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PENTECOST NOVENA IN HONOR OF THE HOLY SPIRIT MATERNAL HEART OF MARY PARISH, LEWISHAM Pentecost Novena in Honor of the Holy Spirit Maternal Heart of Mary Parish, Lewisham Compiled by a priest of the Priestly Fraternity of Saint Peter

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Nihil obstat: Rev. Peter Joseph S.T.D. Imprimatur: + Most Reverend Anthony Fisher O.P. Archbishop of Sydney May 8th, 2023 The primary intention of this novena is to grow in knowledge and love of God the Holy Spirit. Feel free to add personal intentions to this primary intention.

Truly, we already have devotion to the Holy Spirit, for whenever we worship one Person of the Holy Trinity, we worship the other two. This is because the three Divine Persons are one God. Yet, it is most fruitful to make our devotion to the Holy Spirit explicit. This helps us recognize and appreciate how God inwardly sanctifies our soul, which work is attributed to the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is often spoken of mysteriously in Scripture, but the holy liturgy (e.g. Mass and the Divine Office), with its prayers and hymns written by our fathers in the Faith, excellently clarifies the role of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, this novena is composed almost entirely of prayers and hymns about the Holy Spirit that have been used in the Church's liturgy throughout the centuries.

Further, when we pray by means of these old, venerable hymns and collects, we are brought to appreciate how the Holy Spirit has always worked fruitfully in the life of the Church throughout the centuries. The dates listed near the collects represent the earliest records of their existence. In most cases, these collects are older than earliest records we have of them.

One should strive to pray this novena slowly and meditatively, for the Scriptural readings and prayers in it contain a wealth of spiritual unction.

<u>On the front cover:</u> "O God, Who on this day didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people, by the sending to them the light of thine Holy Spirit, grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in His consolation. Through Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, God, world without end."

(From the Drogo Sacramentary, Pentecost Sunday, c. 850).

First Day—Ascension Thursday

Spiritus Sancti gratia illuminet sensus et corda nostra. Amen. (May the grace of the Holy Spirit enlighten our hearts and minds. Amen.)

The qualities of those praying in the cenacle: perseverance, concord, and union with the Blessed Virgin Mary. Acts 1:12-14

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount that is called Olivet, which is nigh Jerusalem, within a sabbath day's journey. And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode Peter and John, James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James of Alpheus, and Simon Zelotes, and Jude the brother of James. All these were persevering with one mind in prayer with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury (1150-1228)

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.

Pray for the fire of a fervent love of God and neighbor, and to be protected from the mediocrity of a lukewarm heart.

9th century

May the Holy Spirit, we beseech Thee, O Lord, enkindle in us that fire which our Lord Jesus Christ sent down upon earth, and exceedingly desired to be enkindled: Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, God, world without end.

Second Day—Friday

Spiritus Sancti gratia illuminet sensus et corda nostra. Amen. (May the grace of the Holy Spirit enlighten our hearts and minds. Amen.)

A reminder of the fundamental, continual, and everlasting role of the Holy Spirit. Although He is often in the background, His work is all-powerful.

Genesis 1:2

In the beginning God created heaven, and earth. And the earth was void and empty, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the Spirit of God moved over the waters.

Veni Creator Spiritus

Anonymous, 9th century

Come, Holy Ghost, Creator, come from Thy bright heavenly throne; come, take possession of our souls, and make them all Thine own.

Thou who art called the Paraclete, best gift of God above, the living spring, the living fire, sweet unction and true love.

Thou who art sevenfold in Thy grace, finger of God's right hand; His promise, teaching little ones to speak and understand.

O guide our minds with Thy blest light, with love our hearts inflame; and with Thy strength, which never decays, confirm our mortal frame.

> Far from us drive our deadly foe; true peace unto us bring;

and through all perils lead us safe beneath Thy sacred wing.

Through Thee may we the Father know, through Thee the eternal Son, and Thee the Spirit of them both, thrice-blessed three in One.

All glory to the Father be, with his coequal Son; the same to Thee, great Paraclete, while endless ages run. Amen.

Pray for the Gift of Understanding, so that you may understand the all-embracing role of the Holy Spirit in your existence. Only if He is poured into our minds will we understand His role.

8th century

Deign, we beseech Thee, O Lord, to pour forth into our minds the Holy Spirit, by Whose wisdom we were created, and by Whose providence we are guided. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, God, world without end. Amen.

Third Day—Saturday

Spiritus Sancti gratia illuminet sensus et corda nostra. Amen. (May the grace of the Holy Spirit enlighten our hearts and minds. Amen.)

Asking for the "good Spirit" is always in accordance with God's will for us. Hence, if we seriously ask, we will unfailingly receive Him. Luke 11:9-13

And I say to you, Ask, and it shall be given you: seek, and you shall find: knock, and it shall be opened to you. For every one that asketh, receiveth; and he that seeketh, findeth; and to him that knocketh, it shall be opened. And which of you, if he ask his father bread, will he give him a stone? or a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he reach him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father from heaven give the good Spirit to them that ask him?

Beata Nobis Gaudia

Anonymous, 4th-5th century

Rejoice! The year upon its way Has brought again that blessed day, When on the chosen of the Lord The Holy Spirit was outpoured.

On each the fire, descending, stood In quivering tongues similitude —Tongues, that their words might ready prove, And fire, to make them flame with love.

To all in every tongue they spoke ; Amazement in the crowd awoke Who mocked, as overcome with wine, Those who were filled with power divine.

These things were done in type that day When Eastertide had passed away, The number told which once set free The captive at the jubilee.

And now, O holy God, this day Regard us as we humbly pray, And send us from thy heavenly seat, The blessings of the Paraclete.

To God the Father, God the Son, And God the Spirit, praise be done ; May Christ the Lord upon us pour The Spirit's gift for evermore. Amen.

Pray for the gift of Fear of the Lord, so that you can have deeper sorrow for your sins and so obtain the good Spirit in the fullest measure.

11th century

Mercifully pour into our hearts, O Lord God, the grace of the Holy Spirit which by sight and to **VI** Spirit, which, by sighs and tears, may wash away the stains of our sins and obtain for us, by Thy goodness, the forgiveness which we desire. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, God, world without end. Amen.

Fourth Day—Sunday

Spiritus Sancti gratia illuminet sensus et corda nostra. Amen. (May the grace of the Holy Spirit enlighten our hearts and minds. Amen.)

A prophecy about our Lord Jesus Christ, who is filled with the plenitude of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Isaias 11:1-2

And there shall come forth a rod out of the root of Jesse, and a flower shall rise up out of his root. And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him: the spirit of wisdom, and of understanding, the spirit of counsel, and of fortitude, the spirit of knowledge, and of godliness. And he shall be filled with the spirit of the fear of the Lord.

Amor Patris et Filii

Missal of Liege, 12th century

In this hymn, "Love of the Father and Son" refers to the Holy Spirit.

O Love of the Father and Son! Thou art our true and brightest aid, in whom alone we hope for solace. O never-failing light of the good! the reward of the just, the resuscitator of sinners. Giver of all strength, and holiness, and blessing! Lover of all righteousness.

Almighty, and so bounteous. all-governing, and so merciful. Infinitely just, and dear, and glorious, and holy, and strong, and spiritual. No, nothing is so mighty, nothing so good. Thou enlightener of hearts, by whom we come to the Father of all, and to the Son.

Fount of knowledge; giver of joy; remedy for sin; Spirit of counsel. Humble, docile, and unchangeable; prudent, noble, and invincible; prompt and endearing!

Choicest of gifts! It is Thou that gives us understanding and love, and that loves what is right. Thou art the Spirit of the Father and Son; the life-giving Paraclete; the finger of God's right hand! The Holy Spirit is grandeur and joy, mercy and goodness, benignity and munificence, who— as He wills, and when He wills, and where He wills, and as long as He wills, and as much as He wills— inspires and teaches, fills and exalts, enriches and guides.

He, the Spirit of knowledge, is given to the Apostles on this day, that He may console them. By Him is opened to them, in all its fullness, the fount of true wisdom. Amen.

Pray that the Holy Spirit may increase His seven Gifts in you, so that your life may be a better imitation of the life of Christ.

9th century

Grant, we beseech Thee, almighty and merciful God, that the Holy Spirit may deign to come and dwell in us, making us the temples of His glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, God, world without end. Amen.

Fifth Day—Monday

Spiritus Sancti gratia illuminet sensus et corda nostra. Amen. (May the grace of the Holy Spirit enlighten our hearts and minds. Amen.)

Our Lord is led by the Holy Spirit into the desert to fast. The Holy Spirit leads us to a penitential life.

Mark 1:10-11

And forthwith coming up out of the water, He saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit as a dove descending, and remaining on Him. And there came a voice from heaven: Thou art my beloved Son; in Thee I am well pleased. And immediately the Spirit drove him out into the desert.

Nunc Sancte Nobis Spiritus

St Ambrose of Milan (339-397)

Come, Holy Spirit ever one with God the Father and the Son. Our hearts encompass and possess; our prayer and work sustain and bless.

May all our thoughts and speech proclaim, our strength and feeling tell your name while we by charity aspire to set our neighbors' love afire.

Through You may we this day receive the strength to live as we believe who with the Father and the Son we worship as the Three in One.

Pray that the Holy Spirit may lead deliver you from temptations by a life of greater penance.

10th century

E nable us, we beseech Thee, almighty God, by constant prayer to render ourselves worthy of the gift of Thy Holy Ghost, that, by His grace, we may be delivered from temptations, and deserve to obtain forgiveness of our sins.

May the Holy Spirit grant us peace in the difficulties of life.

8th century

O God, who gave the Holy Spirit to Thine Apostles, grant to Thy people the fruit of their loving petition, that on those to whom Thou has given faith, Thou may also bestow peace. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, God, world without end. Amen.

Sixth Day—Tuesday

Spiritus Sancti gratia illuminet sensus et corda nostra. Amen. (May the grace of the Holy Spirit enlighten our hearts and minds. Amen.)

The Holy Spirit is the love of the Father and the Son. Therefore, any familiarity we have with the Father and the Son comes through the Holy Spirit. We learn this from St Paul: Galatians 4:6-7

And because you are sons, God hath sent the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying: Abba, Father. Therefore now he is not a servant, but a son. And if a son, an heir also through God.

Lux Iucunda, Lux Insignis

Adam of St Victor (d. 1146)

The glad and glorious light — wherewith the heaven-sent Fire filled the hearts of Jesus' disciples and gave them to speak in divers tongues — invites us now to sing our hymns with hearts in concord with the voice.

On the fiftieth day, Christ revisited his Spouse by sending her the pledge He had promised. After tasting the honeyed sweetness, Peter, now the firmest of rocks, pours forth the unction of his preaching.

The Law, of old, was given on the mount to the people, but it was written on tablets of stone, and not on fiery tongues: but in the cenacle, there was given to a chosen few newness of heart and knowledge of all tongues.

O happy, O festive day, whereon was founded the primitive Church! Three thousand souls! — oh! how vigorous the first-fruits of the Church just-born!

The two loaves commanded to be offered in the ancient Law prefigured the two adopted people now made one; Christ the stone, the head of the corner, set Himself between the two, and made both one. New wine may not be put in bottles that are old, but in them that are new: the widow prepares her vessels, and Eliseus fills them with oil: so, too, our God gives us His heavenly dew, if our hearts be ready.

If our lives be disorderly, we are not fit to receive the wine, nor oil, nor dew. The Paraclete can never dwell in dark or divided hearts. O dear Comforter, come! Govern our tongues, soften our hearts: where Thou art must be no gall or poison. Nothing is joyous, nothing pleasant, nothing wholesome, nothing peaceful, nothing sweet, nothing full, save by Thy grace.

Thou art light and unction; Thou the heavenly savour that enriches the element of water with mysterious power. We praise Thee with hearts made pure; we that have been made a new creature;— we that once, by nature, were children of wrath, but now children of grace.

O Thou, the Giver and the Gift. O Thou the Creator of all that is good! Make our hearts eager to praise Thee, and teach our tongues to sound forth Thy glory. Do Thou, O author of purity, purify us from sin! Renew us in Christ; and then, give us the full joy of perfect newness! Amen.

Pray that each member of the Christ's flock may resemble Him more through the power of the Holy Spirit.

11th century

O God, who by the grace of the Holy Spirit, have poured the gifts of charity in the hearts of Thy faithful, grant to Thy servants and handmaids, for whom we entreat Thy mercy, health of mind and body: that they may love Thee with all their strength and, by perfect love, may do what is pleasing to Thee. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, God, world without end. Amen.

Seventh Day—Wednesday

Spiritus Sancti gratia illuminet sensus et corda nostra. Amen. (May the grace of the Holy Spirit enlighten our hearts and minds. Amen.)

The list of the twelve Fruits of the Holy Spirit. These should be the fruits in our lives.

Galatians 5:22-25

B ut the fruit of the Spirit is, charity, joy, peace, patience, benignity, goodness, longanimity, mildness, faith, modesty, continency, chastity. Against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's, have crucified their flesh, with the vices and concupiscences. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Sancti Spiritus Adsit Nobis Gratia

Notker Balbulus (840-912)

May the grace of the Holy Spirit descend upon us and make our hearts a dwelling place for himself, By driving away from them all their spiritual vices. O dear Spirit, Thou enlightener of man! Dispel from our souls the horrid darkness that is in them. O divine lover of holy thoughts! Mercifully infuse Thine unction into our minds. O Spirit, purifier of all our sins! Purify the eye of our inward man, that we may be enabled to see the sovereign Father, Whom none can see, save them that are clean of heart.

It was Thou that inspired the prophets, and gave them to foretell the grand glories of Christ. It was Thou that strengthened the Apostles, that they might carry the trophy of Christ through the whole word. When God, by His Word, created the heavens, earth, and seas, Thou, O Holy Spirit, did stretch forth Thy divine and fostering influence upon the waters, Making them fruitful with living beings. By Thine inspiration, Thou makest men to be spiritual. Thou, O Lord, gave unity to the world, which was divided in language and religion. O best of masters! Thou bringest idolaters to the worship of the true God. Therefore, mercifully hear us who offer Thee our prayers, O Holy Spirit.

Without whom, all our prayers are vain, and unworthy to be presented to God. It was Thou, O divine Spirit, that, by Thy divine attractive instinct, did teach the saints of every age. It was Thou, that by enriching the Apostles of Christ with the incomparable gift unheard of in previous ages, didst make this day so glorious. Amen.

Our Lord said: "By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another." Pray that the Holy Spirit may perfect you in love of God and love of neighbor.

10th century

May the grace of the Holy Ghost, we beseech Thee, O Lord, enlighten our hearts and refresh them abundantly with the sweetness of perfect love.

Pray to the Holy Spirit to be delivered from temptations to evil thoughts, especially uncharitable thoughts.

9th century

A lmighty and most merciful God, listen favorably to our prayers: and free our hearts from temptations to evil thoughts, that we may deserve to be accounted worthy dwelling places of the Holy Spirit. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, God, world without end. Amen.

Eighth Day—Thursday

Spiritus Sancti gratia illuminet sensus et corda nostra. Amen. (May the grace of the Holy Spirit enlighten our hearts and minds. Amen.)

The body of a Christian is not his, rather, it is the temple of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit seeks to use it in His service. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Or know you not, that your members are the temple of the Holy Ghost, who is in you, whom you have from God; and you are not your own? For you are bought with a great price. Glorify and bear God in your body.

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury (1150-1228)

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.

In this prayer we ask God to burn, to enkindle, to sear purity into us by the fire of His Holy Spirit.

9th century

B urn, O Lord, our innermost desires and hearts by the fire of the Holy Spirit, that we may serve Thee with chaste body and please Thee with clean heart.

Pray that the Church may be defended from the hostile attacks of the enemy, who seeks to conquer and divide especially by false doctrine.

8th century

O merciful God, we beseech Thee that Thy Church, which was gathered together by the Holy Spirit, may nowise be troubled by hostile attack. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, God, world without end. Amen.

Ninth Day—Friday

Spiritus Sancti gratia illuminet sensus et corda nostra. Amen. (May the grace of the Holy Spirit enlighten our hearts and minds. Amen.)

The Holy Spirit acts through the Church's ministers, who have the power to forgive sins in the Sacrament of Confession. John 20:21-23

He said therefore to them again: Peace be to you. As the Father hath sent me, I also send you. When He had said this, He breathed on them; and He said to them: Receive ye the Holy Ghost. Whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven them; and whose sins you shall retain, they are retained.

O Ignis Spiritus Paracliti

St Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)

O sacred Fire! O Paraclete, Spirit! Thou art the life of every creature's life. Thou art the Holy One, vivifying all beings. Thou art the Holy One, healing with Thine unction them that are dangerously bruised.

Thou art the Holy One, cleansing our festered wounds. O breath of holiness! O fire of charity! O Thou sweet savour of the soul, and the heart's infusion of the pleasing odor of virtues.

O purest fount, wherein is reflected God's mercy that adopts foreigners for His children, and goes in search of them that are lost. Breast-plate of life, hope of unity, O girdle of integrity, save us Thy happy people.

Be the protector of them that have been imprisoned by the enemy. Loose the bonds of them whom divine power desires to save. O way, which nothing can resist, that penetrates heaven, and earth, and every deep abyss, bringing all to order and unity! It is by Thee that clouds glide in the firmament, that air wings its flight, that rocks yield springs, that waters flow, and earth gives forth her verdure.

It is Thou that leadest men to knowledge, gladdening them with the inspiration of wisdom. Praise then, be to Thee, O Thou music of praise, Thou joy of life, our hope, our highest honour, the giver of the reward of light! Amen.

Pray for an appreciation of the Sacrament of Confession, in which the Holy Ghost is given anew or increased in you.

6th century

We beseech Thee, O Lord, may the Holy Spirit renew our souls by Thy divine Sacraments, for He is Himself the remission of all sins. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, God, world without end. Amen.

Last Day—Saturday

Spiritus Sancti gratia illuminet sensus et corda nostra. Amen. (May the grace of the Holy Spirit enlighten our hearts and minds. Amen.)

The Holy Spirit chose to cooperate with the humble Virgin Mary in the Incarnation of Jesus Christ. Luke 1:34-35

And Mary said to the angel: How shall this be done, because I know not man? And the angel answering, said to her: The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the most High shall overshadow thee. And therefore also the Holy which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

Invocation of the Holy Spirit

St Louis de Montfort (1673-1716)

Come, Father of lights, come, God of love, Fashion in me my prayers. Show me the truth, Send into my soul an ember of your fire To penetrate it with flame and fill it with God.

Come, Holy Spirit, you create martyrs, confessors, Apostles, prophets, great heroes, valiant hearts. You are the only guide my Savior has followed; So that I may imitate Him, lead me as you led Him.

You who work miracles through powerless mortals, You who utter oracles through poor ignorant humans, By the power of your grace strengthen my languor; To melt my coldness speak to the depths of my heart.

Distance me from the fads, the well-traveled road,

The delusions, so convenient yet so full of evil.

Teach me the path, unknown to almost everyone, Which leads with certainty straight to heaven and to you. I beg You, open my ears to the words of faith, To practice the marvels of Your divine law, To listen only to God Himself in every preacher; And to cry anathema against this deceitful world.

Great God, make Yourself the Master of my whole heart so I may love,

Of my mind so I may know, of my tongue so I may charm, Of my senses and powers so I may act and suffer, Of my possessions, of my pains, and of all, so I may serve You.

Make a temple of my heart, of my tongue, an instrument, To speak to all by example, to speak eloquently. Through Jesus and Mary reign powerfully in me, So that I may then glorify God alone forever.

GOD ALONE.

O holy and faithful Virgin, spouse of the Holy Spirit, Change my rebellious heart into a heart humble and contrite. Give me a docile heart truly faithful to His voice, So I may live the Gospel according to its counsels and laws.

On this Saturday, the day dedicated to Our Lady, ask her to teach you about the Holy Spirit, with whom she has a deep bond.

A lmighty, everlasting God, Who, by the cooperation of the Holy Spirit, did prepare the body and soul of Mary, glorious Virgin and Mother, to become a worthy dwelling place for Thy Son; grant that we may be delivered from present evils and from everlasting death by the gracious intercession of her in whose commemoration we rejoice. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.