

Day Eight Prayers to the Holy Spirit

Introduction:

After His resurrection Jesus appeared to His disciples for forty days before He ascended into heaven (Acts 1:3). He asked His followers to wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4-5). Mary and the disciples "devoted themselves with one accord to prayer" (Acts 1:14) between the Ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Jewish Feast of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4). The Feast of Pentecost was celebrated by the Jews on the fiftieth day from "the next day after the Sabbath" (Leviticus 23:15-16) of Passover. Thus, the disciples spent nine days in prayer from Ascension until the Spirit came upon them on Pentecost. To this very day the followers of Jesus continue to spend nine days in special prayer in preparation for the celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, praying for a rekindling of the Gifts (Isaiah 11:2) and the Fruits (Galatians 5:22-23) of the Holy Spirit in their lives and in the world.

Opening Prayer:

Holy Spirit, may the fruits of my prayers begin with Your inspiration, continue with Your help, and reach perfection under Your guidance. Amen.

Day 8 Prayer:

Come, O Spirit of Wisdom, and reveal to my soul the mysteries of heavenly things, their exceeding greatness, power and beauty. Teach me to love them above and beyond all the passing joys and satisfactions of earth. Help me to attain the things that are eternal and possess them forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Glory Be Prayer: (Pray Seven Times)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Act of Consecration to the Holy Spirit:

Before the great multitude of heavenly witnesses, I offer myself, body and soul, to You, eternal Spirit of God. I adore the brightness of Your purity, the unerring keenness of Your justice and the might of Your love. You are the Strength and Light of my soul. In You I live and move and am. I desire never to grieve You by unfaithfulness to Your grace and I pray with all my heart to be kept from the smallest sin against You. Mercifully guard my every thought and grant that I may always watch for Your light, and listen to Your voice, and follow Your gracious inspirations. I cling to You and give myself to You and ask You, by Your compassion, to watch over me in my weakness. I implore You, Adorable Spirit, Helper of my infirmity, to keep me from temptation and deliver me from evil. Give me grace, O Holy Spirit, Spirit of the Father and the Son, to say to You always and everywhere, "Speak Lord for your servant is listening." Amen.

Prayer for the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit:

O Lord Jesus Christ Who, before ascending into Heaven did promise to send the Holy Spirit to finish Your work in the souls of Your apostles and disciples, please share the same Holy Spirit with me that my soul may be perfected for the service of Your grace and Your love. Grant me the Spirit of Wisdom that I may despise the perishable things of this world and aspire only after the things that are eternal; the Spirit of Understanding to enlighten my mind with the light of Your Divine Truth; the Spirit of Counsel that I may ever choose the surest way of pleasing God; the Spirit of Fortitude that I may bear my cross with You and that I may overcome with courage all obstacles that oppose my salvation; the Spirit of Knowledge that I may know God and know myself and grow perfect in a life of holiness; the Spirit of Piety that I may find the service of God sweet and amiable; and the Spirit of Holy Fear that I may be filled with a loving reverence toward God and may dread in any way to displease Him. Mark me, dear Lord, with the sign of Your true disciples, and animate me in all things with Your Spirit. Amen.

Prayer for the Anniversary of Holy Communion Church:

Oh, loving God,
with grateful hearts we join together
with our Savior Jesus Christ
in reaching out and caring for ALL
for whom our Lord came,
gave the Eucharist,
the living words of Scripture,
sacrificed His life,
and opened the way to eternal life.

In union with the Holy Spirit
we ask Your guidance and help
in carrying out the mission
for which You have called us
as diverse but unified members of
Holy Communion
Evangelical Catholic Church.
In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.