

Novena to the Holy Spirit 2020



This novena will be prayed at St Clare's after the 10am Mass each morning from the Friday after the Ascension until the day before Pentecost (22nd-30th May). We invite you to pray at home, united with us in faith and in our desire for a renewal of the Holy Spirit's gifts.

NOVENA PRAYERS

O Holy Spirit, beloved of my soul, I adore You. Enlighten me, guide me, strengthen and console me. Tell me what I should do. Give me Your orders. I promise to submit myself to all that You desire of me and to accept all that You permit to happen to me. Let me only know Your will. Amen. *(Prayer of Cardinal Mercier)*

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful
and kindle 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.

Let us pray.

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 always truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER INTENTION AND SCRIPTURE READING

Today's intention for prayer is announced, and a passage of Scripture is read (see next page).

OUR FATHER, HAIL MARY, GLORY BE

NOVENA PRAYER TO OUR LADY

O Mary, our Mother,
you joined yourself in prayer to the disciples of Jesus
in the days after His Ascension,
praying that each might receive in abundance
the Spirit of Truth promised by your Son.
Through your prayer you nurtured
the beginnings of the Church
as she came to birth.
Renew now that gift to your children:
Intercede for us in these days,
that we too may receive in its fulness
the Spirit of your Son:
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and fortitude,
the Spirit of knowledge and piety,
the Spirit of the fear of the Lord.
Amen.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Each day there will be a particular intention for prayer in our novena:

Friday 22nd May: For the unity of the Church and of the human family (Ephesians 4:1-16)

On this first day of the novena, we pray that the Holy Spirit will draw into ever deeper communion all the members of the Church, the mystical Body of Christ. We also pray for a deeper unity in our human family.

Saturday 23rd May: For deeper knowledge and love of God (John 14:23-26)

Today we pray that the Holy Spirit, who teaches and calls us to conversion, will lead each of us to a fuller knowledge and deeper love of God, so that we may grow in the Lord's likeness and feel Him close to us.

Sunday 24th May: For an increase in love of and care for God's creation (Psalm 103(104))

On the fifth anniversary of Laudato si', we ask the Holy Spirit to inspire us to show greater care for our common home, out of love for others and gratitude to God, whose creation is a sign of His love for us.

Monday 25th May: For the protection of human life (Luke 1:39-45)

Today we pray for protection for human life at every stage, from conception to natural end, asking that the Holy Spirit will teach all peoples to recognise and respect the sanctity of life.

Tuesday 26th May: For reconciliation, peace and healing (John 20:19-23)

Today we prayerfully call on the Holy Spirit to bring about reconciliation where there is discord, deep peace in the hearts of His people, and healing for all who have been injured by the words or actions of others. We pray especially for victims of violence and abuse, and all who have been abandoned or forgotten.

Wednesday 27th May: For vocations (1 Corinthians 12:3b-7)

We ask God's Holy Spirit, who inspires us to follow Christ, to open our hearts to respond generously to His call. We pray especially for those the Lord is calling to serve Him in the priesthood, diaconate, religious or consecrated life, and for those being called to Christian marriage.

Thursday 28th May: For a renewal of our society (Ezekiel 37:11-14)

We pray that the Holy Spirit may inspire leaders and citizens to bring about a renewal in our society, asking that the current sufferings may lead us to a deeper appreciation of what is most important, and so may bring about a lasting benefit to our communities, our country and our world.

Friday 29th May: For an end to the pandemic (Luke 4:16-21)

Today we ask the Holy Spirit to bring an end to the suffering caused by the pandemic, praying for relief for those who suffer, strength for those who care for the sick, and guidance for medics and scientists searching for vaccines and treatments. We pray also for those who are isolated at this time, and for those whose livelihoods are threatened.

Saturday 30th May: For evangelisation (Acts 1:1-8)

Today we pray for the spread of the Gospel, asking that more and more people may come to hear and believe the Good News. We pray especially for all those who do not know Christ, that they may receive the joy which comes from faith. We also pray for all those who are persecuted for their faith and for preaching Jesus Christ to others, asking that the Holy Spirit will give them courage and keep them faithful.

Pentecost Day of Recollection

On Saturday 30th May you are welcome to join us for an online Day of Recollection on our YouTube channel, in preparation for Pentecost. The full timetable, more details and resources for the day will be available at www.saintclares.co.uk.