

## NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

### *Introductory Prayer for each day*

*O Rushing Wind of New Life....Holy Spirit....come in all your power to rejuvenate God's children across the nations. As You breathed on the lifeless body of the Crucified and summoned Him from the dark of the tomb.....so may your breath fill the lungs of Christ's mystical body, the Church. Giver of the seven Sacred Gifts....wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and a holy fear of the Lord.....give us the grace of a perpetual interior Pentecost. Descend on us with a fullness we have not yet known. Recreate us interiorly and form us by grace into who we are meant to become. Enliven and revitalise us with Your Gifts....so we can do the work you set before us. Generous Spirit, offer us Gifts we can invest in others, and the choicest Fruits of Love from the ancient Tree of Life. Amen.*

.....

*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. O, God, who has taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that by gifts of the the same Spirit we may be always truly wise and ever enjoy His consolation, Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.*

### *Prayers to be said at the end of each day's intentions*

*O Holy Spirit, soul of my soul, I adore Thee. Enlighten, guide, strengthen and console me. Tell me what I ought to do and command me to do it. I promise to submit to everything You ask of me and to accept all that You allow to happen to me. Just show me what is Your Will. Amen. (Cardinal Mercier)*

*One.....Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory be.....*

Holy Spirit....come! You are God's love letter to us....the Hope we hold out to others and the hope we cling to in adversity. Fountain of life, pour your graces out afresh on us. Complete the work of Jesus and bring to perfection the kingdom He established by his death and resurrection. Holy Spirit we love you...you are the Father of the "poor in spirit" and we come to you knowing that you will never fail us. Make your tabernacle in our hearts. We call on you in the name of your spouse, the Blessed Virgin Mary. We hope to draw into our souls your graces through her holy name, for she is your chosen instrument for the restoration of unity where it is lacking. We cannot hope to live in intimate union with you except through our unity with the Immaculate Heart. Mary, Spouse of the Holy Spirit, pray for us. Holy Spirit, Light of our souls and most patient Advocate, stay with us....and bless us as we go in Jesus' name. Amen.

### **Day 1.....for Unity**

Holy Spirit, you are the great Unifier.... the life that unites the Father and the Son. You alone can bring us towards the oneness Christ prayed for at the Last Supper. O Fount of Holiness, unite the shepherds and the flock Jesus died for. You who are the Love between the Father and the Son....may your immeasurable power surround and infuse the Barque of St. Peter. Let your grace so flow through us that the Kingdom may blossom in the most arid of ground. Tear down the walls that separate religions and bring all peoples to unity of belief, conviction and purpose. Sanctify and unify the disparate strands of our own lives. Unite our prayer to that which rises from the Sacred Heart to the Father.....so that we may enter into the priestly intercession of Jesus in the glory of heaven. Amen.

### **Day 2....for Wisdom**

Holy Spirit you are the source of all wisdom, a wisdom which is folly to the world. Like Mary and the Apostles we depend on your divine guidance. Compass of Reason, You reach the depths of everything. Bring clarity to the cluttered mind and let us see through your lens of Eternal Wisdom. Helps us to aspire for the hidden things of Christ and to shun all that is not of God. Open our minds to the True, the Good and the Beautiful. Make clear the

path we should take. Teach us how to listen to your gentle sighs.... for we trust in You. Lead us in all things for only by our docility to your sweet inspirations can we become holy. Amen.

### **Day 3....for Understanding**

O Holy Spirit, though we cannot see you, we believe in You....for Jesus said: "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." We adore You as the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity. We believe that through You Jesus is more present to us now than when He walked the earth. You reveal Him in each Sacrament, the revelation of Your sanctifying power. Increase our faith. Jesus said, "ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." So, we ask for the gift of understanding. Enlighten us as we peer into the mysteries of salvation. Stir up the longing in our hearts to share in the Divine Life. Keeper of Dreams, preserve in us our highest imaginings. May we never lose sight of who we are called to be...and our sacred destiny. Give us clarity of vision as we move forward in our pilgrim journey. Amen.

### **Day 4...for Counsel**

Holy Paraclete, You are always at our side. Give us supernatural intuition so we sense what is to be done at any given time. Help us to be prudent and to judge wisely and promptly as we make our daily choices and decisions, especially in difficult situations. Assist all parents and teachers in guiding the young, and to use their authority with gentleness. Heighten our common sense that we may always be directed towards good and away from evil. We believe in the promise of Jesus who said, "do not worry about how to speak or what to say; it will be given to you when the time comes; because it is not you who will be speaking; the Spirit of your Father will be speaking in you." So, speak to our hearts, Holy Advocate. Show us what should be done in our own lives and how to help and advise others in their best interests. Amen.

### **Day 5....for Fortitude**

Holy Ghost, gives us the strength to follow through on the actions suggested

by the Gift of Counsel. Give us the courage of the martyrs, willing to bear our crosses and all adversity on the pilgrim road to Eternity. May we take risks for the Kingdom of God and not pull back when we face opposition and are maligned for witnessing to the Gospel. Reviver of Peace, be music to the fettered soul, allay our fears in trials, shield and shelter us from evil. O Holy Spirit, warmth that cradles and comforts, rest for the weary traveller....be our lantern through the valleys of adversity. May the caress of your breeze calm the anguished soul. Indwelling Spirit, help us to see that He who allows suffering to carve new depths in our souls.....is also the Joy Bringer, the Liberator of the captive. Teach us to endure all with patience.....with kindness in our hearts, gentleness in our voice, and fidelity to the Good News. Amen.

### **Day 6....for Knowledge**

All Knowing Holy Spirit, perfect our faith through the gift of knowledge. Help us for we wish to truly know God so that we can love and serve Him better. Guide us so that we can see things as God sees them in all the circumstances of our lives. We want to determine God's will for our lives and conform ourselves more closely to the Divine Will. Holy Spirit, may we yield to your every movement within us so we proceed with serenity and are preserved from deceit, pretence and illusion. Give us the desire to study the scriptures, to be well versed in them, and help us grasp the different layers of meaning in both Testaments. May we retain these truths and communicate them effectively when needed. Make us more effective teachers of the Holy Bible as we marry the living word to the demands of family, work and community life. Help us to make the right connections between the teachings of scripture and every situation a Christian faces. Amen.

### **Day 7....for Piety**

O Holy Spirit, You are the Master of Prayer. St Paul says that You help us "in our weakness for we do not know how to pray as we ought....but the Spirit himself intercedes with sighs too deep for words." We surrender to you so that You may cause prayer to well up in us like a fountain of living water... for then we will worship in spirit and in

truth. We want to pray as you give us to pray.....humbly but with confidence and boldness. Animate and form us in prayer as we strive to live in rhythm with You. Delight those who wait upon You with the whispers of your love and lead us to the hidden treasures of the Kingdom. Holy One, you who deftly bid us move into silence....and from there to go and meet human needs in joyful service.....be our daily miracle of Hope. May each prayer which rises from our lips be inspired by You. You lead and move us to seek the Holy Face of Jesus veiled in the Blessed Sacrament. As we persevere in Adoration, inflame our hearts with the fire that blazes in the Sacred Heart out of love for us. May we leave each Eucharistic encounter with your warmth inside us. Give us the gift to fast and make small sacrifices which please the Father and teach us to adore God at every moment in the inner sanctuary of our souls....where You abide with the Father and the Son. Amen.

#### **Day 8....for Holy Fear of the Lord**

Eternal Spirit, you teach us through Scripture that the holy fear, awe and reverence for the Lord is the first stage of Wisdom. We pray that we may never offend, displease or grieve the Holy Trinity. Detach us from all that is vain and empty of meaning. Holy Spirit, Life of our Soul, stream your rays of Light upon us. Cleanse and purify each human heart.....heal those hearts hardened against Christ's Church. Arouse in us holy desires. Raise our minds to the larger story you are inviting us to share in. Faithful Ally, pardon our inconstant returns on grace and mercy. Give us a delicacy of conscience and as you illuminate the shadows of the past, give us truly repentant hearts for the sins you reveal to us. We ask you to help us repair any harm and suffering we have caused. Give us always your grace and love...forgive us our sins and transgressions and continue to reveal the love of Jesus and the merciful face of the Father. Amen

#### **Day 9...for the Fruits of the Holy Spirit**

Holy Spirit, today we pray for all the fruits You want to give us from the Tree of Life.....love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. We see how each of these gifts can transform our personalities. Help us with our weak spots. When we are stressed and

*embattled it is so easy to lose joy. Lead us back to prayer on our days of struggle. The future is full of uncertainty but You are certain, O Spirit of God. Your ways are sure. You are our Consoler and Comforter, guiding us in maintaining peace on pressure-filled days when all is frenetic and our good humour is tested. Do not allow us to give up or give in to temptation but build in us our reserves of patience and long-suffering. Remind us we are held in secure hands....and bless us with the gentleness to be attentive, kind and responsive to the needs of those around us. Amen.*