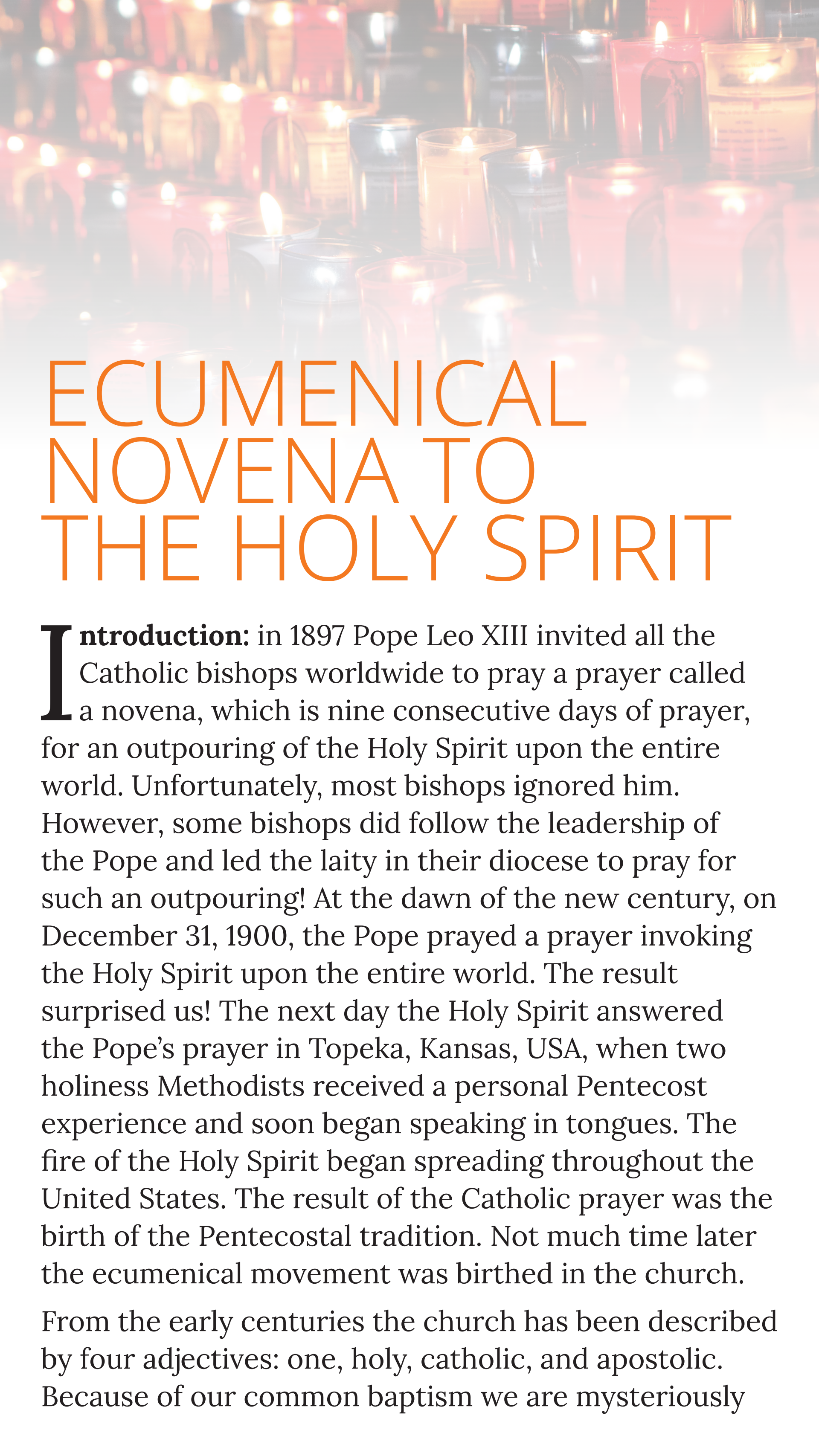




Ecumenical Novena
to the

HOLY
SPIRIT



ECUMENICAL NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Introduction: in 1897 Pope Leo XIII invited all the Catholic bishops worldwide to pray a prayer called a novena, which is nine consecutive days of prayer, for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the entire world. Unfortunately, most bishops ignored him. However, some bishops did follow the leadership of the Pope and led the laity in their diocese to pray for such an outpouring! At the dawn of the new century, on December 31, 1900, the Pope prayed a prayer invoking the Holy Spirit upon the entire world. The result surprised us! The next day the Holy Spirit answered the Pope's prayer in Topeka, Kansas, USA, when two holiness Methodists received a personal Pentecost experience and soon began speaking in tongues. The fire of the Holy Spirit began spreading throughout the United States. The result of the Catholic prayer was the birth of the Pentecostal tradition. Not much time later the ecumenical movement was birthed in the church. From the early centuries the church has been described by four adjectives: one, holy, catholic, and apostolic. Because of our common baptism we are mysteriously

part of the one body of Christ. We share one faith, one hope, one God and one Father of us all. Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father interceding for us. We are invited to join Him in prayer for the unity of the church, according to the will of the Father.

This is why we pray for nine days as one church, one body, in unity, so that the world may believe, that we are in fact holy, that we are in fact universal (catholic), and that we are built upon the apostles and prophets to be evangelistic to a world so lost in its material identity that it does not realize that our true identity is as spiritual beings created by God and only truly happy when we find our identity in Christ our Savior!

We call ourselves Christians, or followers of the Messiah, a diverse group of those who are baptized in Christ, the anointed one, which makes us little anointed ones called to fulfill the will of our Father which is that everyone be saved and come to the knowledge of the Truth (1 Tim 2:4).

We ask you to lay aside your theological divisions this year and join us in praying nine days before Pentecost that every follower of Jesus experience the baptism in the Holy Spirit. We pray that we realize the mystery that we already are one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church, and that we need to proclaim the Truth of who Jesus is to the poor in body and to the poor in spirit!

DAILY PRAYER FORMAT

- Read the prayer focus for the day.
- Pray the opening prayer: *Profess the Apostles Creed*
- Pray for the unity of the church:
Pray the Lord's Prayer.
- Pray for holiness among all followers of Jesus:
Pray the Glory Be.

- Pray for a universal acceptance of the truth of the Gospel: *Pray spontaneously or another prayer of your choice.*
- Pray for an evangelistic Spirit to the poor in body and spirit: *Pray the Surrender prayer.*

CELEBRATING OUR DIVERSITY

St. Paul taught us in Col 3:14 that love is the gift that binds us together in harmony. As Christians of various traditions, we want to celebrate our diversity: in love, who is the person of the Holy Spirit. We do not need to be the same in action but willing to learn from each other. We desire all five renewal streams to be faithful to the Spirit's direction in their tradition as He leads us to the fullness of the Truth. Love does not take offense! As we pray this novena together please do not take offense at how one tradition prays or changes the wording. Please feel free to modify the wording to meet your faith understanding. However, let us stay faithful to the nine focused intentions that the Holy Spirit inspired that birthed the Century of the Holy Spirit that we celebrate together.

DAY 1

OUR NEED FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

Leader, opening prayer: *LORD Jesus, you inspired John the Baptist to proclaim that he was unworthy to remove your sandals but that when you came you would baptize us in Your Holy Spirit. After your resurrection you commanded your disciples to remain in Jerusalem until they received power from on high. LORD, we need your power from on high. We need your Holy Spirit to be fully active in our lives. Send us your Spirit again and*

fill us with your power so we can be Your presence in the world.

Lead the recitation of the Apostles Creed...

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Pray for the unity of the church...

Leader: LORD Jesus, your final prayer to the Father just before you died was that your Church would be one as You and the Father are one. Heal our divisions by changing our hearts. Help us recognize our unity in You and with each other.

Lead the Lord's Prayer...

All: Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom the power and the glory now and forever. Amen.

Pray for holiness among all followers of Jesus...

Leader: LORD, you inspired Peter to remind us to be holy, for you are holy! (1 Peter 1:16) We need your grace to become the holy people you desire us to be. Fill us with your glory and accomplish in us the holiness you desire for us.

Lead the Glory Be...

All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

Pray for a universal acceptance of the truth of the

Gospel: Leader: LORD, you desire everyone to be saved and come to the knowledge of the Truth. Lead us to all truth and help us to repent and believe in the Gospel.

Spontaneous or other form of prayer...

Pray for evangelistic fervor: Leader: LORD, you commanded us to go to the ends of the world and preach your gospel saying "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Make zeal for evangelization spring up in us. Make us zealous for your temple, the body of Christ.

Lead the Surrender prayer...

All: Heavenly Father, you inspired your Son, Jesus, our Lord, to teach us that if we ask for your Holy Spirit then you will surely give him to us. Father, I ask you to immerse me in the life of your Holy Spirit. I surrender my life and my will over to you and ask you to flood me with the love you share with your Son: baptize me in your Holy Spirit. I also ask you, Father, to renew in me the anointing you gave me at my baptism when you anointed me with Jesus' anointing of priest, prophet and king. Help me to live a faithful priestly life, leading others to worship of you. Help me be a modern prophet by bringing your word into every situation. Help me live out Jesus' kingship to renew the culture through your holy will. I ask this through Jesus my Lord. Amen.

DAY 2

RESTORATION OF CHRISTIAN LIFE IN CIVIL & DOMESTIC SOCIETY

Leader, opening prayer: LORD Jesus, we find our identity in you. Life in your body, the church, is what makes us truly happy. It is not about being “Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female.” True life is not about any earthly values, but knowing, loving and serving You. Help us discover our true identity in You. Help us appropriate and live in accord with the fullness of Truth. And help us to lead others to discover their identity in you as well.

Lead the recitation of the Apostles Creed...

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Pray for the unity of the church...

Leader: LORD Jesus, your final prayer to the Father just before you died was that your Church would be one as You and the Father are one. Heal our divisions by changing our hearts. Help us recognize our unity in You and with each other.

Lead the Lord's Prayer...

All: Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom the power and the glory now and forever. Amen.

Pray for holiness among all followers of Jesus...

Leader: LORD, you inspired Peter to remind us to be holy, for you are holy! (1 Peter 1:16) We need your grace to become the holy people you desire us to be. Fill us with your glory and accomplish in us the holiness you desire for us.

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DAY 3

RESTORATION OF FULL COMMUNION OF THE CHURCH

Leader, opening prayer: LORD Jesus, at the last supper you prayed that all who believe in you would be one as you and the Father are one, "that the world might believe in you" and that "your glory would be in" us. Your glory is your manifest presence! We desire to be a people of your manifest presence helping the world believe. Change our hearts, O LORD, to desire the unity of your body and lead us to full communion according to the will of our Father.

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DAY 4

THE MYSTERY OF THE BLESSED TRINITY

Leader, opening prayer: LORD Jesus, in you we are already seated in heavenly places. In you we are temples of the Holy Spirit. In you we have the fullness of grace and blessing. These are mysteries we do not fully understand but accept in faith because you are the fullness of the revelation of the Father’s plan, and you cannot lie. Even though we are not faithful to

you, you are always faithful to us! Lead us to a greater understanding of God!

Lead the recitation of the Apostles Creed...

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Leader: LORD, you inspired Peter to remind us to be holy, for you are holy! (1 Peter 1:16) We need your grace to become the holy people you desire us to be. Fill us with your glory and accomplish in us the holiness you desire for us.

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DAY 5

THE HOLY SPIRIT & THE INCARNATION

Leader, opening prayer: Heavenly Father, you sent the Holy Spirit upon Mary as a young girl and your Word, became flesh. You send your Spirit upon us and we become pregnant with your Word, become temples of your Spirit and become dispensers of grace to a world that desperately needs to experience your unmerited, undeserved gift of supernatural assistance. Help us to become better receivers of your grace so we can become generous dispensers of your mercy and love.

Lead the recitation of the Apostles Creed...

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Pray for holiness among all followers of Jesus...

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DAY 6

THE HOLY SPIRIT & THE CHURCH

Leader, opening prayer: LORD Jesus, we are your very body here on earth. You are the head. We are your hands and feet. You have filled us with every spiritual blessing in the heavens so we can be your very presence to the world. Our charisms are your gifts given to us for the building up of the church as we minister in the world in your name. Enliven our hearts with a deeper understanding of your Spirit and the unity of your Church so we can effectively minister in your name.

Lead the recitation of the Apostles Creed...

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Pray for holiness among all followers of Jesus...

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DAY 7

THE HOLY SPIRIT & THE SOULS OF THE JUST

Leader, opening prayer: LORD Jesus, you have surrounded us with a cloud of witnesses – the communion of saints, – the holy ones of God. These examples of faith are witnesses to your Gospel and give us courage to follow in your footsteps by taking up our cross and following you. We pray for all Christian leaders. Make them examples of holiness. Make them

faithful witnesses to your Gospel. Unite them in one accord and bind our hearts together in love to fulfill our mission here on earth.

Lead the recitation of the Apostles Creed...

All: *I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.*

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DAY 8

ON DEVOTION TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Leader, opening prayer: LORD Jesus, you had to leave this world so that we could receive the promise of the Father. You promised to give us power from on high to proclaim your gospel in your name to the poor in body and spirit, in season and out of season. Perfect in us a deeper love and awareness of the Holy Spirit's omnipresence. Perfect in us an awareness for the Spirit's presence in those we meet. Perfect in us a greater awareness of the Spirit's direction and guidance.

Lead the recitation of the Apostles Creed...

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Lead the Surrender prayer...

All: Heavenly Father, you inspired your Son, Jesus, our Lord, to teach us that if we ask for your Holy Spirit then you will surely give him to us. Father, I ask you to

immerse me in the life of your Holy Spirit. I surrender my life and my will over to you and ask you to flood me with the love you share with your Son: baptize me in your Holy Spirit. I also ask you, Father, to renew in me the anointing you gave me at my baptism when you anointed me with Jesus' anointing of priest, prophet and king. Help me to live a faithful priestly life, leading others to worship of you. Help me be a modern prophet by bringing your word into every situation. Help me live out Jesus' kingship to renew the culture through your holy will. I ask this through Jesus my Lord. Amen.

DAY 9

SURRENDER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Leader, opening prayer: GOD, Holy Spirit: You are the promise of the Father. You console me, lead me, guide me, instruct me, inspire me, convert me, and show me the Father's plan for my life. You teach me the Father's ways. You fill me with praise, adoration, and worship. You surround me with friends who are like minded helping me grow in the calling on my life. I choose to surrender more deeply to your loving care. Immerse me more deeply into the love of the Father!

Lead the recitation of the Apostles Creed...

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He will come to

judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Pray for the unity of the church...

Leader: LORD Jesus, your final prayer to the Father just before you died was that your Church would be one as You and the Father are one. Heal our divisions by changing our hearts. Help us recognize our unity in You and with each other.

Lead the Lord's Prayer...

All: Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom the power and the glory now and forever. Amen.

Pray for holiness among all followers of Jesus...

Leader: LORD, you inspired Peter to remind us to be holy, for you are holy! (1 Peter 1:16) We need your grace to become the holy people you desire us to be. Fill us with your glory and accomplish in us the holiness you desire for us.

Lead the Glory Be...

All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

Pray for a universal acceptance of the truth of the

Gospel: Leader: LORD, you desire everyone to be saved and come to the knowledge of the Truth. Lead us to all truth and help us to repent and believe in the Gospel.

Spontaneous or other form of prayer...

Leader: Pray for evangelistic fervor: LORD, you commanded us to go to the ends of the world and preach your gospel saying “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Make zeal for evangelization spring up in us. Make us zealous for your temple, the body of Christ.

Lead the Surrender prayer...

All: Heavenly Father, you inspired your Son, Jesus, our Lord, to teach us that if we ask for your Holy Spirit then you will surely give him to us. Father, I ask you to immerse me in the life of your Holy Spirit. I surrender my life and my will over to you and ask you to flood me with the love you share with your Son: baptize me in your Holy Spirit. I also ask you, Father, to renew in me the anointing you gave me at my baptism when you anointed me with Jesus’ anointing of priest, prophet and king. Help me to live a faithful priestly life, leading others to worship of you. Help me be a modern prophet by bringing your word into every situation. Help me live out Jesus’ kingship to renew the culture through your holy will. I ask this through Jesus my Lord. Amen.

This ecumenical novena to the Holy Spirit is intended to be prayed daily starting nine days prior to Pentecost Sunday. It is designed to be prayed in groups with Christians of various traditions recognizing our common baptism.

It is our sincere hope that in a world that sees so much division, Christians will be seen, by all cultures, as a unifying factor through our common prayer together. Please consider gathering your friends and neighbors to pray this novena with you in your home, congregation, parish, or workplace.

Please feel free to modify the wording in this novena to meet your Christian tradition’s understanding of the concepts. We are all seeking grace from our Father. Furthermore, please help us spread the word by forwarding this novena to your fellow Christians.

A very special thank you to Catholic theologian Dr. Mary Healy and Pentecostal theologian Dr. David Cole who were very gracious with their time in editing this novena.

Grace and peace,
Deacon Darrell Wentworth, Founder
Awakening the Domestic Church



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