

PRAYERS IN THE PEW™ MONTHLY

FAITH IN ACTION CALENDAR / HIGHLIGHTS

WED JUL 9	The Holy Martyrs of China
WED JUL 16	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
SAT JUL 26	Joachim & Anne, Parents of the Virgin Mary

Faith Formation Companion to Prayers in the Pew™

→ MONTHLY SYNOPSIS ←

July 2025 – July is the month where we celebrate our independence as a nation. Our nation has a strongly Christian founding, and we know that “where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom” (2 Cor 3:17). Our reflections this month are intended to remind us that the Holy Spirit is the source of all good things in our lives and in our families.

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Jesus told His disciples that whoever prays for *the gift of the Holy Spirit* will always receive what he asks for: “If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father in heaven give the holy Spirit to those who ask him?” (Luke 11:13).

Since the Day of Pentecost, the Church has been devoted to praying for the coming of the Holy Spirit, not only into our hearts and minds, but also into the Church and the world. We call to Him with fervor – “Come, Holy Spirit!” – as if we cannot wait for God to rescue us from the problems of this world. The marvelous Prayer to the Holy Spirit is one of the most heartfelt prayers of the faithful because it is a prayer for God to transform us and the world.

This prayer may already be familiar to you. Here it is in all its simplicity and beauty:

THE PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Come, O 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.

O God, who has taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that by the gift of the same Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolation, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

We believe that the Holy Spirit is the Church's guiding and protecting force until the end of time. The Holy Spirit Prayer recognizes the roles that the Holy Spirit plays in the life of believers: He “fills [our] hearts”, he “enkindles” our love, he “enlightens” our minds, He “instructs,” “creates,” and “renews” us, and He is the source of all spiritual gifts.

There is no better prayer to pray on a daily basis than the Prayer to the Holy Spirit. This marvelous prayer is easy to memorize, and when you do, make a habit of saying it every day so that the Holy Spirit will be your constant companion in all the trials and joys of life.

“If only they knew we can still get texts up here.”



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SPIRITUAL CHALLENGE

Let us challenge ourselves this month to call on the Holy Spirit to help us and our families in all our needs. When we invoke the Holy Spirit, particularly in times of trouble, the Spirit helps and renews us in many tangible ways. God the Holy Spirit always comes to those who ask.



The 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Our Lady and the Apostles prayed for nine days before Pentecost that the “promise of the Father” (Acts 1:4) would come upon them and fill them with divine life. We too await for the Holy Spirit prior to Pentecost and ask for His seven-fold gift from on high.

Our belief in the Gifts of the Holy Spirit is based primarily upon one passage of the Old Testament, Isaiah 11:2, which lists six spiritual gifts. To this list the Church adds “piety”, which is the virtue of devotion. God’s gift of the Holy Spirit is, therefore, seven gifts in one: the Church usually calls Him the “seven-fold gift” or enumerates them as the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

1. Wisdom 2. Understanding 3. Knowledge
4. Counsel 5. Piety 6. Fear of the Lord 7. Fortitude

Let us resolve to pray for these gifts from on high every day!

— THE SCHOOL OF SAINTS —



"Keep to the ancient way and custom of the Church, established and confirmed by so many Saints under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. And live a new life. Pray, and get others to pray, that God not abandon His Church, but reform it as He pleases, and as He sees best for us, and more to His honor and glory." ~ **St. Angela Merici**

— CATECHISM CONNECTION —



852 – The Holy Spirit is the principal agent of the whole of the Church’s mission... This mission continues and, in the course of history, unfolds the mission of Christ, who was sent to evangelize the poor; so the Church, urged on by the Spirit of Christ, must walk the road Christ himself walked, a way of poverty and obedience, of service and self-sacrifice even to death, a death from which he emerged victorious by his resurrection.

1831 – The moral life of Christians is sustained by the gifts of the Holy Spirit. These are permanent dispositions which make man docile in following the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

— BIBLE BASICS —



Psalm 139:7 Where can I go from your spirit? From your presence, where can I flee?

Romans 8:11 If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit that dwells in you.

CALENDAR OF FAITH | JULY

JUL 1	St. Junipero Serra, Priest
JUL 3	St. Thomas, Apostle
JUL 6	St. Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr
JUL 9	St. Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions, Martyrs of China
JUL 11	St. Benedict, Abbot
JUL 13	St. Henry, Confessor
JUL 14	St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin
JUL 15	St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor
JUL 16	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
JUL 18	St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest
JUL 21	St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor
JUL 22	St. Mary Magdalene
JUL 23	St. Bridget, Religious
JUL 24	St. Sharbel Makhlof, Hermit
JUL 25	St. James, Apostle
JUL 26	Sts. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Virgin Mary
JUL 29	St. Martha
JUL 30	St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor
JUL 31	St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

Featured Prayer for July

Prayer for Our Nation

God our Father, Giver of life, we entrust the United States of America to Your loving care. You are the rock on which this nation was founded. You alone are the true source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Reclaim this land for Your glory and dwell among Your people.

Send Your Spirit to touch the hearts of our nation’s leaders. Open their minds to the great worth of human life and the responsibilities that accompany human freedom. Remind Your people that true happiness is rooted in seeking and doing Your will.

Through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, Patroness of our land, grant us the courage to reject the “culture of death.” Lead us into a new millennium of life. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

(This prayer is taken from the Prayers in the Pew Family Edition Prayer Card. Please refer to our website SitStandKneel.com for the online version of this newsletter and all our prayer cards.)

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Helping Catholics to Learn, Live, and Love their Faith.

