



COME HOLY SPIRIT

Preparing for PENTECOST Called to Mission

On Pentecost Sunday 1703 Claude Poullart des Places founded the Congregation of the Holy Spirit (The Spiritans) as a missionary congregation. This year the Spiritans celebrate 150 years of presence and mission in and from Ireland and the 300th anniversary of the death of our founder. As part of our celebration we invite you to pray with us in preparation for the feast of Pentecost – the feast of the Holy Spirit.



Liturgical Notes

When can this resource be used?

This prayer resource could be used in churches, perhaps after Mass, in the days leading up to Pentecost or in the home or at school. Perhaps those being confirmed could use it as part of their preparation for the celebration of the sacrament. This is a missionary prayer to remind us of our baptismal calling to witness to Jesus Christ. If people are unable to use it over the seven days then perhaps they might like to join in the last three days with its emphasis on the call to Mission.

Liturgical elements

Paschal candle

Lectionary

Baptismal Water

Suggestions for use.

- In church, begin the first day around the baptismal font and perhaps journey through the week by leading the assembly closer to the door of the church to help it become more aware of the baptismal call to mission in the world which is rooted in the sacramental life the church.
- The Pascal candle will be lit throughout this time and placed in a prominent position.
- If the prayer takes place in the home or in school a candle could be lit and placed beside a bowl of blessed water as a reminder of our baptism.
- Should circumstances permit, a small candle could be lit from the Pascal candle on the last day and given to everyone present to bring home with them.

Suggested Hymns

Any hymn to the Holy Spirit such as *Come O Creator Spirit Blest, Veni Creator, Grant to us O Lord, ...*

Day 1: In the Holy Spirit we are God's children

- Hymn to the Holy Spirit
- Leader: Come Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of Your Love.
Assembly: *Send forth Your Spirit and all shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth.*
- Listening to God's Word speak to us
Mark 1: 1-11
We hear "the beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God". This Good News continues in our life because like Jesus, who was baptised by John, we too hear God tell each one of us: "You are my child, my Beloved...". It is the Holy Spirit which lets us recognise God as Father, the One who transmits his life to each of us and allows us to call him Papa! Dad!
- Silent Prayer
We can thank God for giving us his Spirit and for sharing his life with us.
- Intercession
■ For all who have been baptised at Easter. We pray to the Lord. *Lord hear our prayer.*

- That we might all know that we are truly children of God and loved by God. We pray to the Lord.
 - For our children that they might grow in strength and wisdom to know God and to love him. We pray to the Lord.
- Other intentions may follow....
- Our Father.

● **Prayer**

- God creator of all things, your Spirit hovered over the water at the dawn of time as you breathed life into the world. Give to us your Spirit for today that we might renew our lives and faith and walk with you always. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Day 2:
The Spirit of God frees us from our sins

● **Hymn to the Holy Spirit**

- **Leader: Come Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of Your Love.**

Assembly: Send forth Your Spirit and all shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth.

● **Listening to God's Word speak to us**

- Romans : 8: 2.11-13

Often we think that God can only love us if we are good. We forget that God loves us with an unconditional love because of who we are and not because of what we do. This is how we know that our sins are forgiven because the Spirit of the Risen Jesus is in each one of us. This is the "Spirit of life who sets us free from the law of sin and death".

● **Silent Prayer**

- We can thank God for giving us his Spirit of life and for the extraordinary love he has for each one of us.

● **Intercession**

- For peace and reconciliation in our homes, our country and throughout the world. We pray to the Lord. *Lord hear our prayer.*
 - That we might be able to forgive others as God always forgives us. We pray to the Lord
 - That we might be freed of our false images of God and recognise in him the source of all joy. We pray to the Lord.
- Other intentions may follow....
- Our Father.



● **Prayer**

- God of life and love, you reconciled humanity with you by giving us your Son. May the Spirit of Jesus open our hearts to accept your pardon and to share it with those who have offended us. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Day 3:
The Spirit of God shares with us his gifts

● **Hymn to the Holy Spirit**

- **Leader: Come Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of Your Love.**

Assembly: Send forth Your Spirit and all shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth.

● **Listening to God's Word speak to us**

- Galatians 5:22-25

Francis Libermann, one of the founders of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit, tells us that when the Spirit of God acts in us we are united to God without trouble, worry or irritation. The Spirit is our life. Let him take the lead.

● **Silent Prayer**

- We can thank God for the gift of life in the Spirit and the freedom it gives to each one of us.

● **Intercession**

- For those who suffer from any form of addiction to drugs or alcohol. We pray to the Lord. *Lord hear our prayer.*
 - That all who are baptised might open their lives to being led by the Spirit of Jesus. We pray to the Lord.
 - That we might be faithful stewards of the God's creation and its resources and not act in selfish way. We pray to the Lord.
- Other intentions may follow....
- Our Father.

● **Prayer**

- God of all that is good and true, you share with us your divine life and call us to be your children. May your Spirit of grace and strength be present in our hearts as we seek to live the gift of new life which we have through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Day 4:
The Spirit of God gathers us into one Body.

● **Hymn to the Holy Spirit**

- **Leader: Come Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of Your Love.**

Assembly: Send forth Your Spirit and all shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth.



● **Listening to God's Word speak to us**

■ 1 Corinthians 12:12-17, 20-21, 26-27

St. Paul recognises that as humans we are also marked by differences – nationality, language, culture, etc. Just as in the human body there are different parts but one body. Our differences should never hide the fact that we are also called to be one with each other. This is the meaning of the word 'community'. It is the one Spirit of Christ who brings us together in the living body of the Church.

● **Silent Prayer**

■ We can thank God for the diversity of gifts among us and pray that men and women of all cultures and traditions may grow in respect for our common humanity.

● **Intercession**

- For the many immigrants who have come to our land. May they find welcome and respect. We pray to the Lord. *Lord hear our prayer.*
- That our many different gifts and talents will be recognised in the Church and used for the building up of the community. We pray to the Lord.
- That in world often marked by individualism and loneliness we might open our hearts and our lives to others. We pray to the Lord.
Other intentions may follow....
Our Father.

● **Prayer**

■ God of all the living,
by your love for the Church
you make us part of the body of Christ.
May his Spirit dwell in our hearts
as we reach out in love to our brothers and sisters
and become the voice and hands of the Risen Lord
to a world in need of peace and healing.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



It is the Holy Spirit who will spring up in you the holiness that he brought forth in Jesus.

Francis Libermann C.S.Sp



It is the Spirit of Christ who comes to help us in our weakness.

Romans 8:26

Day 5:

The Spirit of God speaks through each one of us.

● **Hymn to the Holy Spirit**

● **Leader: Come Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of Your Love.**
Assembly: Send forth Your Spirit and all shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth.

● **Listening to God's Word speak to us**

■ Mark 13:9-11

In today's world of indifference and sometimes hostility to questions of faith each baptised person is called to be a witness of the Gospel of Jesus. How can we do this? By prayerful reading of scripture and with a calm and serene faith the Spirit of God will speak through our words and actions.

● **Silent Prayer**

■ We thank God that we are called, like Jesus, to proclaim the Good News.

● **Intercession**

- For the many men and women who proclaim their faith through the ordinary events of their lives. We pray to the Lord. *Lord hear our prayer.*
- For Christian communities who are persecuted and victims of violence. We pray to the Lord.
- That we might open our hearts to all men and women in the spirit of friendship and dialogue. We pray to the Lord.
Other intentions may follow....
Our Father.

● **Prayer**

■ God of Word and Sacrament,
your Son Jesus proclaimed your Reign of peace and justice.
May the Spirit of courage open our ears and mouths
so that we might be faithful and bold
in continuing this same mission of proclamation.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Day 6:
The Spirit of God makes us witnesses of Jesus Christ.

- Hymn to the Holy Spirit
- **Leader: Come Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of Your Love.**
Assembly: Send forth Your Spirit and all shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth.
- **Listening to God's Word speak to us**
 - Acts 1: 6-8
The earthly Jesus has returned to his Father. The Christian community is now his body on earth called to continue his mission, to be his hands, his feet and his voice from the time of the apostles in Jerusalem to our own day.
- **Silent Prayer**
 - We can thank God for the gift of the Spirit and for the joy of being Good News for the world.
- **Intercession**
 - For the many missionaries who have gone from our land to be witnesses of Jesus throughout the world. We pray to the Lord. *Lord hear our prayer.*
 - For the missionaries from around the world called to preach the Gospel of Jesus in Ireland. We pray to the Lord.
 - For those making their confirmation this year that they may be filled with the spirit to be faithful witnesses of Jesus. We pray to the Lord.
Other intentions may follow....
Our Father.
- **Prayer**

God of the prophets
in Jesus Christ you have revealed yourself
to be God and Father of all.
May the Spirit of the Risen Christ
renew our sense of mission
and may our lives speak of the Good News we share.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Day 7:
The Spirit of God is given to all people.

- Hymn to the Holy Spirit
- **Leader: Come Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of Your Love.**
Assembly: Send forth Your Spirit and all shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth.
- **Listening to God's Word speak to us**
 - Acts 2:5-17
Even before we are baptised the Spirit of God is present in every human being. God loves all the peoples of the world. As Christians we respect peoples of every religion and none. Strong in our faith in Jesus Christ we reach out to all in the spirit of friendship and dialogue.
- **Silent Prayer**
 - We can thank God for the presence of his Holy Spirit in all creation and in all the peoples of the world.
- **Intercession**
 - That we might work together with people of good will and of every religion to build a more just and peaceful world. We pray to the Lord. *Lord hear our prayer.*
 - That Christians continue to commit themselves to the work of dialogue with other faiths and religions. We pray to the Lord.
 - That we in Ireland will welcome and respect the many people who have come to make their home in this land. We pray to the Lord.
Other intentions may follow....
Our Father.
- **Prayer**
 - God of all peoples,
you have created us with such diversity and richness
and invite us to recognise you in all we meet.
May the Spirit of life teach us always
to reverence your sacred presence in all humanity
and to witness to your name in all the world.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE SPIRITANS
It's a Spirit thing!

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