

Opening Prayer

O God, who by the mystery of Pentecost sanctify your whole Church in every people and nation, pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit across the face of the earth and, with the divine grace that was at work when the Gospel was first proclaimed, fill now once more the hearts of believers. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

The Fruits of the Spirit *Galatians 5:22-23*

Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-control

Gospel *John 20:19-23*

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Sequence – A Pentecost reflection

Holy Spirit, Lord of light,
From Thy clear celestial height
Thy pure beaming radiance give.

Come, Thou Father of the poor,
Come with treasures which endure,
Come, Thou Light of all that live.

Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightsome Guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow.

Thou in toil art comfort sweet,
Pleasant coolness in the heat,
Solace in the midst of woe.

Light immortal, Light divine,
Visit Thou these hearts of Thine,
And our inmost being fill.

If Thou take Thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay;
All his good is turned to ill.

Heal our wounds; our strength
renew;
On our dryness pour Thy 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.

Thou, on those who evermore
Thee confess and Thee adore,
In Thy sevenfold gifts descend:

Give them comfort when they die,
Give them life with Thee on high;
Give them joys that never end.

Litany of the Holy Spirit

R/ Send down your Spirit upon us, O Lord

Novena prayer for the seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Christ Jesus, before ascending into heaven, you promised to send the Holy Spirit to your apostles and disciples. Grant that the same Spirit may perfect in our lives the work of your grace and love.

Grant us the **Spirit of Fear of the Lord** that we may be filled with a loving reverence toward you;

the **Spirit of Piety** that we may find peace and fulfillment in the service of God while serving others;

the **Spirit of Fortitude** that we may bear our cross with you, and with courage, overcome the obstacles that interfere with our salvation;

the **Spirit of Knowledge** that we may know you and know ourselves and grow in holiness;

the **Spirit of Understanding** to enlighten our minds with the light of your truth;

the **Spirit of Counsel** that we may choose the surest way of doing your will, seeking first the Kingdom.

Grant us the **Spirit of Wisdom** that we may aspire to the things that last forever.

Teach us to be Your faithful disciples and animate us in every way with your Spirit. Amen.

Prayer for our English-speaking community in Luxembourg

Holy Spirit of God, Guide and guard our Catholic Christian community. Re-unite us after our time of separation. Renew in us our faith, hope and love – and our spirit of service to our neighbour. Give us the words to say when we are praying, teaching, witnessing to our faith, consoling those who are sad, rejoicing with those who are happy.

We ask you to guard and guide our children and young people, that they may rejoice in your presence; to be close to those who are vulnerable and feeling the burden of age; to be a healing present to those who are sick; to accompany those who are dying; and to strengthen our faith in our risen, conquering Lord.

Holy Spirit of God, be with your church in Luxembourg and beyond: bless us, our loved ones, this country and our country of origin. May all people know the amazing grace of your presence. Amen.



Chant – Veni, Spiritus Sancte, veni super nos

The Gifts of the Spirit

1. Wisdom
2. Understanding
3. Counsel
4. Fortitude
5. Knowledge
6. Piety
7. Fear of God

Reading – 1 Cor. 12:3-7,12-13 – *We are one body in the one Spirit*

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Reading – Rom 8:26-27 – *The Spirit of God prays within us*

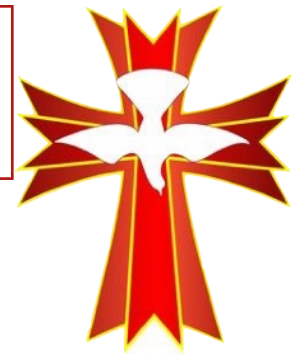
Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.



Regina Caeli

Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia:
Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia,
Resurrexit sicut dixit, alleluia.
Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia!

Novena to the Holy Spirit 2020, St Alphonse



Opening hymn – Come Holy Ghost

Praying for the seven Gifts of the Spirit

1. Come, Holy Ghost, Creator, come,
From thy bright heav'nly throne,
Come take possession of our souls,
And make them all thy own.
2. Thou who art called the Paraclete,
Best gift of God above,
The living spring, the living fire,
Sweet unction and true love.
3. Thou who art sevenfold in thy grace,
Finger of God's right hand
His promise teaching little ones
To speak and understand.
4. O guide our minds with thy blessed light,
With love our hearts inflame;
And with thy strength, which never decays
Confirm our mortal frame.
5. Far from us drive our deadly foe;
True peace unto us bring;
And through all perils lead us safe
Beneath thy sacred wing.
6. Through thee may we the Father know,
Through thee the eternal Son,
And thee, the Spirit of them both,
Thrice-blessed Three in One.
7. All glory to the Father be,
With his coequal Son;
The same to thee, great Paraclete,
While endless ages run.

Introduction

After the Ascension of the Lord into heaven, the disciples gathered together daily for prayer; on the ninth day, the Holy Spirit of God descended on them. In a Novena, we imitate their nine days of prayer, and we too pray for the Spirit to descend on us and our community once again, filling us anew with zeal and love of God.