

A HOLY SPIRIT NOVENA

In Acts of the Apostles (Acts 1:14), St. Luke writes of the first Novena (nine days). Mary and the disciples prayed while awaiting the Holy Spirit. Together, the Parish Community of the Holy Cross beginning on Ascension Thursday (May 9), will pray each day leading up to Pentecost weekend. We will pray for a new outpouring of the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit on our families and our parish community. Each gift is accompanied by a prayer to be said at home. Let us pray also for our country and our world.

Adapted from "Come with Your Grace," Praying for the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, Pentecost Reflections by Mitch Finley

May 9 - Wisdom

Come Holy Spirit, fill us with the clear light of your Wisdom. Help us to pray for what we need to follow Jesus faithfully. Help us to use the gift of Wisdom to serve one another. Help us to see that Wisdom is a gift to all those you have gathered, not just a few. Give us the Wisdom to embrace the truth wherever we may find it. Amen.

May 10 - Understanding

Come Holy Spirit, make alive in us the gift of Understanding, that we may grasp how immeasurable is your love for us, for the earth, for all creatures. Help us to understand how we might better live our faith in our ordinary, everyday lives. Guide us as we struggle with the difficult moral and spiritual issues of our time. Amen.

May 11 - Counsel - Discernment

Come Holy Spirit, nourish in our hearts the gift of Counsel, that we may know when to speak and when to be silent. By your gift of Counsel, strengthen in us our ability to advise and guide one another, as we respond to your guidance in our lives. Help us, as a community of faith, to Counsel our society in ways of love, not condemnation. Amen.