



Novena for Pentecost 14th - 22nd May



Nine days of prayer and reflection from Ascension to Pentecost

Praying the Novena each day

- Begin by invoking the Holy Spirit using Pope John XXIII's prayer.
- Follow the daily theme by reflecting upon the Scripture.
- Pray for the specific intercession.
- Conclude each day with the Pentecost Sequence.

Invocation

“Renew your wonders in this our day, as by a new Pentecost. Grant to your Church that, being of one mind and steadfast in prayer with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and following the lead of Blessed Peter, it may advance the reign of our Divine Saviour, the reign of truth and justice, the reign of love and peace, Amen” (John Paul XXIII).

Come, Holy Spirit, in your power and might to renew the face of the earth.

1 Intercession for Israel, the People of the Covenant

Invocation:

Come, Holy Spirit upon the Jewish people Israel, the first to hear the Word of God, and prepare them for the full realisation of the “hope of Israel”. Bless our elder brother, the people of your covenant.

Scripture: Gen 12: 1-3; Ps 122:6; Is. 62:1-2; Acts 28:20; Rom 11

“To the Jews belong the son-ship, the glory, the covenant, the giving of the Law, the worship and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and of their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ.” (CCC 839)

Prayer intention:

Pray for the ‘shalom’, (peace), of Jerusalem, for the righteousness of Jerusalem to shine before all the nations. Pray for all Jewish people in Israel and in the Diaspora.

2 Intercession for the Renewal of the Church

Invocation:

Come, Holy Spirit, rekindle your fire and renew your Church.

Scripture: Mt 3:11; Acts 2: 17-21

“That the ‘Spirituality of Pentecost’ be spread in the Church, as a renewed trust of prayer, holiness, communion and proclamation” (Pope John Paul II)

Prayer intention:

Pray for the ‘Spirituality of Pentecost’ to renew the church throughout the World, especially in your continent, nation, diocese, and parish and in your own life.

3 Intercession for the Unity of Christianity

Invocation:

Come, Holy Spirit, unite your Church -”Father, make them one that the world may believe”

Scripture: Jn 17:21; Eph. 4:1-6;2:11-18

‘Among the sins which require a greater commitment to repentance and conversion should certainly be counted those which have been detrimental to the unity willed by God for his People.’ (Pope John Paul II)

Prayer intention:

Pray for reconciliation, the purification of memories and the healing of the Christian body - in the world, in your nation and in your life.

4 Intercession for the Renewal of Society

Invocation:

Come, Holy Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. —Transform society by the power of your Spirit.

Scripture: Mk.16:16-20. Lk.4: 18-19, Rev. 21: 3-5

“Jesus announces the beginning of a new age in which the Holy Spirit will be poured out over all of humanity (Lk.4:21). The outpouring of the Spirit of Christ is a pledge of deliverance against everything that impoverishes us”. (Pope Benedict XVI)

Prayer intention

Pray for the coming of the Kingdom and for the Culture of Life born of the Spirit, to penetrate the whole of Society; for governments, and those in public office in your continent and nation.

5 Intercession for Conversion and Holiness

Invocation:

Come, Holy Spirit, let faith and hope arise in the hearts of people and let your glory be manifested in your Church.

Scripture: Rom 8:28-30; 10:9-11; Jn 3:5-8

‘Holiness is the priority in every age, and therefore also in our own time. The Church and the World need saints, and we ourselves become holier the more we allow the Holy Spirit to configure us to Christ.’ (Pope John Paul II)

Prayer Intention:

Pray for the conversion of sinners, for growth in holiness and the revelation of God's Glory, - in the church, in the world, in your family and in your life.

6 Intercession for Reconciliation and Healing

Invocation:

Come, Holy Spirit, help us live together in unity, humility and love.

*Scripture: Ps 133:1-3; Eph 4:1-6; Mk 11:25;
Lk 17: 3-4*

'May the experience of forgiveness and the value given to every spiritual gift help everyone to build a fellowship nourished by the breath of the Spirit of the Risen Lord'. (Pope John Paul II)

Prayer intention:

Pray for reconciliation in broken relationships and the healing of life's hurts. May the peace of Christ that has broken down every dividing wall lead us into unity. Pray this for your diocese, parish, family and yourself.

7 Intercession for Empowerment for Evangelisation

Invocation:

Come, Holy Spirit, empower us to fulfil your call to be witnesses to the end of the earth and to be bearers of the Good News.

Scripture: Matt 28:16-20; Lk 24:49; Acts 1:8

'Those who allow themselves to be led by the Holy Spirit understand that placing themselves at the service of the gospel is not something one can say no to, because they realise how urgent it is to convey this Good News to others.' (Pope Benedict XVI)

Prayer intention:

Pray for a new empowerment by the Holy Spirit so we can be effective witnesses, and for a new boldness

in bringing the Gospel to the whole of creation; for the work of a 'New Evangelisation' in the Church.

8 Intercession for the Victory of the Holy Cross

Invocation:

Come, Holy Spirit, let your victory be proclaimed and your glory be revealed upon the face of the earth.

Scripture: Eph. 1:15-23; 2:16; 1 Cor. 1:17-18

'We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, for he is our salvation, our life and our resurrection; through him we are saved and made free. (Liturgy, *Triumph of the Cross*)

Prayer intention:

Pray that the victory of the Holy Cross and its saving power be manifested in our lives and proclaimed over all the earth. 'We adore you O Christ and we bless you; because by your Cross you have redeemed the world.'

9 Intercession for a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit and His Gifts

Invocation:

'Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait there for what the Father has promised....John baptised with water but, not many days from now, you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Scripture: Acts 1:4; Eph. 4:12; 1:10 1Cor 12:1-11

'Come, Holy Spirit, come and renew the face of the earth! Come with your seven gifts, Spirit of Life; Come, Spirit of Communion and Love! The Church and the world need you. Come Holy Spirit, and make ever more fruitful the charisms you have bestowed on us.' (Pope John Paul II)

Prayer intention:

Pray for a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit in your life. May the Gifts of the Spirit be more fully manifest for the building up His body in love and for bringing all things in heaven and earth under his headship.

Pentecost Sequence

Come, Holy Spirit come,
and from your celestial 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 all comforters best; you the soul's most welcome guest.
Sweet refreshment here below.

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

O most Blessed Light Divine, shine within these hearts of thine,
and our innermost being fill.

Where you are not, we have naught.
Nothing good in deed or thought, nothing free from 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 us virtue's sure reward. Give us your salvation, Lord.
Give us joys that never end. Amen. Alleluia.

Background to the Novena

Pope Leo XIII asked the faithful to celebrate a solemn Novena (nine days of prayer) perpetually, between the feasts of Ascension and Pentecost. The Novena, prayed for the unity of Christianity, starts the day after Ascension Thursday and finishes on the eve of Pentecost, and invites us to pray daily, for the coming of the Holy Spirit. The specific daily themes can be prayed in any way that suits, and may include spontaneous prayers, praying in the Spirit, prayers of repentance, thanksgiving and blessing. Other intentions may be added, as the Holy Spirit suggests. Where possible, pray this Novena before the Blessed Sacrament, with a time of quiet adoration.

So please pray this novena from 14th to 22nd May 2010