### NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

DAL/ PRAYERS

- Hymn to the Holy Spirit
- Chaplet of Renewal
- Litany of the Holy Spirit
- Reading/Reflection
- Novena Prayer
- Act of Consecration
- Prayer for the Seven Gifts

### HYMN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

1 Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest, and make our hearts your place of rest; come with your grace and heav'nly aid, and fill the hearts which you have made. (2x)

2 To you, the Counselor, we cry, to you, the gift of God most high, the fount of life, the fire of love, the soul's anointing from above. (2x)

3 In you, with graces sevenfold, we God's almighty hand behold while you with tongues of fire proclaim to all the world his holy name. (2x)

4 Your light to ev'ry thought impart, and shed your love in ev'ry heart; the weakness of our mortal state with deathless might invigorate. (2x)

5 Drive far away our wily foe, and your abiding peace bestow; with you as our protecting guide, no evil can with us abide. (2x)

6 Teach us to know the Father, Son, and you, from both, as Three in One that we your name may ever bless and in our lives the truth confess. (2x)

7 Praise we the Father and the Son and Holy Spirit, with them One, and may the Son on us bestow the gifts that from the Spirit flow! (2x)

### (To be recited on ordinary Rosary beads)

#### **Prayer to the Holy Spirit**

L: Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful; R: And enkindle in them the fire of Your love.

L: Send forth Your Spirit and they shall be created. **R:** And You shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us Pray. O God, Who did instruct the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that by the gift of the same Spirit we may always be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolations, through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

#### Apostles Creed\* (On crucifix)...

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only-begotten Son, Our Lord, Who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into Hell, 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 thence He shall 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.

Our Father\*... Hail Mary\*... (on the first bead)...

3 Glory Be's\* (on the first 3 beads)...

#### Chant (before each Mystery)

### (continued)

#### THE FIRST MYSTERY The Eternal Father's Plan to Redeem the World by Sending His Only Begotten Son

(Pause and meditate)

A voice cried out from the highest throne saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go and redeem the world and bring My Kingdom down to them?" In the absence of any response, Jesus, the Eternal Word said, "Here I am, send Me Father." Prayer: O God, by the merits of this mystery, make me an instrument of salvation and renewal for the world. Amen.

Our Father\*... Hail Mary\*... (on single bead)

L: Come Holy Spirit, come into my heart and fill the hearts of the faithful **P: And report the face of the earth (on 10 heads)** 

R: And renew the face of the earth. (on 10 beads)

Glory Be\*... (once)

### (continued)

#### THE SECOND MYSTERY

#### A Little Girl Called Mary was Chosen to be the Daughter of God the Father, Mother of God the Son and Spouse of God the Holy Spirit

#### (Pause and meditate)

God sent an angel to a little girl named Mary in the town of Nazareth in Galilee, to announce the birth of His onlybegotten Son. At the greeting of the angel, the Holy Spirit descended upon her and she conceived of the Holy Spirit. She gave birth to the Redeemer of the world.

Prayer: O God, by the merits of this mystery, give me the grace of purity and of humility, so that by humility I will crush the head of Satan and by purity my soul will be Your tabernacle. Amen.

Our Father\*... Hail Mary\*... (on single bead)

L: Come Holy Spirit, come into my heart and fill the hearts of the faithful

#### R: And renew the face of the earth. (on 10 beads)

Glory Be\*...

### (continued)

#### THE THIRD MYSTERY God Reveals His Son to the World

(Pause and meditate) When the time came, God revealed His Son to the world. First, at His Baptism in the river Jordan when God said, "This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." (Mt 3:17) And again, during the Transfiguration on Mount Tabor when He added, "Listen to Him." (Mt 17:5)

Prayer: O God, by the merit of this mystery, give me the grace to be what You created me to be, so as to do what You created me to do. Amen.

Our Father\*... Hail Mary\*...(on single bead)

L: Come Holy Spirit, come into my heart and fill the hearts of the faithful **R: And renew the face of the earth. (on 10 beads)** 

Glory Be\*...

### (continued)

#### THE FOURTH MYSTERY Jesus Proclaims the Kingdom of God on Earth

(Pause and meditate)

When the right time came, after fasting and being tempted by the devil, Jesus went into the cities of the world and proclaimed the Kingdom of God saying, "Repent! The Kingdom of God is at hand." He went about doing good and calling sinners back to God.

Prayer: O God, by the merits of this mystery, give me the grace to proclaim Your Kingdom on earth by words and actions, so that Your Kingdom will reach the ends of the earth soon. Amen.

Our Father\*... Hail Mary\*...(on single bead)

L: Come Holy Spirit, come into my heart and fill the hearts of the faithful

R: And renew the face of the earth. (on 10 beads)

Glory Be\*...

#### (continued)

#### THE FIFTH MYSTERY Triumph on the Cross

(Pause and Meditate)

"As man was defeated on the tree; man will be redeemed on the tree; so that the tree of man's downfall will be the tree of man's resurrection." And He came to His people, but His people did not welcome Him, rather, they dragged Him to the mountain called Golgotha where they nailed Him on the Cross. On that Cross, Christ announced His Triumph saying, "It is finished." (John 19:30)

Prayer: O God, by the merits of this mystery, strengthen the faith of Your little ones on earth. May they unite with Your Church to conquer the Red Dragon for the manifestation of Your Glorious Reign. Amen.

Our Father\*... Hail Mary\*... (on single bead)

L: Come Holy Spirit, come into my heart and fill the hearts of the faithful

R: And renew the face of the earth. (on 10 beads)

Glory Be\*...

### (continued)

Hail Holy Queen\*...

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of mercy; hail, our life, our sweetness, and our hope. To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve, to you do we send up our signs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, your eyes of mercy towards us; and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed Fruit of your womb, Jesus O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

L: Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us Pray: O comforting Lord, Gift from above, Love of the Father and the Son, Come into my heart with the Fire of Love and purify the hearts of the faithful Sow in us Your sevenfold gifts and let Your dew of sanctifying grace nourish our souls always for the healthy yield of Your Precious Fruit in us; O powerful Consoler. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

### LITANY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

#### (for private use only)

Lord, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.

Father all-powerful, Have mercy on us. Jesus, Eternal Son of the Father, Redeemer of the world, Save us. Spirit of the Father and the Son, boundless life of both, Sanctify us. Holy Trinity, Hear us.

Holy Spirit, Who proceedest from the Father and the Son, Enter our hearts. Holy Spirit, Who art equal to the Father and the Son, Enter our hearts.

Promise of God the Father, \*Have mercy on us. Ray of heavenly light, \* Author of all good, \* Source of heavenly water \* Consuming fire \* Ardent charity \* Spiritual unction \* Spirit of love and truth \* Spirit of wisdom and understanding \* Have mercy on us. Spirit of counsel and fortitude \* Spirit of knowledge and piety \* Spirit of the fear of the Lord \* Spirit of grace and prayer \* Spirit of peace and meekness \* Spirit of modesty and innocence \* Holy Spirit, the Comforter \* Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier \* Holy Spirit, Who governest the Church \* Gift of God, the Most High \* Spirit Who fillest the universe \* Spirit of the adoption of the children of God \* Holy Spirit, inspire us with horror of sin.

### LITANY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

### (continued)

Holy Spirit, come and renew the face of the earth. Holy Spirit, shed Thy light in our souls. Holy Spirit, engrave Thy law in our hearts. Holy Spirit, inflame us with the flame of Thy love. Holy Spirit, open to us the treasures of Thy graces. Holy Spirit, teach us to pray well. Holy Spirit, enlighten us with Thy heavenly inspirations. Holy Spirit, lead us in the way of salvation. Holy Spirit, grant us the only necessary knowledge. Holy Spirit, inspire in us the practice of good. Holy Spirit, grant us the merits of all virtues. Holy Spirit, make us persevere in justice. Holy Spirit, be Thou our everlasting reward. Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, Send us Thy Holy Spirit. Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, Pour down into our souls the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, Grant us the Spirit of wisdom and piety.

L. Come, Holy Spirit! Fill the hearts of Thy faithful, **R. And enkindle in them the fire of Thy love.** 

Let us pray. Grant, O merciful Father, that Thy Divine Spirit may enlighten, inflame and purify us, that He may penetrate us with His heavenly dew and make us fruitful in good works, through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who with Thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, liveth and reigneth, one God, forever and ever.

#### R. Amen.

For the Apostles and member of this devotion Our Father\*... Hail Mary\*... Glory Be\*...

### READING / REFLECTION DAY ONE

Holy Spirit Lord of Light! From thy clear celestial height, Thy pure beaming radiance give!

**The Holy Spirit:** Only one thing is important - eternal salvation. Only one thing, therefore, is to be feared - sin. Sin is the result of ignorance, weakness and indifference. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Light, of Strength and of Love. With His sevenfold gifts, He enlightens the mind and strengthens the will, and inflames hearts with love of God. To ensure our salvation, we ought to invoke the Divine Spirit daily, for "The Spirit helpeth our infirmity. We know not what we should pray for, as we ought. But the Spirit Himself asketh for us."

#### Read: Acts 1:6-8 and John 14:15-25

6 When they had gathered together they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He answered them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

15 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments.16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always,

17 the Spirit of truth, which the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows it. But you know it, because it remains with you, and will be in you.

18 I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

19 In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live.

20 On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you.

21 Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the

# READING / REFLECTION

### (continued)

one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him."

22 Judas, not the Iscariot, said to him, "Master, [then] what happened that you will reveal yourself to us and not to the world?"

23 Jesus answered and said to him, "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him.

24 Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; yet the word you hear is not mine but that of the Father who sent me.

25 "I have told you this while I am with you.

**Prayer:** Almighty and eternal God, who has vouchsafed to regenerate us by water and the Holy Spirit and hast given us forgiveness of all sins, vouchsafe to send forth from Heaven upon us they sevenfold Spirit, the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, the Spirit of Counsel and Fortitude, the Spirit of Knowledge and Piety and fill us with the Spirit of Holy Fear. Amen.

Our Father\*... Hail Mary\*...

Glory be to the Father\*... (seven times)

Act of Consecration\*... (see last page)

### READING / REFLECTION DAY TWO

Come, Thou Father of the poor! Come, with treasure that endure! Come, Thou Light of all that live.

**The Gift of Fear:** The gifts of Fear fills us with sovereign respect for God and makes us dread nothing so much as to offend Him by sin. It is a fear that arises not from the thought of hell, but from sentiments of reverence and filial submission to our Heavenly Father. It is the fear that is the beginning of wisdom detaching us from worldly pleasures that could in any way separate us from God. "They that fear the Lord will prepare their Hearts and in his sight will sanctify their souls."

#### Read: Phil 2:12-18

12 So then, my beloved, obedient as you have always been, not only when I am present but all the more now when I am absent, work out your salvation with fear and trembling. 13 For God is the one who, for his good purpose, works in you both to desire and to work.

14 Do everything without grumbling or questioning,
15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine like lights in the world,
16 as you hold on to the word of life, so that my boast for the day of Christ may be that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.
17 But, even if I am poured out as a libation upon the sacrificial service of your faith, I rejoice and share my joy with all of you.

18 In the same way you also should rejoice and share your joy with me.

**Prayer:** Come O Blessed Spirit of Holy Fear, penetrate my inmost heart, that I set Thee my Lord and God before my face forever; help me to shun all things that can offend Thee and make me worthy to appear before the pure eyes of Thy Divine Majesty in Heaven, where Thou livest and reigneth in

### READING / REFLECTION DAY TWO

### (continued)

the unity of the Ever-Blessed Trinity, God world without end. Amen.

Our Father\*... Hail Mary\*...

Glory be to the Father\*... (seven times)

Act of Consecration\*... (see last page)

### READING / REFLECTION DAY THREE

Thou of all consolers best, Thou, the soul's delightful guest Dost refreshing peace bestowed.

**The Gift of Piety:** The gift of Piety begets in our hearts a filial affection for God as our most loving Father. It inspires us to live and respect, for His sake, persons and things consecrated to Him, as well as those who are vested with His authority, His Blessed Mother and the Saints, the Church and its visible Head, our parents and superiors, our country and its rulers. He who is filled with the gift of piety finds the practice of his religion not a burdensome duty, but a delightful service; where there is love, there is no labour.

#### Read: Rom 6: 1-4

1 What then shall we say? Shall we persist in sin that grace may abound? Of course not!

2 How can we who died to sin yet live in it?3 Or are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

4 We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.

**Prayer:** Come O Blessed Spirit of Piety, possess my heart, enkindle therein such a love for God that I may find satisfaction only in His service, and for His sake lovingly submit to all legitimate authority. Amen.

Our Father\*... Hail Mary\*...

Glory be to the Father\*... (seven times)

Act of Consecration\*... (see last page)

## READING / REFLECTION

Thou in toil art comfort sweet Pleasant coolness in the Heat Solace in the midst of woe

**Fortitude:** By the gift of Fortitude, the soul is strengthened against natural fear and supported to the end in the performance of duty. Fortitude imparts to the will an impulse and energy which moves it to undertake without hesitancy the most arduous tasks to fear danger, to trample underfoot human respect and to endure without complaints the slow martyrdom of even lifelong tribulation. "He that shall persevere unto the end, he shall be saved."

#### Read: Acts 7: 51-60

51 "You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always oppose the holy Spirit; you are just like your ancestors.

52 Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They put to death those who foretold the coming of the righteous one, whose betrayers and murderers you have now become.

53 You received the law as transmitted by angels, but you did not observe it."

54 When they heard this, they were infuriated, and they ground their teeth at him.

55 But he, filled with the holy Spirit, looked up intently to heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God,

56 and he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

57 But they cried out in a loud voice, covered their ears, and rushed upon him together.

58 They threw him out of the city, and began to stone him. The witnesses laid down their cloaks at the feet of a young man named Saul.

59 As they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus,

## READING / REFLECTION DAY FOUR

### (continued)

receive my spirit." 60 Then he fell to his knees and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them"; and when he said this, he fell asleep.

**Prayer:** Come O Blessed Spirit of Fortitude, uphold my soul in times of trouble and adversity, sustain my effort after holiness, strengthen my weakness, give me courage against all the assaults of my enemies, that I may never be overcome and separated from Thee my God and greater Good. Amen.

Our Father\*... Hail Mary\*...

Glory be to the Father\*... (seven times)

Act of Consecration\*... (see last page)

### READING / REFLECTION DAY FIVE

Light immortal, Light divine Visit Thou these hearts of Thine And our inmost being fill

**The Gift of Knowledge:** The gift of Knowledge enables the soul to evaluate created things at their true worth, in their relation to God, knowledge unmasks the pretense of creatures, reveals their emptiness and points our their only true purpose as instruments in the service of God. It shows us the loving care of God even in adversity and directs us to glorify Him in every circumstance of Life. Guided by its light, we put first things first and prize the friendship of God beyond all else. "Knowledge is a fountain of life to him that possesses it."

#### **Read:** 1 Cor 12: 1-11

1 Now in regard to spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be unaware.

2 You know how, when you were pagans, you were constantly attracted and led away to mute idols.

3Therefore, I tell you that nobody speaking by the spirit of God says, "Jesus be accursed." And no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the holy Spirit.

4 There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit;

5 there are different forms of service but the same Lord; 6 there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone.

7 To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.

8 To one is given through the Spirit the expression of wisdom; to another the expression of knowledge according to the same Spirit;

9 to another faith by the same Spirit; to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit;

## READING / REFLECTION DAY FIVE

### (continued)

10 to another mighty deeds; to another prophecy; to another discernment of spirits; to another varieties of tongues; to another interpretation of tongues.

11 But one and the same Spirit produces all of these, distributing them individually to each person as he wishes.

**Prayer:** Come O Blessed Spirit of Knowledge and grant that I may perceive the will of the Father, show me the nothingness of earthly things, that I may realize their vanity and use them only for Thy glory and my own salvation, looking ever beyond them to Thee and Thy eternal rewards. Amen.

Our Father\*... Hail Mary\*...

Glory be to the Father\*... (seven times)

Act of Consecration\*... (see last page)

## READING / REFLECTION DAY SIX

If Thou take Thy grace away, Nothing pure in man will stay, All his good is turned to ill

**The Gift of Understanding:** Understanding is a gift of the Holy Spirit that helps us to grasp the meaning of the truths of our Holy religion. By faith we know them, but by understanding we learn to appreciate and cherish them. It enables us to penetrate the inner meaning of revealed truths and through them to be awakened to newness of life. Our faith ceases to be sterile and inactive, but inspires a mode of life that bears eloquent testimony to the faith that is in us: we begin to "walk worthy to God in all things pleasing and increasing in the knowledge of God."

#### Read: 1 Cor 14: 1-25

1 Pursue love, but strive eagerly for the spiritual gifts, above all that you may prophesy.

2 For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to human beings but to God, for no one listens; he utters mysteries in spirit.

3 On the other hand, one who prophesies does speak to human beings, for their building up,<u>\*</u> encouragement, and solace.

4 Whoever speaks in a tongue builds himself up, but whoever prophesies builds up the church.

5 Now I should like all of you to speak in tongues, but even more to prophesy. One who prophesies is greater than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may be built up.

6 Now, brothers, if I should come to you speaking in tongues, what good will I do you if I do not speak to you by way of revelation, or knowledge, or prophecy, or instruction? 7 Likewise, if inanimate things that produce sound, such as flute or harp, do not give out the tones distinctly, how will what is being played on flute or harp be recognized?

# READING / REFLECTION

#### (continued)

8 And if the bugle gives an indistinct sound, who will get ready for battle?

9 Similarly, if you, because of speaking in tongues, do not utter intelligible speech, how will anyone know what is being said? For you will be talking to the air.

10 It happens that there are many different languages in the world, and none is meaningless;

11 but if I do not know the meaning of a language, I shall be a foreigner to one who speaks it, and one who speaks it a foreigner to me.

12 So with yourselves: since you strive eagerly for spirits, seek to have an abundance of them for building up the church.

13 Therefore, one who speaks in a tongue should pray to be able to interpret.

14 [For] if I pray in a tongue, my spirit is at prayer but my mind is unproductive.

15 So what is to be done? I will pray with the spirit, but I will also pray with the mind. I will sing praise with the spirit, but I will also sing praise with the mind.

16 Otherwise, if you pronounce a blessing [with] the spirit, how shall one who holds the place of the uninstructed say the "Amen" to your thanksgiving, since he does not know what you are saying?

17 For you may be giving thanks very well, but the other is not built up.

18 I give thanks to God that I speak in tongues more than any of you,

19 but in the church I would rather speak five words with my mind, so as to instruct others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue.

20 Brothers, stop being childish in your thinking. In respect to evil be like infants, but in your thinking be mature.

# READING / REFLECTION

### (continued)

21 It is written in the law: "By people speaking strange tongues and by the lips of foreigners I will speak to this people, and even so they will not listen to me, says the Lord." 22 Thus, tongues are a sign not for those who believe but for unbelievers, whereas prophecy is not for unbelievers but for those who believe. 23 So if the whole church meets in one place and everyone speaks in tongues, and then uninstructed people or unbelievers should come in, will they not say that you are out of your minds? 24 But if everyone is prophesying, and an unbeliever or uninstructed person should come in, he will be convinced by everyone and judged by everyone, 25 and the secrets of his heart will be disclosed, and so he will fall down and worship God, declaring, "God is really in your midst." **Prayer:** Come O Spirit of Understanding and enlighten our minds that we may know and believe all the mysteries of salvation and may merit at last to see the eternal Light in Thy

salvation and may merit at last to see the eternal Light in Thy light, and in the light of glory, to have a clear vision of Thee, the Father and the Son. Amen

Our Father\*... Hail Mary\*...

Glory be to the Father\*... (seven times)

Act of Consecration\*... (see last page)

## READING / REFLECTION DAY SEVEN

Heal our wounds, our strength renew On our dryness pour Thy dew, Wash the stains of Guilt away!

**The Gift of Counsel:** The gift of counsel endows the soul with supernatural prudence, enabling it to judge promptly and rightly what must be done especially in difficult circumstances. Counsel applies the principles furnished by knowledge and understanding to the innumerable concrete cases that confront us in the cause of our daily duty as parents, teachers, public servants and Christian citizens. Counsel is supernatural common sense, a priceless treasure in the quest of salvation. "Above all these things, pray to the Most High that he may direct Thy way in truth."

#### Read: Jude 17-23

17 But you, beloved, remember the words spoken beforehand by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ,

18 for they told you, "In [the] last time there will be scoffers who will live according to their own godless desires."

19 These are the ones who cause divisions; they live on the natural plane, devoid of the Spirit.

20 But you, beloved, build yourselves up in your most holy faith; pray in the holy Spirit.

21 Keep yourselves in the love of God and wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.

22 On those who waver, have mercy;

23 save others by snatching them out of the fire; on others have mercy with fear, abhorring even the outer garment stained by the flesh.

**Prayer:** Come O Spirit of Counsel, help and guide me in all my ways to do Thy Holy will. Incline my heart to that which is good, turn it away from all that is evil and direct me by the straight path of Thy commandment, to that goal of eternal life for which I long. Amen.

## READING / REFLECTION DAY SEVEN

### (continued)

Our Father\*... Hail Mary\*... Glory be to the Father\*... (seven times) Act of Consecration\*... (see last page) Prayer for the Seven Gifts\*... (see last page)

## READING / REFLECTION DAY EIGHT

Bend the stubborn heart and will, Melt the frozen, warm the chill, Guide the steps that go astray!

**The Gift of Wisdom:** Embodying all the other gifts as charity embraces all the other virtues, Wisdom is the most perfect of the gifts, of wisdom it is written, "All good things came to me with her, and innumerable riches through her hands." It is the gift of Wisdom that strengthens our faith, fortifies hope, perfects charity and promotes the practice of virtue in the highest degree. Wisdom enlightens the mind to discern and relish things Divine, in the appreciation of which earthly joys lose their savor, whilst the cross of Christ yields a Divine sweetness according to the words of the savior; "Take up thy cross and follow me, for my yoke is sweet and my burden light."

#### Read: James 3: 13-18

13 Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show his works by a good life in the humility that comes from wisdom.

14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth.

15 Wisdom of this kind does not come down from above but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.

16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every foul practice.

17 But the wisdom from above is first of all pure, then peaceable, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits, without inconstancy or insincerity.

18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace.

**Prayer:** Come O Spirit of Wisdom and reveal to my soul the mysteries of Heavenly things, their exceeding greatness,

## READING / REFLECTION DAY EIGHT

### (continued)

power and beauty. Teach me to love them above and beyond all the passing joys and satisfactions on earth. Help me to attain them and possess them forever. Amen

Our Father\*... Hail Mary\*...

Glory be to the Father\*... (seven times)

Act of Consecration\*... (see last page)

### READING / REFLECTION DAY NINE

Thou, on us who evermore Thee confess and Thee adore, In thy sevenfold gifts descend; Give them comfort when they die; Give them life with Thee on high; Give them joy which never ends. Amen.

**The Fruits of the Holy Spirit:** The gifts of the Holy Spirit perfect the supernatural Virtues by enabling us to practice them with greater docility to Divine inspiration. As we grow in the knowledge and love of God, under the direction of the Holy Spirit our service becomes more sincere and generous, the practice of virtue more perfect. Such acts of virtue leave the heart filled with love and consolation and are known as fruits of the Holy Spirit. These fruits in turn render the practice of virtue more attractive and become a powerful incentive for still greater efforts in the service of God, to serve whom is to reign.

**Prayer:** Come O Divine Spirit, fill hearts with Thy Heavenly fruits, Thy Charity, Joy, Peace, Benignity, Goodness, Faith, Mildness and Temperance, that I may never weary in the service of God but by continued faithful submission to Thy inspiration may merit to be united eternally with Thee in the love of the Father and the Son. Amen

Our Father\*... Hail Mary\*...

Glory be to the Father\*... (seven times)

Act of Consecration\*... (see last page)

Prayer for the Seven Gifts\*... (see last page)

**Concluding Prayer:** O Holy Spirit, sweet Guest of my soul, abide in me and grant that I may ever abide in Thee. Amen. We fly to Thy patronage, O Holy Mother of God... In the Name of the Father...

### ACT OF CONSECRATION

On my knees before the great multitude of heavenly witnesses, I offer myself, soul and body to You, Eternal Spirit of God. I adore the brightness of Your purity, the unerring keenness of Your justice, and the might of Your love. You are the Strength and Light of my soul. In You I live and move and am. I desire never to grieve You by unfaithfulness to grace and I pray with all my heart to be kept from the smallest sin against You. Mercifully guard my every thought and grant that I may always watch for Your light, and listen to Your voice, and follow Your gracious inspirations. I cling to You and give myself to You and ask You, by Your compassion to watch over me in my weakness. Holding the pierced Feet of Jesus and looking at His Five Wounds, and trusting in His Precious Blood and adoring His opened Side and stricken Heart, I implore You, Adorable Spirit, Helper of my infirmity, to keep me in Your grace that I may never sin against You. Give me grace, O Holy Spirit, Spirit of the Father and the Son to say to You always and everywhere, "Speak Lord for Your servant heareth." Amen.

### PRAYER FOR THE SEVENGIFTS

O Lord Jesus Christ Who, before ascending into heaven did promise to send the Holy Spirit to finish Your work in the souls of Your Apostles and Disciples, deign to grant the same Holy Spirit to me that He may perfect in my soul, the work of Your grace and Your love. Grant me the Spirit of Wisdom that I may despise the perishable things of this world and aspire only after the things that are eternal, the Spirit of Understanding to enlighten my mind with the light of Your divine truth, the Spirit of Counsel that I may ever choose the surest way of pleasing God and gaining heaven, the Spirit of Fortitude that I may bear my cross with You and that I may overcome with courage all the obstacles that oppose my salvation, the Spirit of Knowledge that I may know God and know myself and grow perfect in the science of the Saints, the Spirit of Piety that I may find the service of God sweet and amiable, and the Spirit of Fear that I may be filled with a loving reverence towards God and may dread in any way to displease Him. Mark me, dear Lord, with the sign of Your true disciples and animate me in all things with Your Spirit. Amen.



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