

NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

OPENING PRAYERS

V/ Holy Spirit, look upon us gathered here just like the first Christian community, together with Mary, the Mother of Christ. Hear the prayers we raise up to you with one heart and one spirit for this work to which you have called us. Holy Spirit, help us to love God above all things, to do his will at all times and live always in communion with the Church and in filial obedience to the Holy Father.

R/ Kindle in us the fire of your love.

V/ Holy Spirit, take pity on our lowliness and poverty and come to sustain us with your grace.

R/ Kindle in us the fire of your love.

V/ Holy Spirit, we implore you to enlighten our minds, cure our weaknesses, and give us the strength to renew the ideal of holiness and apostolate to which we have committed our lives in the Regnum Christi Movement.

R/ Kindle in us the fire of your love.

V/ Holy Spirit, help us to discern the means by which you want us to fulfill our mission in the Church: those that will lead us to grow in faith, hope and love, and to always seek goodness and truth.

R/ Kindle in us the fire of your love.

May 15th - *The Creating Spirit*

V/ *In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth—and the earth was without form or shape, with darkness over the abyss and the spirit of God swept over the waters (Gen 1:1-2).*

R/ *You take away their breath, they perish and return to the dust. Send forth your spirit, they are created and you renew the face of the earth (Ps 104:30).*

VI *Holy Spirit, out of love you created the world in a wonderful way, and you re-created it in an even more wonderful way. After having risen up this work in your Church out of love, give us your grace to re-fashion it even more beautiful to your eyes.*

R/ *Send forth your spirit, they are created and you renew the face of the earth.*

May 16th - Holy Spirit, the Advocate

VI *"I have told you this while I am with you. The Advocate, the holy Spirit that the Father will send in my name—he will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you" (Jn 14:25-26).*

R/ *In the same way, the Spirit too comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit itself intercedes with inexpressible groanings (Rm 8:26).*

VI *As we make our earthly pilgrimage toward heaven, we experience your presence among us, Holy Spirit, as our companion, councilor, protector, defender, and intercessor. Come to our aid today; sustain us so we may not falter; give us strength, light and council to fulfill your plan for this work of yours.*

R/ *The Spirit itself intercedes with inexpressible groanings.*

May 17th - Spirit of Christ

VI *Jesus cried out again in a loud voice, and gave up his spirit. And behold, the veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth quaked, rocks were split, tombs were opened, and the bodies of many saints who had fallen asleep were raised. And coming forth from their tombs after his resurrection, they entered the holy city and appeared to many (Mt 27:50-53).*

R/ *If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit that dwells in you (Rm 8:11).*

VI Your Spirit, Jesus, brings the world your victory over every kind of death. May He himself cure our wounds and those of all who suffer; may he dry our every tear, console our sorrows, and bring to our hearts the joy of contemplating the triumph of your grace.

R/ *The one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit that dwells in you.*

May 18th - Sweet Guest of the Soul

VI *And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, which the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows it. But you know it, because it remains with you, and will be in you (Jn 14:16-17).*

R/ *Now the natural person does not accept what pertains to the Spirit of God, for to him it is foolishness, and he cannot understand it, because it can only be judged according to the Spirit (1 Cor 2:14).*

VI You, Holy Spirit, build within us living temples in which it pleases you to live. Through silence, help us to envelop our lives in a loving attention to your presence so that we never feel alone. May the awareness of your sweet companionship by grace make us strong in the face of all temptation and adversity, make us witnesses of your mercy and help us to judge everything with your supernatural light.

R/ *It can only be judged according to the Spirit.*

May 19th - The Promise of the Father

VI *“Behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high” (Lk 24:49).*

R/ *It shall come to pass I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh. Your sons and daughters will prophesy (Jl 3:1).*

VI The promise of your Spirit, good Father, opens us up to the hope of a future full of spiritual fruitfulness, in which many men and women, brought to the faith by our prayer and our apostolic efforts, give to the world a prophetic witness of those who have let themselves be completely won over by Christ.

R/ *Your sons and daughters will prophesy.*

May 20th - The Finger of God

VI *“But if it is by the finger of God that I drive out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. When a strong man fully armed guards his palace, his possessions are safe. But when one stronger than he attacks and overcomes him, he takes away the armor on which he relied and distributes the spoils” (Lk 11:20-22).*

R/ *The magicians said to Pharaoh, “This is the finger of God” (Ex 8:15).*

VI You, Holy Spirit, are the supernatural power that shapes us and makes us a masterpiece of your mercy. Grant that we allow you to mold us with your finger, open our eyes to the wonders of the divine artistry of your grace and allow ourselves to become the instruments of your mercy among our brothers and sisters.

R/ *“This is the finger of God.”*

May 21st - Life-giving Spirit

VI *Then he said to me: Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, son of man! Say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: From the four winds come, O breath, and breathe into these slain that they may come to life. I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath entered them; they came to life and stood on their feet, a vast army. He said to me: Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel! They are saying, “Our bones are dried up, our hope is lost, and we are cut off.” Therefore, prophesy and say to them:*

Thus says the Lord GOD: Look! I am going to open your graves; I will make you come up out of your graves, my people, and bring you back to the land of Israel (Ez 37:9-12).

R/ *“It is the spirit that gives life, while the flesh is of no avail. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and life” (Jn 6:63).*

V/ Holy and life-giving Spirit, who ousts Death from his throne and manifests your power giving new life to man’s dry bones, help us to be revived through listening to Christ’s word, the divine medicine which heals the wounds of the soul. Kindle our hearts with love and light up our eyes with hope.

R/ *“The words I have spoken to you are spirit and life.”*

May 22nd - Living water

V/ *Jesus answered and said to her, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water” (Jn 4:13-15).*

R/ *On the last and greatest day of the feast, Jesus stood up and exclaimed, “Let anyone who thirsts come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as scripture says: ‘Rivers of living water will flow from within him’” (Jn 7:37-38).*

V/ Holy Spirit, water that quenches our thirst for God, our thirst for an unending love, our thirst for eternity, grant that always drinking from your font we become wellsprings of true life for the world, consecrating ourselves wholly to announcing Christ, source of authentic happiness.

R/ *“Let anyone who thirsts come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me ...”*

May 23rd - Gentle breeze

VI *Then the LORD said: Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD; the LORD will pass by. There was a strong and violent wind rending the mountains and crushing rocks before the LORD—but the LORD was not in the wind; after the wind, an earthquake—but the LORD was not in the earthquake; after the earthquake, fire—but the LORD was not in the fire; after the fire, a light gentle breeze. When he heard this, Elijah hid his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave (1 Kg 19:11-13).*

R/ *He calmed the storm to a gentle breeze; the waves of the sea were stilled. They rejoiced that the sea grew calm; that God brought them to the harbor they longed for (Ps 107:29-30).*

VI *May we recognize your presence, Holy Spirit, by the gentleness of your breeze, which comforts us and fills the sails of the soul, calming our disordered passions, our confusion, and the howling of a worldly spirit.*

R/ *They rejoiced that the sea grew calm, that God brought them to the harbor they longed for.*

CLOSING PRAYERS

VI *Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them.*

R/ *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:3-4).*

VI *May the grace of your seven gifts, oh Holy Spirit, enlighten our minds, strengthen our spirits, and guide our actions so that we may understand more deeply your plan for us and fulfill what pleases the Father, conforming us ever more perfectly with Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns forever and ever.*

R/ *Amen.*