

**NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.
PARISH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, ST. PAUL'S DOVER AND ST.
FINBARR'S AYLESHAM- (A SPIRITAN PARISH)**

DAY ONE- INVOCATION- DAILY

SIGN OF THE CROSS: In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader: Come Holy Spirit, inflame the hearts of all the people with the fire of your love. Send forth your spirit and all will be reborn.

All: And you will renew the face of the earth.

Leader: Holy spirit, open our eyes, and calm our minds.
Fill our memories of the Father's love, of the Son's unceasing prayer, of the world and of your own presence within us.

All: Holy Spirit, give us faith.

Leader: Holy Spirit, reveal to us the truth of the Father's unfailing promise, purpose and plan; of the Son's victory and risen presence; the truth about ourselves—sinful yet children beloved of God.

All: Holy Spirit, give us hope.

Leader: Holy Spirit, give us peace; peace with God and peace with all people. Kindle my desire for you. Strengthen our wills to live and serve. Teach us and lead us where you will.

All: Holy Spirit, give us love.

DAY ONE

“THE WHOLE OF CREATION AWAITS FULFILMENT”

Scripture reading *Romans* 8: 18-23,26

“...All that we suffer in the present time is nothing in comparison with the glory which is destined to be disclosed for us, for the whole creation is waiting in eagerness for the children of God to be revealed. It was for its own purposes that creation had frustration imposed on it, but for the purposes of him who imposed it—with the intention that the whole creation itself might be freed from its slavery to corruption and brought into the same glorious freedom as the

children of God. We are all aware that the whole creation, until this time, has been groaning in labour pains. And not only that: we, too, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we are groaning inside ourselves, waiting with eagerness for our bodies to be set free.”

SILENCE

ALL SING OR RECITE:

Come, Holy Ghost, Creator, come,
From thy bright heavenly throne,
Come take possession of our souls,
And make them all thy own.

REFLECTION:

THE SPIRIT IN OUR LIFE AND ACTION THE HUMAN HEART, SOUL AND MIND

“ A ship has sails and rudder;
The wind blows into the sail,
getting the ship to proceed as it should,
so it advances by its sails and takes its general direction.
Yet this direction could be too vague
and could lead the ship astray at times.
So there is the rudder,
To guide it exactly in its due course
without straying in any way.
Your soul is the ship,
Your heart represents the sail, the Holy Spirit is the wind;
He blows into your will and your soul goes forward,
proceeding towards the goal God proposes for it.
Your mind is the rudder to prevent you,
in the strength and vivacity of the movement given to your heart,
From departing from the straight line determined by the divine goodness.”

Venerable Francis Mary Paul Libermann, C.S.Sp.

Co- founder of the congregation of the Holy Ghost

PRAYER FOR THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (ALL STAND AND PRAY TOGETHER)

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 Wisdom that we may aspire to the things that last forever: 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;

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

The Spirit of Fear that we may be filled with loving reverence toward you.

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

PRIEST OR LEADER: Final Prayer:

Spirit of God you brought order out of the chaos of the beginning of the universe. In a yet more remarkable way you brought peace and order among the Lord's disciples, shaken by his death, startled by his Resurrection and mystified by his Ascension after their commission to convert the world. Help us to relive their days of prayer in openness to your sanctifying action as we prayerfully commemorate their preparation for the first Pentecost. We ask this through Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Father, God forever and ever, Amen.

NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT. DAY TWO

INVOCATION- (ON PAGE 1)

Day Two

“CHRIST’S PROMISE TO SEND THE PARACLETE”

Scripture Reading: *John 14: 15-17, 26-27*

“If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Paraclete to be with you forever, the Spirit of truth whom the world can never accept since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you. ... The Paraclete, the Holy

Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace, I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace that the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid."

SILENCE

Veni Sancte Spiritus. (TAIZE CHANTS)

ALL SING OR RECITE:

Thou who art called the Paraclete,
Best gift of God above,
The living spring, the living fire,
Sweet unction and true love.

THE SPIRIT IN OUR LIFE AND ACTION THE HUMAN HEART, SOUL AND MIND

" A ship has sails and rudder;
The wind blows into the sail,
getting the ship to proceed as it should,
so it advances by its sails and takes its general direction.
Yet this direction could be too vague
and could lead the ship astray at times.
So there is the rudder,
To guide it exactly in its due course
without straying in any way.
Your soul is the ship,
Your heart represents the sail, the Holy Spirit is the wind;
He blows into your will and your soul goes forward,
proceeding towards the goal God proposes for it.
Your mind is the rudder to prevent you,
in the strength and vivacity of the movement given to your heart,
From departing from the straight line determined by the divine goodness."

Venerable Francis Mary Paul Libermann, C.S.Sp.

Second founder of the congregation of the Holy Ghost

**PRAYER FOR THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (ALL STAND
AND PRAY)**

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

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

The Spirit of Fear that we may be filled with loving reverence toward you.
Teach us to be your faithful disciples and animate us in every way with your
Spirit. Amen.

PRIEST OR LEADER: Final Prayer:

Lord Jesus! The promise of your coming kept our Jewish forebearers full of hope through almost 2,000 years of painful waiting fulfilment. Your fulfilment of your promise to send the Holy Spirit to live within your followers has kept your persecuted Church alive and true to you for another 2,000 years. Open each of us to the Spirit's presence so that we will always be one with that Church in its fidelity to you and your truth, for you are Lord forever and ever. Amen.

**NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT. DAY THREE
INVOCATION- (ON PAGE 1)**

DAY THREE

"THE SPIRIT, THE SOUL OF CHRIST'S BODY, THE CHURCH"

Scripture Reading: 1 *Corinthians* 12: 12-14, 27.

"....As with the human body which is in unity although it has many parts—all the parts of the body, though many, still making up one single body—so it is with Christ. We were baptised into one body in a single spirit, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as free persons, and we were all given the same Spirit to drink. And indeed the body consists not of one member, but of many. ... Now Christ's body is yourselves, each of you with a part to play in the whole."

SILENCE
Veni Sancte Spiritus. (TAIZE CHANTS)

ALL SING OR RECITE: Thou who art sevenfold in thy grace,
Finger of God's right hand/ His promise teaching little ones/ To speak and
understand.

EACH OF US HAS A VOCATION (LEADER)

God has created me to do Him some definite service; He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have a mission—I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next.

I am like a link in a chain, a connection between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good, do His work and be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place while not intending it—if I do but keep His commandments.

Therefore, I will trust Him. Whatever, wherever I am, I can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him; in perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him; if I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him. He does nothing in vain. He knows what He is about. He may take away my friends. He may throw me among strangers. He may hide my future from me—still He knows what He is about.

Cardinal John Henry Newman

**PRAYER FOR THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (ALL STAND
AND PRAY)**

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

The Spirit of Fear that we may be filled with loving reverence toward you.

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

PRIEST OR LEADER: Final Prayer

Father! Through your son you invite men and women to become members of your family, brothers and sisters of Jesus, who, together with him call you Abba, Father. We have accepted that invitation by our baptism. As the fruit of that sacrament may we allow the Spirit dwelling within us to draw us into that oneness of faith, trust and love with Christ to whom our destiny calls us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT. DAY FOUR

INVOCATION- (ON PAGE 1)

DAY FOUR

“THE DIGNITY OF THE CHRISTIAN”

Scripture Reading: 1 *Corinthians* 3:16-17

“Do you not realise you are a temple of God with the Spirit of God living in you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy that person, because God’s temple is holy; and you are that temple.”

“ All who are guided by the Spirit of God are sons and daughters of God; for what you received was not the spirit of slavery to bring you back into fear; you received the spirit of adoption, enabling us to cry out, ‘Abba, Father!’ The Spirit Himself joins with our spirit to bear witness that we are children of God. And if we are children, then we are heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, provided that we share his suffering, so as to share his glory.”

SILENCE

Veni Sancte Spiritus. (TAIZE CHANTS)

ALL SING OR RECITE:

O guide our minds with thy blessed light,
With love our hearts inflame;
And with thy strength, which never decays
Confirm our mortal frame.

REFLECTION

EACH OF US HAS A VOCATION (LEADER)

God has created me to do Him some definite service; He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have a mission—I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next.

I am like a link in a chain, a connection between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good, do His work and be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place while not intending it—if I do but keep His commandments.

Therefore, I will trust Him. Whatever, wherever I am, I can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him; in perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him; if I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him. He does nothing in vain. He knows what He is about. He may take away my friends. He may throw me among strangers. He may hide my future from me—still He knows what He is about.

Cardinal John Henry Newman

PRAYER FOR THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (ALL STAND)

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the Spirit of Understanding to enlighten our minds with the light of your truth;
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The Spirit of Piety that we may find peace and fulfilment in the service of God while serving others;

The Spirit of Fear that we may be filled with loving reverence toward you.
Teach us to be your faithful disciples and animate us in every way with your Spirit. Amen.

PRIEST OR LEADER: Final Prayer

Oh! Divine Trinity. In this age of explosive scientific achievement, we hold ourselves in low esteem before the idols our science has created. We have used the gifts of that achievement to enable our mutual hatreds to make ours the bloodiest and most lustful century of human history. In our guilt we have learnt to despise each other and ourselves. Help us to heed the words of St. Paul and see in ourselves and each other the dignity that is ours as temples of your Holy Spirit, to be loved by one another as each of us is loved by Jesus. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT. DAY FIVE

INVOCATION- (ON PAGE 1)

DAY FIVE

“GIFTED TO SERVE AND BUILD OTHERS UP”

Scripture Reading: 1 *Corinthians* 12: 4-11, 31; 13

“There are many different gifts, but it is always the same Spirit; there are many different ways of serving, but it is always the same Lord. There are many different forms of activity, but in everybody it is the same God who is at work in them all. The particular manifestation of the Spirit granted to each one is to be used for the general good. ... Set your mind on the higher gifts. And now I am going to put before you the best of all. ... As it is, these remain: faith, hope, and love, the three of them; and the greatest of them is love.”

SILENCE

Veni Sancte Spiritus. (TAIZE CHANTS)

ALL SING OR RECITE:

Far from us drive our deadly foe;
True peace unto us bring;
And through all perils lead us safe
Beneath thy sacred wing.

REFLECTION ON THE HOLY SPIRIT

POPE JOHN PAUL II

The ‘guiding into all the truth’ is therefore achieved in faith and through faith: and this is the work of the Spirit of truth and the result of his action in man. Here the Holy Spirit is to be man’s supreme guide and the light of the human spirit.

PRAYER FOR THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (ALL STAND AND PRAY TOGETHER)

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The Spirit of Fear that we may be filled with loving reverence toward you. Teach us to be your faithful disciples and animate us in every way with your Spirit. Amen.

PRIEST OR LEADER: Final Prayer:

Father! With a wisdom and love beyond our comprehension you invite each of us through your Holy Spirit to participate in the work of bringing your creation to its final destiny. Grant us the grace to set aside some time to become aware of the Spirit's quiet voice guiding our daily choices and giving us courage to carry out your loving will as it is revealed to us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT. DAY SIX
INVOCATION- (ON PAGE 1)**

DAY SIX

“HUMAN WEAKNESS AND SINFULNESS”

Scripture Reading; *Romans 7: 15-20; Romans 8: 26-27*

“I do not understand my own behaviour; I do not act as I mean to, but I do things that I hate. While I am acting as I do not want to, ... it is not myself acting, but the sin which lives in me—in my natural self, that is—for though the will to do what is good in me, the power to do it is not: the good thing I want to do, I never do, I never do; the evil thing which I do not want—that is what I do. But every time I do not want to, then it is not myself acting, but the sin that lives in me.”

“...the Spirit too comes to help us in our weakness, for when we do not know how to pray properly, then the Spirit personally makes our petitions for us in groans that cannot be put into words; and he who can see into all hearts knows what the Spirit means because the prayers that the Spirit makes for God's holy people are always in accordance with the mind of God.”

SILENCE
Veni Sancte Spiritus. (TAIZE CHANTS)

ALL SING OR RECITE:

Through thee may we the Father know,
Through thee the eternal Son,
And thee, the Spirit of them both,
Thrice-blessed Three in One.

REFLECTION:

Before Pentecost they were simple men, but after the Spirit came upon them, they were men of self-sacrifice and full of great strength. In the book, *The Spirit of Catholicism*, Karl Adam says, “Twelve simple, uneducated fisherman revolutionized the world, and that with no other instrument than their new faith and their readiness to die for that faith.”

“The Church of Christ is always, so to speak, in a situation of Pentecost: she is always gathered in the Upper Room *in prayer*, and at the same time, driven by the powerful wind of the Spirit, she is always on the streets *preaching*” (June 8, 2003). (Pope John Paul II)

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while serving others;

The Spirit of Fear that we may be filled with loving reverence toward you.
Teach us to be your faithful disciples and animate us in every way with your Spirit. Amen.

PRIEST OR LEADER: Final Prayer:

Father! In that daily perfect sacrifice prophesied by your servant Malachi, we profess that “all honour and glory is yours, Almighty Father.” In our pride we have fallen from your grace. We are too weak to rise from our wretchedness, too blind even to be aware of our fallen state. By the power of your Spirit, glorify yourself and lead us to our destiny by bringing about in us that gratuitous recreation offered to us through and in Jesus Christ, Your Son. Amen.

NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT. DAY SEVEN

INVOCATION- (ON PAGE 1)

DAY SEVEN

“CHRISTIAN GROWTH IN THE FREEDOM THAT LOVE GIVES”

Scripture Reading: *Galatians* 5:1, 13-26

“Christ set us free, so that we should remain free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be fastened again to the yoke of slavery. ... After all,...you were called to be free; do not use your freedom as an opening for self-indulgence, but be servants to one another in love, since the whole of the Law is summarised in the one commandment: *You must love your neighbour as yourself*. If you go snapping at one another and tearing one another to pieces, take care! You will be eaten up by one another.

“Instead, I tell you, be guided by the Spirit, and you will no longer yield to self-indulgence: the desires of self-indulgence are always in opposition to the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are in opposition to self-indulgence: they are opposites, one against the other.... Since we are living by the Spirit, let our behaviour be guided by the Spirit and let us not be conceited or provocative or envious of one another.”

SILENCE

Veni Sancte Spiritus. (TAIZE CHANTS)

ALL SING OR RECITE:

All glory to the Father be,
With his coequal Son;
The same to thee, great Paraclete,
While endless ages run.

Reflection: The Spiritan life:

Our fragilities and vulnerabilities create room for the Holy Spirit “to bring us back to the simplicity of the message of our founders, to the realization that the mission to

which we are called is God's mission not ours... (*The Holy Spirit in the Spiritan life-Spiritan Horizon*)

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PRIEST OR LEADER: Final Prayer:

Father! In your infinite wisdom you have called us to remain in you as your Son is in you, and thus live in freedom as your sons and daughters. By the guidance of the Holy Spirit dwelling in us, may we use our freedom to seek and follow your desires and cease making our pursuit of freedom an opportunity in self-indulgence. Empower us to make loving choices, to respect all life and to live up to our dignity as your sons and daughters, redeemed with the Blood of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT. DAY EIGHT INVOCATION- (ON PAGE 1)

DAY EIGHT THE SPIRIT'S LOVE GIFTS US WITH KNOWLEDGE, UNDERSTANDING AND WISDOM"

Scripture Reading: 1 *Corinthians* 2:9-16

"God has given revelation through the Spirit, for the Spirit explores the depth of everything, even the depths of God. After all, is there anyone who knows the

qualities of God except his own spirit, within him; and in the same way, nobody knows the qualities of God except the spirit of God. Now, the Spirit we have received is not the spirit of the world but God's own Spirit, so that we may understand the lavish gifts God has given us. And these are what we speak of, not in the terms taught by human philosophy, but in terms taught by the Spirit, fitting spiritual language to spiritual things. The natural person has no room for the gifts of God's Spirit; to him they are folly; he cannot recognise them, because their value can be assessed only in the Spirit. The spiritual person, on the other hand, can assess the value of everything, and his own value cannot be assessed by anyone else."

SILENCE

Veni Sancte Spiritus. (TAIZE CHANTS)

ALL SING OR RECITE:

Come, Father of the poor, come, generous Spirit, come, light our hearts. Veni Sancte Spiritus. Come from the four winds, O Spirit, come breath of God; disperse the shadows over us, renew and strengthen your people. Amen.

REFLECTION: We want God, and we cannot fully have Him unless we take Him alone. He seeks us, and He will not have other offerings instead of ourselves." –
(*Francis Marie Paul Libermann, CSSp.*)

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

PRIEST OR LEADER: Final Prayer:

Father! Each day many voices speak to our ears and to our hearts: the voices of our natural desires, the voices of our peers and culture, the voice of the media, the voice of evil and the voice of your Holy Spirit. Strengthen us, each day, in the silence of our hearts, to increase our capacity to listen and discern the voice of your Spirit, to do what He asks of us and to understand the gifts He freely gives us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT. DAY NINE
INVOCATION- (ON PAGE 1)**

DAY NINE

“SENT WITH THE POWER TO RECONCILE”

Scripture Reading: *John* 20: 19-23

“In the evening of that same day, 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, after saying this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy at seeing 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.

If you forgive anyone’s sins, they are forgiven;

if you retain anyone’s sins, they are retained.’

SILENCE: Veni Sancte Spiritus. (TAIZE CHANTS)

ALL PRAY: O Divine Spirit, I want to be before you like a light feather, unconditionally so that your breath may carry me where it will, and that I may not offer the least resistance to it. (Fr. Francis Libermann, CSSp)

REFLECTION: EACH OF US HAS A VOCATION

God has created me to do Him some definite service; He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have a mission—I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next.

I am like a link in a chain, a connection between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good, do His work and be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place while not intending it—if I do but keep His commandments.

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Cardinal John Henry Newman

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

PRIEST OR LEADER: Final Prayer:

Father! Ours is a century in which more men, women and children have perished at the hands of their brothers and sisters than in all the other centuries of human history combined. Our greed, our fears, our anger and our hatred have made us enemies of one another and of you, our loving god. Open our hearts to accept your forgiveness for our sins of hatred and violence. Strengthen to offer that same forgiveness to those who, we feel, have offended us, for merciful forgiveness is the essence of your love revealed in your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.