



NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Following the Ascension of Our Lord, tradition says that the disciples gathered in the upper room together with Our Blessed Mother for the novena, nine days of prayer in anticipation of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit was given to the disciples to empower them to “be my witnesses...even to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

Today, as disciples of Jesus, we too join together in prayer for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit in our parish, our faith communities, our families, and in ourselves. We need the power of the Holy Spirit to be effective witnesses of love of God for our world. This novena to the Holy Spirit has been designed for either individual or communal prayer. The spiritual impact of serious prayer and reflection is immeasurable.

The format of the Novena will be:

Invocation to the Holy Spirit

A Scripture passage for focus

An image to focus on and pray with

A meditation

Prayer for the day

Concluding prayer to the Holy Spirit

Note: Meditations for Days 1 through 8 are based on the book Come Creator Spirit, by Rev. A. Biskupek, SVD, now out of print.



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

Novena Day 1 – May 19, 2023

O Holy Spirit, Soul of my soul, I adore you. Enlighten me, guide me, strengthen me, console me. Tell me what I ought to do, and command me to do it. I promise to submit myself to all that You ask of me, and to accept all that You permit to happen to me. Only let me know Your will. Amen.

"I will ask the Father and he will give you another Paraclete-Consoler to be with you always." — John 14:16

The Holy Spirit, the Best Consoler in Our Distress

The Holy Spirit is God. Together with the Father and the Son, He has created us. Shall He not then perfectly understand the human heart? The Holy Spirit searches us and knows us through and through. He knows the particular temperament, personality, and character of every individual, as well as the most secret desires and ambitions of the heart. He foresees how we will react to the various influences of life coming from within and without: ideals not realized, hopes disappointed, ambitions shattered, crosses borne, hardships endured.

In these trials of life, the Holy Spirit within us is always there as our best friend, our consoler and Paraclete. The Holy Spirit understands that our human nature has been weakened and wounded by original and personal sin. Knowing that we carry the treasure of the Christ-life in a very fragile vessel, He knows our sinful inclinations and the strength of our temptations. But our divine Consoler-Paraclete also knows the best remedy for all the ills of our souls. He can lay His finger on the sore spot and apply the remedy at once, for He possesses the power of helping us at all times and at all places, in all conditions and circumstances. When we fail or lose courage, He who is almighty can restore what is lost. When we are at a loss as to what God wants of us, He is wise and no situation is too complicated for Him. He is the infinitely tender love of the Father



and Son for us, and therefore He is our best consoler.

Although the Holy Spirit may not always remove our cross (for He knows how sanctifying it is), He will illuminate it with heavenly light, and give us a glimpse of the precious fruits that will come from it, filling us with His own comfort and hope. The Holy Spirit's love is not a weak and sentimental love that yields to our demands and grants us what is not good for us or jeopardizes our eternal welfare. The Holy Spirit yearns and pines over us day and night, "interceding for the saints as God Himself wills." (Rom 8:27). The consolation of the Holy Spirit brings joy into the gloom of our sorrow, light into our darkness, peace into our heart when tossed by the tempests of life. His consoling grace brings not only contentment in tribulation, but even a

love for the cross, and a peaceful and trusting dependence on our Heavenly Father whose providence is at work in our lives. Finally, it is the work of the Holy Spirit to lift our minds and hearts to heaven, where God will wipe away all our tears, and grant us the blessed reward waiting for those who generously take up their cross on earth, and follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

Prayer of the Day: "Thou of all consolers best," come and fill us with trusting abandonment to God in all the sorrows and afflictions of life! Intercede for us as God Himself wills! Help us to embrace All Things New with open hearts that believe that the Holy Spirit has guided us along the way. May the consoler bring comfort to any grief in our heart. Amen.

Concluding Prayer to the Holy Spirit

St. Augustine's Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Breathe in me O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy. Act in me O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy. Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy. Strengthen me O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy. Guard me then O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy.



Scan the QR code to listen to day 1 of the Novena to the Holy Spirit



Novena Day 2 – May 20, 2023

O Holy Spirit, Soul of my soul, I adore you. Enlighten me, guide me, strengthen me, console me. Tell me what I ought to do, and command me to do it. I promise to submit myself to all that You ask of me, and to accept all that You permit to happen to me. Only let me know Your will. Amen.

“Are you not aware that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?” - 1 Cor. 3:16

The Holy Spirit, Sweet Guest of Our Souls

The Holy Spirit is the sweet guest of our souls, bringing us the never-ending gift of divine love and grace and friendship. As social beings, we are not made to live alone, and yet we often experience loneliness, even in the midst of a crowd. This is the loneliness of the heart, a sense of not being completely understood, or of being forgotten.

Deeper still, the human heart has a deep loneliness and longing for God. Because we are made for God, nothing on this earth can fully satisfy us. “My soul is yearning and pining for the living God,” prays the psalmist. Worldly enjoyments often leave us with a deeper restlessness and emptiness. We know we are made for more, and the Holy Spirit creates within us a deep longing for the God of our hearts.

From whatever cause our loneliness might arise, the Holy Spirit offers us companionship as the faithful, abiding guest of our souls. St. Augustine cried out: “Our hearts are made for you, O God, and restless will they be until they rest in you.” The infinite love of God who is the Holy Spirit gives our hearts rest. When by faith and love we abide with Him and with the Father and the Son, we feel at home. Jesus promised us this new life in the family of the Trinity when he said: “I will ask the Father and he will give you another Paraclete to be with you always: the Spirit of truth whom the world cannot accept since it neither sees him nor recognizes him; but you can recognize him, because he remains with you and will be within you....Anyone who loves me will be true to my word, and my Father will love him; and we will come to him and make our home within him.”



The close presence of Father, Son and Holy Spirit is full of understanding and unconditional love. Loved ones might forget or abandon us, but God is faithful. In a way human friends could not possibly give, the Holy Spirit offers us His help, consolation and company at any moment of the day or night.

When St. John Chrysostom was forced into exile, he drew strength and comfort from the presence of the Holy Spirit within. He wrote: “Wherever I go, even to the most distant country or to the most barbarous people, I always have God with me.”

There are certain sacred duties to be observed toward the sweet guest of our souls. The house in which He dwells must be free of whatever grieves Him. Deliberate venial sin is offensive to the Holy Spirit and must be avoided at all costs. But it is comforting also to remember that it is the Holy Spirit Himself who cleanses our souls from sin and make them beautiful with the virtues of Christ.

Knowing the guest we bear within, it would be unthinkable for us to ignore Him. Spending time with this abiding companion, often sending Him some darts of our love, calling upon Him for light and grace to carry out the Father’s will especially in the midst of the crosses of life, and begging Him to light the fire of His love in our hearts, are ways to cultivate our friendship with the sweet guest of our souls. The peace His presence brings us cannot be taken from us even by the most severe trials of life. The Holy Spirit makes the yoke of Jesus sweet and His burden light. We carry within it the great fountain of joy and the giver of all consolation, so why are we so slow in grasping these precious divine gifts?

Prayer of the Day: May we embrace with faith that the Archdiocese is moving forward in ways that will enliven our life through an engaged community of believers that can accompany us and lead us to live a life for the Lord. Amen.

Concluding Prayer to the Holy Spirit

St. Augustine’s Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Breathe in me O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy. Act in me O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy. Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy. Strengthen me O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy. Guard me then O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy.



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Novena Day 3 – May 21, 2023

O Holy Spirit, Soul of my soul, I adore you. Enlighten me, guide me, strengthen me, console me. Tell me what I ought to do, and command me to do it. I promise to submit myself to all that You ask of me, and to accept all that You permit to happen to me. Only let me know Your will. Amen.



“You became imitators of us and of the Lord, receiving the word despite great trials, with the joy that comes from the Holy Spirit.” -1 Thess. 1:6

The Holy Spirit, Sweet Refreshment Here Below

Restoration of exhausted energy, a happy and cheerful mood for serving God and facing the hardships of daily life—this is the effect of the holy spiritual refreshment we implore from the Holy Spirit. Wherever the Holy Spirit dwells, His love which is stronger than death, is operating. Not even the rising floods of tribulation can extinguish His eternal love for us. The love of the Holy Spirit is equal to all tasks and knows no weariness in hardship and labor. The Holy Spirit is never discouraged but constantly urges us on in our spiritual journey, no matter how arduous may be the path. When His love truly operates in us, we are content with what God chooses to send into our life. We seek the will of God, and this abandonment to divine providence releases interior joy and refreshment into our hearts.

The discomfort of bearing the daily cross, the monotony of everyday duties, can often result in a sense of fatigue and weariness. We sometimes feel we have spent the last ounce of energy and have no strength left to continue walking the way of the cross. The Holy Spirit comes to our aid to provide refreshment for our tired and weary hearts on the journey of life.

He can act directly, by bestowing new vigor, hope and strength to the soul, or He can do so indirectly through people, through reading, through events and things. Discontent is a veritable cancer of the spiritual life. It stifles our growth, spreading its poison everywhere. It disturbs our peace of soul, because we don't have what we want, or

we must put up with what we don't like. We begin to think the burden we carry is too heavy, or the work we are assigned is not suited to us. The place we live, the people we encounter might strain our nerves, and we feel like we are in a strait jacket. Discontent may deceive us into thinking that others succeed where we have failed, and all this may

bring forth a sense of bitterness and rebellion against others, and against God Himself who is allowing this to happen.

This is a dangerous state of mind which we must resist by turning to the Holy Spirit for help and strength and refreshment in the heat of temptation. All adversities can be borne if seen in His heavenly light. What might cause bitter discontent without the Holy Spirit, can be accepted with humility, detachment, patience and even joy when we surrender to the Holy Spirit.

How much peace our souls would enjoy even in adversity, and how much energy would be released for God and the salvation of souls, were we to depend more completely on the help of the Holy Spirit. As ice melts in the presence of fire, as clouds are dispersed by a strong wind, our tribulations will turn into joy at the presence and strengthening and refreshment of the Holy Spirit who can accomplish all if we allow Him.

Prayer of the Day: Holy Spirit, refresh us daily with the fire of your love! Never allow discouragement or discontent to paralyze us in our advance toward union with God! Help us in the Archdiocese of St. Louis to embrace moving forward in hope.

Concluding Prayer to the Holy Spirit

St. Augustine's Prayer to the Holy Spirit

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Novena Day 4 – May 22, 2023

O Holy Spirit, Soul of my soul, I adore you. Enlighten me, guide me, strengthen me, console me. Tell me what I ought to do, and command me to do it. I promise to submit myself to all that You ask of me, and to accept all that You permit to happen to me. Only let me know Your will. Amen.

“Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth!” -Psalm 104:30

The Holy Spirit, in our Labors Rest Most Sweet

Labor is a synonym for work and activity, but it connotes a spending of our selves that can cost us a heavy price, besides bringing discomfort, pain and weariness.

Apostolic labor can involve us in travail and suffering of body and soul, as we share in Christ’s redemptive sufferings. Rest implies that all this pain, discomfort, and weariness cease and our exhausted energy is restored and renewed even if the strenuous labor must continue on.

The Holy Spirit who can indeed give us rest after labor, can also give us rest in the midst of labor. He inspires in us the love of Christ that urges us on, making us capable of enduring tremendous efforts and hardships without counting the cost if only God can be known and loved and served as He deserves.

The Holy Spirit accomplishes this in a soul through the inpouring of His light and love. He it is who leads us to rest like a beloved infant in the bosom of the Eternal Father, a practice so dear to St. Paul of the Cross. This interior resting of our spirit in God is so necessary for our perseverance in serving Him and serving the Church in these difficult times. It is a key to a daily renewal of strength and courage. Let us listen to St. Paul the Apostle writing to the Corinthians (2 Cor. 6:4-10): “In all that we do, we strive to present ourselves as ministers



of God, acting with patient endurance, amid trials, difficulties, distresses, beatings, imprisonments and riots; as men familiar with hard work, sleepless nights and fastings; conducting ourselves with innocence, knowledge and patience in the Holy Spirit, in sincere love, as men with the message of truth and the power of God...whether honored or dishonored...dead yet here we are alive; punished but not put to death; sorrowful though always rejoicing; poor yet we enrich many. We seem to have nothing, yet everything is ours!”

What the Holy Spirit accomplished in the Apostle Paul, He can accomplish in us and

He will do it to the degree pleasing to His wisdom and in proportion to our generosity. “With innocence, knowledge and patience in the Holy Spirit,” our spirits are directed, consoled and strengthened, and brought to rest in the love and embrace of our Heavenly Father. He whose power is infinite, knows no obstacles, fatigue or exhaustion. All human strength and power are just small drops of His divine energy. The Holy Spirit can change our labor into rest by an abundant infusion of His power, light and love.

Prayer of the Day: Oh Loving God, we admire the wisdom you give which helps us to understand the law of labor may be turned into rest for our hearts who are made one with Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. As His children may we trust that we have prayed and invited the will of our Father into our hearts and homes, our parishes and our Archdiocese. Amen.

Concluding Prayer to the Holy Spirit

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Novena Day 5 – May 23, 2023

O Holy Spirit, Soul of my soul, I adore you. Enlighten me, guide me, strengthen me, console me. Tell me what I ought to do, and command me to do it. I promise to submit myself to all that You ask of me, and to accept all that You permit to happen to me. Only let me know Your will. Amen.

“Put on the armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the tactics of the devil....Do all that your duty requires, and hold your ground. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, the word of God.” -Eph. 6:10-17

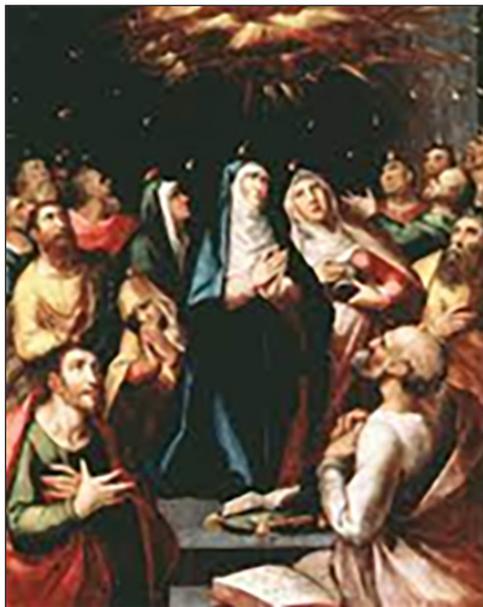
The Holy Spirit, Grateful Fullness in the Heart

We speak of the “heat” of battle or the “heat” of strife, likewise of the “heat” of passion, the “heat” of controversy and so forth. Implied in all of these is commotion, exertion, strong passions and struggle.

Coolness, on the other hand, implies a tranquility of mind and heart, together with a prudent deliberation in acting. Such attitudes are most desirable for the spiritual life, and they are in fact indispensable for a life of holiness. Why? Because the reality is: we are engaged in a spiritual warfare against the powers of darkness and against their helpers on earth.

Daily we find ourselves in the heat of strife. Not only are we engaged in a spiritual struggle with dark spirits, we must also battle our own unruly passions that are not yet subjected to the rule of Christ. In all of this, the Holy Spirit enters the combat, breathing the powerful cool relief of grace in the heat of battle.

Many a fierce struggle is fought on the hidden battleground of the human heart. Assaults from evil spirits can assail us at any time and in even the holiest of places. When vile temptations crowd in upon us, we must resist in the power of the Holy Spirit. We must stand firm against the tactics of the devil, using the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God. Our eternal souls are at stake. We need coolness in deliberation, the effect of the virtues and gifts of prudence, fortitude and temperance. Satan is not content to fight alone. He has his helpers who are the enemies and persecutors of the Church in our



times. The coolness of the Holy Spirit has a vital significance today as anti-Catholic bigotry and subtle persecutions war against the People of God.

But there is an even more subtle battle. The heat of unruly passion, anger, revenge and disobedient pride all wage war against the soul. Whereas before the original fall, these natural tendencies were under the control of reason and subjected to God, now the human will rebels against the will of God, and animal tendencies rise up against the dictates of reason. Concupiscence, or our unruly appetites, are the fertile ground on which the capital sins thrive.

Warfare against these unruly passions will last as long as we live, and without the grace of the Holy Spirit we cannot withstand their devouring fire. He arms the soul with

spiritual coolness, courage, and moderation in all the battles of life. He also supplies all those preventives which counteract the urgings of unruly passions. Every increase of grace brings an increase in the desire for heavenly things and for acquiring the virtues of Christ.

The presence of the Holy Spirit, penetrating the very substance of our being, gives us a certain supernatural temper that by its very nature opposes evil influences, and if we cooperate, will make victory certain.

Prayer of the Day: We need the Holy Spirit to be our coolness in the heat; as we fight the battles against the spirits of darkness roaming as well as the unruly passions of our hearts. It is the Spirit of Jesus who will bring our spiritual warfare to a victorious end. Burn away the divisions in our hearts. Free us from all influence of evil and send forth your protection so that we may grow in unity as a vibrant, evangelizing Church. Amen.

Concluding Prayer to the Holy Spirit

St. Augustine's Prayer to the Holy Spirit

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Novena Day 6 – May 24, 2023

O Holy Spirit, Soul of my soul, I adore you. Enlighten me, guide me, strengthen me, console me. Tell me what I ought to do, and command me to do it. I promise to submit myself to all that You ask of me, and to accept all that You permit to happen to me. Only let me know Your will. Amen.

"It is through many tribulations that we must enter into the Kingdom of God." -ACTS 14:21

The Holy Spirit, Solace in the Midst of Woe

For centuries the children of the Church have prayed to the Spouse of the Holy Spirit in the Salve Regina: "To thee do we cry poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears..." Indeed, this earth is a valley of tears ever since our first parents were expelled from paradise. To support the sorrows of this life, we need the Holy Spirit to be solace for our souls. If any evil in this world is deserving of tears, it is sin.

While all sin offends God, wounds the human person and grieves the Holy Spirit, mortal sin is spiritual suicide. It brings the loss of God, and the danger that the soul could lose eternally Him for whom we were created. Without God, nothing has value; even the merits of good works of one in mortal sin, are of no avail. Unless atoned and forgiven, mortal sin brings eternal death of damnation. Tears of repentance, inspired, permeated, and sweetened by the Holy Spirit are a most precious grace, and therefore as we intercede for sinners, we pray that hardened hearts be pierced through with sorrow for sin, and the desire of forgiveness and holiness of life.

Who can name the countless other sorrows of life that bring us suffering? Searing grief at the death of loved ones; natural disasters and political upheavals, wars and rumors of war; sickness, poverty,



loss of jobs, financial worries and so forth. Whether God in His wisdom sees fit to remove the cross or not, the Holy Spirit consoles the sorrowing by bestowing an increase of faith and trust, a greater detachment from earthly things, and a courage in sacrifice. Filled with the strength and consolation of the Holy Spirit we can even rejoice in the midst of trials and tribulations.

Where there is no material poverty or physical suffering, there are innumerable other trials that hurt deeply: worries over the salvation of loved ones, disappointments and heartbreaks, feeling abandoned by God, etc.

God uses these trials to purify our hearts and to direct our thoughts and affections more completely to Him. In the midst of all these woes, the Holy Spirit comes as a gentle, divine solace, lifting our hearts to the thought of heaven, where God will wipe away all tears from their eyes, and death shall be no more, nor mourning, crying or sorrow, for all these things will have passed away. (Cf. Rev. 21:4)

Prayer of the Day: Oh Lord, aid us now as we lay down our woes, our uncertainties, our doubts, and fill us with the power to receive in our hearts your gentle and divine solace. Give us the eyes to see what is hidden and the hearts to believe in your providential care for each of us. Amen.

Concluding Prayer to the Holy Spirit

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Novena Day 7 – May 25, 2023

O Holy Spirit, Soul of my soul, I adore you. Enlighten me, guide me, strengthen me, console me. Tell me what I ought to do, and command me to do it. I promise to submit myself to all that You ask of me, and to accept all that You permit to happen to me. Only let me know Your will. Amen.

“When the Paraclete comes, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, and whom I myself will send from the Father, he will bear witness on my behalf....When he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin....” -John 15:26; 16:8



Through His enlightening and purifying action in our hearts, He gives us fear of the Lord which is the beginning of wisdom. This gift makes us realize the sovereign authority of our Creator and our absolute dependence on Him. Above all, it is by an increase of love in the human heart, a love that enlightens us to eternal truths, that the Holy Spirit bends the human will to conform to the will of God. As fire makes the iron soft and malleable, as it fuses two pieces of iron into one, thus the Holy Spirit's fire of love makes the human will so pliable that we become one will the divine will.

The Holy Spirit Bends Our Stubborn Hearts and Will

We all naturally like to follow our own ideas. As life goes on, we may even find ourselves holding on more and more stubbornly to our own ways of thinking and doing. Unless checked, this will have a negative effect on our relationship with God and with those around us, with whom we live and work.

The Holy Spirit who understands us so well, comes to our aid. It is the action of His grace that can bend our stubborn heart and will, bringing us into harmony, peace and union with God and neighbor.

Bowing, genuflecting and kneeling are very common forms of Catholic worship. They symbolize the readiness of our will to submit to the authority and will of God. The interior attitude is much more important than the external act, and without it the latter has no value.

Our human will must conform to the holy will of God. We owe this submission to God not just because He is our Creator and we are His creatures; we owe this to God because He is our loving Father and we are His beloved children in Christ Jesus.

Stubborn, unyielding self-will has its root in the pride that led to catastrophe even in paradise. The battle cry of Lucifer, “I will not serve,” has its echo in the life of people down through the ages. Today we hear this awful echo in the lawlessness, corruption, sin and violence of our times. We hear it in those who say, “This is my body, and it is my choice to abort.” Proud, unbending self-will flaunts itself against God all over the world, and unfortunately, we see it doing immeasurable harm even in some who claim to be serving God. It is the Holy Spirit who comes to convict the world of sin. The Holy Spirit is the One who convicts us of the sin lurking in our own hearts.

Without such bending of the will, the Church could not accomplish her mission, and the religious state would be an impossibility. In fact, any kind of Catholic life or Christian community has to be based on submission and charity, and the curbing of personal desires and ambitions for the sake of the common good, as well as on the willingness to bear one another's burdens. A narrow-minded, stubborn insistence on one's own will or one's own ways of doing things does the greatest harm. Rigidity of will is the source of endless frictions, violations of justice and charity which disturb the peace and unity of the community.

Such things directly oppose the activity of the Holy Spirit, and He cannot be pleased with it. A certain amount of accommodation and compromise is necessary in the interests of harmony and peace. Bending one's will out of love for God and neighbor is the way to perfection and peace in community. It also opens the way for the full operation of God's power and love.

Prayer of the Day: May the Holy Spirit bend our will, may He by His power and sweetness overcome our rebellious spirit, so that in and through Him we may be more and more under the direction of His wise and loving guidance, and made one with the holy will of God. May we come together as one in this Archdiocese to help set aflame the New Evangelization. Amen.

Concluding Prayer to the Holy Spirit

St. Augustine's Prayer to the Holy Spirit

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Novena Day 8 – May 26, 2023

O Holy Spirit, Soul of my soul, I adore you. Enlighten me, guide me, strengthen me, console me. Tell me what I ought to do, and command me to do it. I promise to submit myself to all that You ask of me, and to accept all that You permit to happen to me. Only let me know Your will. Amen.

"If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." -John 4:10

The Holy Spirit Warms What is Cold

Watch insects, flies, ants or bees on a cold day—how slow and awkward they are, if they manage to move at all. Then too, for us humans, prolonged and penetrating coldness can cramp and perhaps paralyze even the nimble fingers of a pianist or typist. Warmth is needed for suppleness. What warmth is for material and physical life, the love of God is for Christian life. Where there is no love, there is no life. Where love is weak or cold, there is spiritual insensibility, inertia and tepidity. In His apparitions to St. Margaret Mary, the Sacred Heart of Jesus complained of the coldness and indifference with which He is treated by so many souls, even religious and priests. For a fervent Christian life, we need fervent love. The source of all fervor of love is the Holy Spirit. The warmth of His divine love communicates to the soul devotion, promptness, suppleness and joy.

Our devotion to God must be determined and loyal, not wavering, hesitating, or lukewarm. Such loyal devotion is not satisfied with half-measures, but must give itself completely. Love is generous in self-giving, not stingy, calculating and cold. Jesus tells us in the Gospel, "You are my friends, if you do what I command you" (Jn. 15:14).

A slave might have to be forced, but a lover is prompt and readily disposed to carry out the wishes of the one he or she loves. Promptness gives to God what is first and best.

Devotion characterizes one who is truly in love with God. Slowness,



hesitation, laziness and miserliness in the service of God dry up our work and deprive it of the fragrance of love. Promptness saves time; loss of time is truly a serious loss because it implies the loss of graces offered and opportunities given. We ask the Holy Spirit to send forth the fire of His love into our hearts, so that as soon as we know the will of God, we may be ready to carry it out to the best of our ability, as Jesus and Mary always did.

To be called upon to serve God and the Church is a great honor and privilege. Moroseness and reluctance in the service of God would thus be offensive to Him. God loves a cheerful giver. Even among men, a gift that is reluctantly given does not arouse joy and satisfaction in the recipient.

We should give to God and neighbor with a loving heart. Cheerfulness makes for perfection. The more we love God and love what He chooses for us, what He wills for us, the more perfection, care and attention we give to it. There is no sloppiness or half-heartedness when one acts out of love. This is the secret of holiness, which lies not in doing extraordinary things that might shine in the eyes of others, but in doing ordinary things with extraordinary love, care and attention because they are done for God.

Prayer of the Day: The Holy Spirit desires to keep burning brightly in us that fervor of divine love that urges us to work selflessly for the glory of God and the good of souls. The warmth of the Holy Spirit's love is incompatible with coldness or indifference, spiritual inertia and insensibility. May the Holy Spirit always warm our hearts with great love for God and neighbor! May we seek to come together as a united Church and seek all those in the margins who need to know His love. Amen.

Concluding Prayer to the Holy Spirit

St. Augustine's Prayer to the Holy Spirit

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to the Holy Spirit



Novena Day 9 – May 27, 2023

O Holy Spirit, Soul of my soul, I adore you. Enlighten me, guide me, strengthen me, console me. Tell me what I ought to do, and command me to do it. I promise to submit myself to all that You ask of me, and to accept all that You permit to happen to me. Only let me know Your will. Amen.



“You did not receive a spirit of slavery leading you back into fear, but a spirit of adoption through which we cry out Abba, Father!” -Rom. 8:15

The Holy Spirit Makes Us Cry Out: Abba, Father!

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of our adoption as beloved sons and daughters of God, in Christ Jesus His Son and our Lord. God has given us new birth in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

We too are born of the Father’s love with Jesus, and this is the fruit of the Passion and Death of Our Lord. God has made His home in our hearts, and we now live with Him as members of the household of God, and citizens of the saints. The Holy Spirit is like an ever-flowing fountain of living water within us, gushing up into our consciousness, urging us: “Come to the Father!”

He is the very prayer of Jesus poured into our hearts, making us cry out with the tender devotion of Jesus, “Abba, Father!” Deep within us, the Holy Spirit is always testifying to our inmost hearts that we are beloved children of God, even when we must undergo the suffering and darkness of the daily cross.

Since God is our tender Father, we should often call upon Him with trust in His providential care. It is the Holy Spirit Himself who brings forth within us the very prayer of Jesus. Gradually, as we live with God in the temple of our souls, the words of the Our Father become the climate of our spiritual life.

Since God is our tender Father, we should also beg the Holy Spirit to bring forth in us a deep filial affection for Him, for it is proper that children love and honor their Father. The Holy Spirit’s gift of

piety makes us zealous for God’s honor and glory, and impels us to do what we can to bring others to know, love and serve Him. In a childlike spirit, we rejoice in the greatness and glory of our Father, thanking Him, praising Him and worshiping Him by laying our life before Him in readiness to do what He asks of us.

What more trustworthy Father could we have than our God, whose goodness is boundless, and from whom comes all fatherhood on earth? A child trusts his father, and abandons himself into his hands. To love and trust our Father as He deserves, we need to put on the mind and attitude of Christ Jesus, the Beloved Son, and to beg to be filled with the Spirit of Jesus who is a Spirit of Filial Love for the Father.

On the cross, Jesus as humble and obedient servant-Son of the Father, abandoned Himself with unlimited trust into the hands of this trustworthy Father. This act of worship, this incredible act of love in which Jesus died, brought about the redemption of the world. This sacrifice of Calvary comes into us at Mass, that we might make it more and more our own, and live out of it.

Prayer of the Day: O Holy Spirit! Bring forth in us more and more the mind and attitudes of Jesus, the spirit of adoptive sonship whereby we are always crying out, Abba, most loving and tender Father, I abandon myself completely into your hands! You hold this Archdiocese and the faithful in your hands with tender love. Amen.

Concluding Prayer to the Holy Spirit

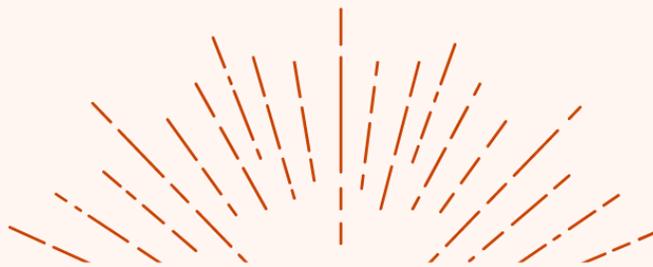
St. Augustine’s Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Breathe in me O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy. Act in me O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy. Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy. Strengthen me O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy. Guard me then O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy. Come Holy Spirit, Come and renew the Archdiocese of St. Louis!



Scan the QR code to listen to day 9 of the Novena to the Holy Spirit

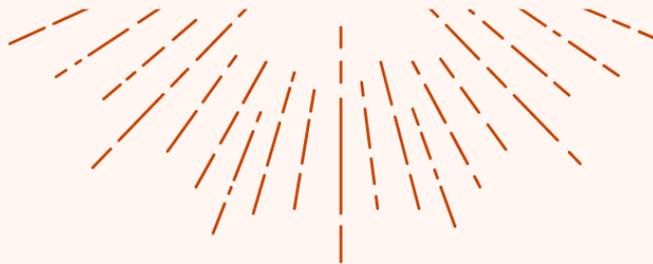




CLOSING

Thank you for your continued efforts with All Things New and we hope this booklet is a prayerful resource. If you have any questions please reach out to the Office of Sacred Worship: amybuehrle@archstl.org.

May God Bless you all and together, united in prayer,
we can make All Things New.



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS