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J.M.J.

## TEN-DAY DEVOTION TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

—Fr. Rene J. Schatteman

*From the feast of the Ascension to Pentecost, the Church recalls the days the Apostles spent in prayer awaiting the promised coming of the Holy Spirit. Christian custom urges us to pray also in a special way in these days for the gift of the Holy Spirit.*



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"The traditional form of petition to the Holy Spirit is to invoke the Father through Christ Our Lord to give us the Consoler Spirit.... But the simplest and most direct prayer is also traditional...

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

The Holy Spirit, whose anointing permeates our whole being, is Master of Christian prayer. He is the artisan of the living tradition of prayer. To be sure, there are as many paths of prayer as there are persons who pray, but it is the same Spirit acting in all and with all."

*(Catechism of the Catholic Church, nn. 2671-2)*

*Here is a prayer composed and frequently recited by St. Josemaria, and another prayer that could be recited every day during these ten days to foster devotion to the Holy Spirit.*

O Holy Spirit!  
Enlighten my understanding  
to know your commandments;  
strengthen my heart  
against the snares  
of the enemy;  
in flame my will...

I have heard your voice,  
and I do not wish to harden  
myself and resist, saying:  
later or tomorrow.  
"Nunc coepi!" Now!  
Lest I find myself  
without a tomorrow.

O Spirit of truth and wisdom,  
Spirit of understanding  
and counsel,  
Spirit of joy and peace!  
I want what you want.  
I want because you want.  
I want as you want.  
I want when you want...  
—St. Josemaria Escriva,  
April 1934

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

So we pray with all the Church  
in this time of Pentecost.

O God the Holy Spirit,  
I come before you in humble  
adoration and recognition of  
your presence in my soul.  
I ask you to set my heart on fire.

You are the Third Person  
of the Blessed Trinity,  
you are the Love  
of the Father and the Son.

You are the Sanctifier  
and from the day of my  
Baptism you have been at work  
in my soul, fashioning me  
to be like to Christ.

Today I affirm my intention to  
be docile to your inspirations  
and to allow you to work in my  
mind, my heart and my will.

Come, O Holy Spirit,  
for I need you.  
I am weak and  
often go astray.

I do not do the good  
that I should and  
often fall into sin.

I need your help  
to know myself and  
to know the power  
of your love.

I need you to teach me how  
to control myself.

I need you to enlighten me  
so that I might always  
make wise choices.

I need you to guide me  
so that I always do  
what pleases my Father God.

I need your light  
so that I might fully accept  
and understand  
the truths of faith.

I want to be able to love others  
following the example  
of Our Lord and Savior  
Jesus Christ.

O Holy Spirit, I want to open  
my soul to the oceans of grace  
that you are ready to pour into  
my soul especially through  
the Sacrament of Penance and  
through the Holy Eucharist.

Come, O Holy Spirit,  
help me to plan my time well  
so that I might faithfully fulfill  
my duties each day.

Help me to pray  
with greater faith and fervor,  
with greater piety and devotion.

Help me to know how to bring  
peace and joy into the lives  
of all those around me.

Help me to be like Christ,  
willing to serve my loved ones  
and to give myself completely.

Help me, O Divine Spirit,  
to have a great love for Mary,  
the Mother of God and my  
Mother, and to follow her  
example, always being prompt  
to obey your commands. rjs