



MAY 2023 NOVENA to the HOLY SPIRIT

Holy Spirit Novena

May 19-27th, 2023

***Unleashing the Spirit of Synodality
Throughout the Church & World***

(Let's make room for the Holy Spirit!)



What is a "Holy Spirit Novena?"

We all know the story of Pentecost found in Acts, chapter two. But we often forget the important event that took place during the 9 days before Pentecost... In Acts, chapter one, we learn that Jesus told his followers not to leave Jerusalem: "Wait for the fulfillment of my Father's promise." Jesus ascended to heaven and the disciples travelled back to Jerusalem. They returned to the upper room where they had been staying. "Together they devoted themselves to constant prayer." They prayed for 9 days. On the 10th day, Pentecost happened, and the Holy Spirit showed up! These 9 days became the very first novena. A Novena to the Holy Spirit!

Imagine... Women, men and young people, laborers, theologians, and mothers... all intentional disciples of the risen Jesus, gathered to share their faith experiences, listen, and pray for guidance and inspiration! In other words, making room for the Holy Spirit!

How to use this Novena to the Holy Spirit

A Novena to the Holy Spirit is traditionally prayed during the 9 days prior to the Feast of Pentecost, starting on the Friday after the Feast of Ascension Thursday. For 2023, the first day of the Novena begins on Friday, May 19th and ends on Saturday, May 27th. (This novena can also be used any time of year when an outpouring of the Holy Spirit is needed).

The Pentecost Vigil Project has adapted the traditional Holy Spirit Novena to include daily personal reflection questions and a prayer for Pope Francis' preparations for the upcoming Synod on Synodality (October 2023-2024). Pope Francis has called upon the entire world to pray that the Holy Spirit renew us all and guide the Synod preparations.

Catholics are invited to use this Novena to the Holy Spirit for personal prayer or within a small or large group gathering. It has been especially designed to pray as a virtual, online gathering.

Pray with The Pentecost Vigil Project each night at 7:30pm Eastern daylight time on Zoom!

The Pentecost Vigil Project, a non-profit dedicated to Unleashing the Power of the Holy Spirit, will be hosting a live Zoom event for 9 nights, at 7:30pm, beginning Friday, May 19th on Zoom.

Zoom meeting ID: 842 6463 0066 Passcode: 559233

The ID code and Passcode are the same each day. Anyone is welcome to join the prayer. If you have questions, contact pentecostvigilproject@gmail.com or visit pentecostvigilproject.org.



MAY 2023 NOVENA to the HOLY SPIRIT

Day 1- Friday after Ascension May 19

+In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader Prays while participants place themselves on “Mute” (if praying on Zoom)

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray: O God, Who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of Your faithful, grant that by that same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in the Spirit’s consolation, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ask a participant to read the Scripture

“I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you so that you walk in my statutes, observe my ordinances, and keep them. You will live in the land I gave your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be your God” (Ezekiel 36:26-28).

“I will put my spirit in you that you may come to life, and I will settle in your land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord. I have spoken; I will do it” (Ezekiel 37:14).

Pause for 2 minutes to pray with these texts and listen to the Spirit.



Shared Conversation:

When the Spirit is within us as a people, what kinds of activities and expressions do we experience?
What is the Spirit asking of us as synod practitioners?

Prayer leader will call on each participant to share their prayer insights. (2 minutes or less. Optional.)

Concluding Prayer (Leader with others on mute)

Holy Spirit, what do you want of us today? From you we ask for eyes that can see, ears that can hear and a heart that inspires us to love in words and deeds.

Prayer for Synod 2023-2024:

Let us have a moment of silence to ask the Spirit to guide the preparations for the upcoming Synod...
As we approach the Solemnity of Pentecost, let us cry out, *Veni, Sancte Spiritus!* Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love! Amen. Amen. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer: Pray the Our Father, the leader leading and all others praying aloud on “Mute.”

Farewell: We will gather again tomorrow evening at 7:30PM using this same Zoom link. Thank you for joining us, and may God bless each of us as we walk toward a new Pentecost. +



MAY 2023 NOVENA to the HOLY SPIRIT

Day 2: Saturday after Ascension May 20

+In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader Prays while participants have themselves on “Mute” (if praying on Zoom)

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray: O God, Who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of Your faithful, grant that by that same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in the Spirit’s consolation, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ask a participant to read the Scripture

“It shall come to pass I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions” (Joel 3:1).

“But a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the Lord, and his delight shall be the fear of the Lord” (Isaiah 11:102).

Pause for 2 minutes to pray with these texts and listen to the Spirit.



Shared Conversation:

What prophecies and dreams are we encountering in these synodal times?

What is the Spirit asking us to do in response to these dreams and prophecies?

Prayer leader will call on each participant to share their prayer insights. (2 minutes or less. Optional.)

Concluding Prayer (Leader with others on mute)

Holy Spirit, what do you want of us today? From you we ask for eyes that can see, ears that can hear and a heart that inspires us to love in words and deeds.

Prayer for Synod 2023-2024:

Let us have a moment of silence to ask the Spirit to guide the preparations for the upcoming Synod....

As we approach the Solemnity of Pentecost, let us cry out, *Veni, Sancte Spiritus!* Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love! Amen. Amen. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer: Pray the Our Father, the leader leading and all others praying aloud on “Mute.”

Farewell: We will gather again tomorrow evening at 7:30PM using this same Zoom link. Thank you for joining us, and may God bless each of us as we walk toward a new Pentecost. +





MAY 2023 NOVENA to the HOLY SPIRIT

Day 3 Sunday after Ascension May 21

+In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader Prays while participants have themselves on “Mute” (if praying on Zoom)

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray: O God, Who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of Your faithful, grant that by that same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in the Spirit’s consolation, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ask a participant to read the Scripture

“The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the afflicted, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives, release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the Lord and a day of vindication by our God; to comfort all who mourn, to place on those who mourn in Zion a diadem instead of ashes, to give them oil of gladness instead of mourning, a glorious mantle instead of a faint spirit” (Isaiah 61:1-3).

“This is the commitment I made to you when you came out of Egypt. My spirit remains in your midst; do not fear! For thus says the Lord of hosts; ‘In just a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. I will shake all the nations, so that the treasures of the nations will come in. And I will fill this house with glory,’ says the Lord of hosts” (Haggai 2:5-7).

Pause for 2 minutes to pray with these texts and listen to the Spirit.



Shared Conversation:

A synodal church puts into practice encountering with those on the margins, bringing them Jesus’ good news and trusting that in listening to them, the Church will be filled with God’s glory.

What are we hearing from the margins, that if put into practice, will fill the Church with God’s glory?

Who is still waiting on good news from God’s people?

How do we encounter them and bring the gift of listening to these groups?

Prayer leader will call on each participant to share their prayer insights. (2 minutes or less. Optional.)

Concluding Prayer (Leader with others on mute)

Holy Spirit, what do you want of us today? From you we ask for eyes that can see, ears that can hear and a heart that inspires us to love in words and deeds.

Prayer for Synod 2023-2024:

Let us have a moment of silence to ask the Spirit to guide the preparations for the upcoming Synod....

As we approach the Solemnity of Pentecost, let us cry out, *Veni, Sancte Spiritus!* Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love! Amen. Amen. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer: Pray the Our Father, the leader leading and all others praying aloud on “Mute.”

Farewell: We will gather again tomorrow evening at 7:30PM using this same Zoom link. Thank you for joining us, and may God bless each of us as we walk toward a new Pentecost.



MAY 2023 NOVENA to the HOLY SPIRIT

Day 4 Monday after Ascension May 22

+In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader Prays while participants have themselves on “Mute” (if praying on Zoom)

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray: O God, Who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of Your faithful, grant that by that same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in the Spirit’s consolation, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ask a participant to read the Scripture

“I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire” (Matthew 3:11).

“The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the holy Spirit that has been given to us” (Romans 5:5).

Pause for 2 minutes to pray with these texts and listen to the Spirit.



Shared Conversation:

What does it mean to be baptized with the Holy Spirit and fire in today’s world?

How can those of us already on the synod journey practice loving as God loves?

Prayer leader will call on each participant to share their prayer insights. (2 minutes or less. Optional.)

Concluding Prayer (Leader with others on mute)

Holy Spirit, what do you want of us today? From you we ask for eyes that can see, ears that can hear and a heart that inspires us to love in words and deeds.

Prayer for Synod 2023-2024:

Let us have a moment of silence to ask the Spirit to guide the preparations for the upcoming Synod....

As we approach the Solemnity of Pentecost, let us cry out, *Veni, Sancte Spiritus!* Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love! Amen. Amen. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer: Pray the Our Father, the leader leading and all others praying aloud on “Mute.”

Farewell: We will gather again tomorrow evening at 7:30PM using this same Zoom link. Thank you for joining us, and may God bless each of us as we walk toward a new Pentecost. +





MAY 2023 NOVENA to the HOLY SPIRIT

Day 5 Tuesday after Ascension May 23

+In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader Prays while participants have themselves on “Mute” (if praying on Zoom)

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray: O God, Who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of Your faithful, grant that by that same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in the Spirit’s consolation, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ask a participant to read the Scripture

“And this is what he proclaimed: ‘One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit’ (Mark 1:7-8).

“For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, ‘Abba, Father!’ The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God” (Romans 8:14-16).

Pause for 2 minutes to pray with these texts and listen to the Spirit.



Shared Conversation:

How do those of us on the synod journey continue to be led by the Spirit of God?

What are the signs that we or others may have gotten out of step with the Spirit who is leading the synod journey?

Prayer leader will call on each participant to share their prayer insights. (2 minutes or less. Optional.)

Concluding Prayer (Leader with others on mute)

Holy Spirit, what do you want of us today? From you we ask for eyes that can see, ears that can hear and a heart that inspires us to love in words and deeds.

Prayer for Synod 2023-2024:

Let us have a moment of silence to ask the Spirit to guide the preparations for the upcoming Synod....

As we approach the Solemnity of Pentecost, let us cry out, *Veni, Sancte Spiritus!* Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love! Amen. Amen. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer: Pray the Our Father, the leader leading and all others praying aloud on “Mute.”

Farewell: We will gather again tomorrow evening at 7:30PM using this same Zoom link. Thank you for joining us, and may God bless each of us as we walk toward a new Pentecost. +



MAY 2023 NOVENA to the HOLY SPIRIT

Day 6 Wednesday after Ascension May 24

+In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader Prays while participants have themselves on “Mute” (if praying on Zoom)

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray: O God, Who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of Your faithful, grant that by that same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in the Spirit’s consolation, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ask a participant to read the Scripture

“Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Messiah. John answered them all, saying ‘I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire” (Luke 3:15-16).

“But I tell you the truth, it is better for you that I go. For if I do not go, the Advocate will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convict the world in regard to sin and righteousness and condemnation: sin, because they do not believe in me...when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth” (See John 16:7-13).

Pause for 2 minutes to pray with these texts and listen to the Spirit.



Shared Conversation:

The Advocate, the Spirit comes to convict us with regard to sin, righteousness, and condemnation...to guide us to all truth. Do we see this happening now? If so, where? If not, why not?

How do we learn to receive the uncomfortable, indicting, truths that call us to conversion?

Prayer leader will call on each participant to share their prayer insights. (2 minutes or less. Optional.)

Concluding Prayer (Leader with others on mute)

Holy Spirit, what do you want of us today? From you we ask for eyes that can see, ears that can hear and a heart that inspires us to love in words and deeds.

Prayer for Synod 2023-2024:

Let us have a moment of silence to ask the Spirit to guide the preparations for the upcoming Synod.... As we approach the Solemnity of Pentecost, let us cry out, *Veni, Sancte Spiritus!* Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love! Amen. Amen. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer: Pray the Our Father, the leader leading and all others praying aloud on “Mute.”

Farewell: We will gather again tomorrow evening at 7:30PM using this same Zoom link. Thank you for joining us, and may God bless each of us as we walk toward a new Pentecost. +



MAY 2023 NOVENA to the HOLY SPIRIT

Day 7 Thursday before Pentecost May 25

+In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader Prays while participants have themselves on “Mute” (if praying on Zoom)

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray: O God, Who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of Your faithful, grant that by that same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in the Spirit’s consolation, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ask a participant to read the Scripture

“The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and said, ‘Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one of whom I said, “A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.” I did not know him, but the reason why I came baptizing with water was that he might be made known to Israel.’ John testified further, saying ‘I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from the sky and remain upon him. I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, “On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit”’ (John 1:29-33).

“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom” (2 Corinthians 3:17).

Pause for 2 minutes to pray with these texts and listen to the Spirit.



Shared Conversation:

Where are we seeing or hearing of freedom within the synodal process so far?

Who is still in need of the freedom that comes from walking with the Spirit?

How do we participate with the Spirit in enabling their freedom?

Prayer leader will call on each participant to share their prayer insights. (2 minutes or less. Optional.)

Concluding Prayer (Leader with others on mute)

Holy Spirit, what do you want of us today? From you we ask for eyes that can see, ears that can hear and a heart that inspires us to love in words and deeds.

Prayer for Synod 2023-2024:

Let us have a moment of silence to ask the Spirit to guide the preparations for the upcoming Synod....

As we approach the Solemnity of Pentecost, let us cry out, *Veni, Sancte Spiritus!* Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love! Amen. Amen. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer: Pray the Our Father, the leader leading and all others praying aloud on “Mute.”

Farewell: We will gather again tomorrow evening at 7:30PM using this same Zoom link. Thank you for joining us, and may God bless each of us as we walk toward a new Pentecost. +



MAY 2023 NOVENA to the HOLY SPIRIT

Day 8 Friday before Pentecost May 26

+In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader Prays while participants have themselves on “Mute” (if praying on Zoom)

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray: O God, Who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of Your faithful, grant that by that same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in the Spirit’s consolation, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ask a participant to read the Scripture

“While meeting with them, he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for ‘the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak; for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit’” (Acts 1:4-5).

“I say, then: live by the Spirit and you will certainly not gratify the desire of the flesh. For the flesh has desires against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; these are opposed to each other, so that you may not do what you want. But if you are guided by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: immorality, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, hatreds, rivalry, jealousy, outbursts of fury, acts of selfishness, dissensions, factions, occasions of envy, drinking bouts, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. In contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such, there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ [Jesus] have crucified their flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also follow the Spirit” (Galatians 5:16-25).

Pause for 2 minutes to pray with these texts and listen to the Spirit.



Shared Conversation:

We are called to wait on the Spirit. How do we know when that is required of us on the synod journey?

The fruits of the Spirit are always lawful. How does synodality put them into practice? Where are we seeing the need for more of these to be practiced?

Prayer leader will call on each participant to share their prayer insights. (2 minutes or less. Optional.)

Concluding Prayer (Leader with others on mute)

Holy Spirit, what do you want of us today? From you we ask for eyes that can see, ears that can hear and a heart that inspires us to love in words and deeds.

Prayer for Synod 2023-2024:

Let us have a moment of silence to ask the Spirit to guide the preparations for the upcoming Synod....

As we approach the Solemnity of Pentecost, let us cry out, *Veni, Sancte Spiritus!* Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love! Amen. Amen. Amen.



MAY 2023 NOVENA to the HOLY SPIRIT

Day 8 Friday before Pentecost May 26 (cont.)

The Lord's Prayer: Pray the Our Father, the leader leading and all others praying aloud on "Mute."

Farewell: We will gather again tomorrow evening at 7:30PM using this same Zoom link. Thank you for joining us, and may God bless each of us as we walk toward a new Pentecost. +





MAY 2023 NOVENA to the HOLY SPIRIT

Day 9 Saturday before Pentecost May 27

+In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader Prays while participants have themselves on “Mute” (if praying on Zoom)

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray: O God, Who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of Your faithful, grant that by that same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in the Spirit’s consolation, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ask a participant to read the Scripture

“On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. [Jesus] said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the holy Spirit’” (John 20:19-22).

“When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem. At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd, but they were confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language. They were astounded” (Acts 2:1-7).

Pause for 2 minutes to pray with these texts and listen to the Spirit.



Shared Conversation:

Jesus is sending us on. What does the Father want of those of us already on the synod journey? What language(s) do we need to learn to speak in order for those from other perspectives/experiences and even cultures to be able to hear the call of the Spirit in their own language?

Prayer leader will call on each participant to share their prayer insights. (2 minutes or less. Optional.)

Concluding Prayer (Leader with others on mute)

Holy Spirit, what do you want of us today? From you we ask for eyes that can see, ears that can hear and a heart that inspires us to love in words and deeds.

Prayer for Synod 2023-2024:

Let us have a moment of silence to ask the Spirit to guide the preparations for the upcoming Synod.... As we approach the Solemnity of Pentecost, let us cry out, *Veni, Sancte Spiritus!* Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love! Amen. Amen. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer: Pray the Our Father, the leader leading and all others praying aloud on “Mute.”



MAY 2023 NOVENA to the HOLY SPIRIT

Day 9 Saturday before Pentecost May 27 (cont.)

A Prayer for Openness to the Holy Spirit (Leader prays while others respond aloud on “Mute.”)

+In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Let us pray:

“Faith, in its deepest essence, is the openness of the human heart to the gift: to God’s self-communication in the Holy Spirit” (*Dominum et Vivicantem*, John Paul II, #51).

Lord, open our hearts to hear and receive the gifts of your Spirit.

“Faithfulness to the inspirations of the Holy Spirit is the shortest route to holiness.”
(St. Faustina, Diary, #291).

Lord, give us the gift of courage to receive and act upon the inspirations of the Spirit.

“God is, even now, making all things new; the Holy Spirit is truly transforming us, and through us, [the Spirit] also wants us to transform the world in which we live. Let us open the doors to the Spirit, let ourselves be guided...and allow God’s constant help to make us new men and women, inspired by the love of God which the Holy Spirit bestows on us.”
(Pope Francis in a letter to *Confirmandi*, April 28, 2013).

Lord, we pray for the gifts of obedience and surrender, that we may be transformed by the Spirit.

“The Holy Spirit would appear to create disorder in the Church, since he brings the diversity of charisms and gifts; yet all this, by his working, is a great source of wealth, for the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of unity, which does not mean uniformity, but which leads everything back to harmony. In the Church, it is the Spirit who creates harmony...Only the Spirit can awaken diversity, plurality, multiplicity, while at the same time building unity.” (Pope Francis, on the Solemnity of Pentecost, May 19, 2013)

Lord, as we walk this synod journey, let us welcome the diversity of peoples and gifts, opening wide the tent inside which we are all held together in the Spirit.

“The Holy Spirit is indeed the principal agent of the whole Church’s mission... Mission then, is based not on human abilities but on the power of the Risen Lord” (*Redemptoris Missio*. John Paul II. #21, #23).

Lord, protect us from the urge to take off on our own, to get ahead of your Spirit, to think we can act without the Spirit first acting.

As we approach the Solemnity of Pentecost, let us cry out, *Veni, Sancte Spiritus!* Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love! Amen. Amen. Amen.

Farewell: Thank you for joining us, and may God bless each of us as we walk toward a new Pentecost. +



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