage, to defend the deposit of faith.

Jesus promised "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." (John 8:32)

Come Holy Spirit, Reveal the Fullness of truth in and through the Church and set us free!

Day 5 Reflection

The Apostle Paul taught the Christians in Corinth extensively about the gifts which the Holy Spirit gives to the whole Church. He wrote,

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of working, but it is the same God who inspires them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

"To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another, gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another, various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues."

These gifts of the Holy Spirit are still available to the Church. Let us ask the Holy Spirit for the multiplication and manifestation of these spiritual gifts in a great spiritual awakening in the Universal Church, as well as in her smallest cell, the domestic church of the Christian family.

Come Holy Spirit,

Fill us with your gifts,

For the Common Good

Day 6 Reflection

*The messianic Hebrew Prophet Isaiah foretold the coming of the Messiah.
For the Common Good*

When Jesus began his public ministry, he read from the Prophet Isaiah in the temple, He opened the scroll to these words,

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord." (Isaiah 61, Luke 4)

With that proclamation, Jesus identified Himself as the promised messiah.

The Holy Spirit had spoken through that same prophet these words concerning the Messiah,

"There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. And 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 the fear of the Lord." (Isaiah 11)

*These gifts of the Holy Spirit are also still given to the Body of Jesus Christ,
His Church.*

Let us pray for a renewal of these gifts in the Universal Church - and in the domestic church of the Christian family.

Come Holy Spirit, fill us with your gifts.

Day 7 Reflection

On the Solemnity of Pentecost in May of 1986, St John Paul II issued an encyclical letter on the Holy Spirit called "The Lord and Giver of Life".

In a section discussing the teaching of Jesus on the Holy Spirit in the Gospel of John, John Paul wrote, "In transmitting the Good News, the Apostles will be in a special way associated with the Holy Spirit."

THEY STILL ARE

He then reminded us that Jesus taught, "When the Counselor comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness to me; and you also are witnesses, because you have been with me from the beginning...."

John Paul continued, "In the witness of the Spirit of truth, the human testimony of the Apostles will find its strongest support... it will also find therein the hidden foundation of its continuation among the generations of Christ's disciples and believers who succeed one another down through the ages."

We are numbered among those believers now. This is the Third Millennium of Christianity. The ministry of the Apostles continues, in and through the Church that Jesus founded. We don't really leave that Church when we leave the church building on the Lords Day. We live our lives in that Church, as members of the Body of Jesus Christ. He lives His life now, through us.

Let us ask the Holy Spirit to baptize the Whole Christian Church anew in the Holy Spirit, including the domestic church of the Christian family.

May we become the witnesses so desperately needed in a barren age which has lost its soul.

Come Holy Spirit, the soul of the Church ©2021

Day 8 Reflection

In the Catechism of the Catholic Church we read, "The Church is one because of her source: "the highest exemplar and source of this mystery is the unity, in the Trinity of Persons, of one God, the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit."

The Church is one because of her founder: for "the Word made flesh, the prince of peace, reconciled all men to God by the cross,... restoring the unity of all in one people and one body."

The Church is one because of her "soul": "It is the Holy Spirit, dwelling in those who believe and pervading and ruling over the entire Church, who brings about that wonderful communion of the faithful and joins them together so intimately in Christ that he is the principle of the Church's unity."

"Unity is of the essence of the Church"

The Catechism quotes these words of a second century father of the Church, Clement of Alexandria:

"What an astonishing mystery! There is one Father of the universe, one Logos of the universe, and also one Holy Spirit, everywhere one and the same; there is also one virgin become mother, and I should like to call her "Church."

Let us ask the Holy Spirit to bring healing to the divisions within the one Body of Christ and the divisions within the domestic church of the Christian family.

Come, Holy Spirit, source of healing and unity, MAKE US ONE.

Day 9 Reflection

Referring to the words of Jesus and the Apostle Paul in the Bible, and to the ancient Christian creeds, paragraphs 687 and 688 of the Catechism of the Catholic Church teach us:

"No one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God." (1 Cor. 2:11) Now God's Spirit, who reveals God, makes known to us Jesus Christ, his Word, his living Utterance, but the Spirit does not speak of himself.

"The Spirit who "has spoken through the prophets" makes us hear the Father's Word, but we do not hear the Spirit himself. We know him only in the movement by which he reveals the Word to us and disposes us to welcome him in faith.

"The Spirit of truth who "unveils" Christ to us "will not speak on his own."(John 16:13) Such properly divine self-effacement explains why "the world cannot receive [him], because it neither sees him nor knows him," while those who believe in Christ know the Spirit because he dwells with them. (John 14:7)

The Catechism then continues,

"The Church, a communion living in the faith of the apostles which she transmits, is the place where we know the Holy Spirit: - in the Scriptures he inspired;

- in the Tradition, to which the Church Fathers are always timely witnesses;*
- in the Church's Magisterium, which he assists;*
- in the sacramental liturgy, through its words and symbols, in which the Holy Spirit puts us into communion with Christ;*
- in prayer, wherein he intercedes for us;*
- in the charisms and ministries by which the Church is built up;*
- in the signs of apostolic and missionary life;*
- in the witness of saints through whom he manifests his holiness and continues the work of salvation.*

Let us ask the Holy Spirit to guide, empower, teach and equip the Church of Jesus Christ so that she can continue the redemptive mission of Jesus Christ until He returns to establish the kingdom in its fullness.

And, let us ask the Holy Spirit guide, empower, teach and equip the domestic church of the Christian family.

*Come Holy Spirit, Lord and Giver of life, reveal Jesus Christ to the whole world;
In and through His Church.*