

Novena to the Holy Spirit

Presented by: The Missionary Cenacle Family

Introduction

“We are to make the Holy Spirit better known and loved. By steadfast prayer in our Cenacles we seek to attract the Holy Spirit so that our own hearts may be enkindled with God’s love and that we may spread this fire to others. We ask to be filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, wisdom and fortitude especially.”

Article 11, Rule of Life of the Missionary Cenacle Family

The purpose of this booklet is to aid any Catholic in prayer. In particular, it is designed to increase awareness of the power of the Holy Spirit at work in the world and in our lives.

The Holy Spirit is sometimes called “the forgotten member of the Trinity.” Catholic devotions of all kinds abound and enrich our faith, but devotion to the Holy Spirit is frequently overlooked.

This booklet contains several novenas to the Holy Spirit currently in use by members of the Missionary Cenacle Family. It has been a tradition since 1913 for groups of members to take turns maintaining a perpetual novena to the Holy Spirit. The first novena presented here is a traditional novena long in use. Others are the contribution of members.

It is suggested that you pray a novena with specific intentions in mind. Ask for each gift of the Holy Spirit for a specific person or situation in particular need of that gift.

Reflection on the fruits of your prayer is an important follow-up to the novena. The fruits are very often not the results we imagined. The Holy Spirit has a way of turning everything upside down and leading us in quite unexpected directions if we are open to it. Indeed, prayer to the Holy Spirit can be a dangerous proposition.

So, if you are not afraid to try it, it is our hope that these novenas may serve to enkindle your heart with God’s love and help you spread God’s love to others.

Traditional Novena to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, replenish the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your divine love. O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit did teach the hearts of the faithful, grant that we, guided by the same Spirit, may relish what is right and always enjoy His consolation, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Come, **Spirit of Wisdom**, grant that we may truly value and relish heavenly goods and show us the means by which we may attain them.

Glory 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.

Come, **Spirit of Understanding**, enlighten our minds concerning the mysteries of salvation, so that we may thoroughly understand and fervently embrace them.

Glory to the Father, etc.

Come, **Spirit of Counsel**, incline our hearts to do what is right and just, so that we may benefit ourselves and our neighbors.

Glory to the Father, etc.

Come, **Spirit of Fortitude**, strengthen us by your grace against the enemies of our souls, so that the crown of victory may be given to them that overcome.

Glory to the Father, etc.

Come, **Spirit of Knowledge**, teach us to live so in the midst of things temporal that we may not lose things eternal.

Glory to the Father, etc.

Come, **Spirit of Piety**, incite and urge us to live soberly, justly and piously in this world, so that we may attain heaven in the next.

Glory to the Father, etc.

Come, Spirit of the Fear of the Lord, pierce our flesh with your fear, so that we may work the salvation of our souls with fear and trembling.

Glory to the Father, etc.

V. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.

R. And you will renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray

O God, who has united the diversity of nations in the confession of your name, grant that they who have been born again by the water of baptism may have the same faith in their hearts and the same piety in their actions.

O God, who did give the Holy Spirit to your apostles, hear the prayers of your people that they may enjoy a happy peace, who, by your grace have received the gift of true faith.

Let your Holy Spirit, O Lord, we beseech you, kindle in our hearts that fire which our Lord Jesus Christ brought on earth and earnestly desired that it should be enkindled.

Inflame, O Lord, our reins and hearts with the fire of the Holy Spirit, that we may serve you with a chaste body and please you with a clean heart.

Enrich, O Lord, our hearts by a plentiful pouring out of your Holy Spirit, by whose wisdom we were created and by whose providence we are governed.

Grant, we beseech you, O almighty and merciful God, that your Holy Spirit may defend and dwell in our souls and so thoroughly purify us that we may at length become the temples of His glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Second Novena

Reading “The Providence of God,” Fr. Thomas Judge, CM
from Missionary Cenacle Meditations, page 84

There has been a constant flowing of grace through our cenacles, and the joy and peace that comes from doing corporal and spiritual works of mercy. How thankful we should be that the Triune God gives us the grace to be His servants. I leave it to yourselves to reflect in your own minds your reasons to be thankful.

There is a Catholic truth so lovely and consoling, which we call the Providence of God. I see you here, and I could say, “Why did the Holy Spirit bring you into this place? Why were you gathered from so many places to land here?”

I did not intend to be here myself! It would seem to be an accident that I am here. But I know that it was no accident. I just want to know what God wants me to do. I can only tell you what is in my mind at present, and I have every reason to believe that what is in my mind is of the Holy Spirit.

Silent reflection

God our Father, source of all love and joy, you never measure out the grace of your Spirit but offer it to everyone with royal generosity. We pray to you to pour into our hearts the fullness of love, so that we are able to love you in a way which spills out to others. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Come Holy Spirit, spirit of **Wisdom**. Open our eyes to see all of life, events, and people with the vision of our God, who creates all and sees that it is good.

Glory 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.

Come Holy Spirit, spirit of **Understanding**. Give us deep insight into the wonder and mystery of our life’s journey as we walk by faith as light in the darkness.

Glory to the Father.....

Come Holy Spirit, spirit of **Counsel**. Teach us to listen closely to hear your voice, for you speak to us in so many different ways.

Glory to the Father.....

Come Holy Spirit, spirit of **Fortitude**. Pierce through and calm all our fears. Strengthen us with a firm faith, so we may live and proclaim your word with courage.

Glory to the Father.....

Come Holy Spirit, spirit of **Knowledge**. Expand our minds and hearts so that as we come together with all men and women of good will, we may learn and grow in your ways.

Glory to the Father.....

Come Holy Spirit, spirit of **Reverence**. lead us in the praise of our God, for all creation reflects God’s glory and overflowing goodness.

Glory to the Father.....

Come Holy Spirit, spirit of **Wonder and Awe**. Fill us with a sense of the greatness of our God, into whose hands we entrust our spirits, now and forever.
Glory to the Father.....

God of light, from whom every good gift comes, send your Spirit into our lives with the power of a mighty wind, and by the flame of your wisdom, open the horizons of our minds. Let our tongues sing your praise. Set our hearts on fire with your love.

Third Novena

Reading "Fidelity to Grace," Fr. Thomas Judge, CM
from Missionary Cenacle Meditations, page 112

It is evident that the Holy Spirit has favored and blessed you very much in calling you to a work that is so dear to the Holy Trinity. Why you have been favored above others is a mystery, but this much we do know: that God will demand much from us for the graces we have received.

We cannot hope to do anything for God except by His grace. It should be our hunger to obtain even more of this grace. But how can we obtain more? First, by cooperating with the graces we have received. Second, by always thanking the Holy Spirit for the graces we have received, and asking Him for more. Third, by always being watchful for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit speaks to us through others, through nature, through adversity, through a good book, through a good friend. Every attraction towards the sacraments manifests clearly the Holy Spirit in our souls. May the Holy Spirit of God bless and enlighten you.

Silent reflection

Opening Prayer

Holy Spirit, we gather humbly before you and ask you to renew in us the graces we received through the sacraments. Breathe in us, pray in us, work through our lives. Call and guide us, strengthen and heal us. We come before you in prayer, not as one who is apart from us, but as God who dwells in the depths of our souls. Amen.

Come, Spirit of **Wisdom**. Grant us the ability to accept and embrace the mystery of life, to struggle with its meanings, and to reverence the holiness of all creation.

Come, Spirit of **Understanding**. Grant us the sensitivity and courage to affirm the dignity and difference of each human being. Give us the vision to recognize in the vulnerability of each person the hidden presence of God.

Come, Spirit of **Counsel**. Open our ears to hear your voice when you speak to us through those around us. Increase our humility, so we may listen for your words in others' voices, and so we may ask for guidance when we need it.

Come, Spirit of **Fortitude**. Uphold and nourish and strengthen us. Sustain us, empower us, set us on fire with zeal to do your work. Give us the boldness and confidence we need to stand up against all our foes, especially those we carry within us.

Come, Spirit of **Knowledge**. Grant us a searching spirit for the truth of the Father within each person and the ability to assertively express our experiences as we journey towards deeper revelation of the truth.

Come, Spirit of **Reverence**. Grant us a prayerful spirit that penetrates all our words and actions. Help us live fully the mystery of the Incarnation and so reveal the Unknown God to all who grope for him.

Come, Spirit of **Wonder and Awe**. Infuse us with a sense of awe. Let us come to you in wonder of your grace. Lead us to depend solely on you.

Come, Holy Spirit, sanctifying and all powerful God of Love. You filled the Virgin Mary with grace. You transformed the hearts of the apostles. You filled the martyrs with a miraculous heroism. Come and sanctify us, enlighten our minds, and strengthen our wills. Purify us and preserve us from all misfortune. We place ourselves in your hands, confident in your great love for us.

Fourth Novena

Reading: “Drawn by the Spirit,” Fr. Thomas Judge, CM
from Missionary Cenacle Meditations, page 174

Are we not of the apostolic spirit? Does not the spirit of the apostles appeal to us? Perhaps afar off, maybe imperfectly we follow the footsteps of the apostles. We have come here, and who brings us here unless it is the same Spirit that brought Jesus into the desert? “No one,” says the Apostle, “can say ‘Jesus is Lord’, except in the Holy Spirit.” (1 Cor. 12:3.) How could we be here were it not for the Holy Spirit? Problems are coming up as the year advances, and we need the blessing of God. This we will have only in the Spirit of God.

Recognize this as a primary, basic truth: you are here through the Holy Spirit. We have been lifted up just as marvelously as Habacuc, if not by the hair of our heads, at least drawn into solitude. The same Spirit that found Jesus in the desert is the cause of our being here. I could give many reasons for my not being here and I think you could too. We can say, “Lord, here we are,” that we may attract the Spirit of God, that our *Veni, Sancte Spiritus* may be heard— that it may be soul stirring— that he may come. Let us incite ourselves to devotion to the Holy Spirit.

(Scripture reflections suggested following each gift.)

Spirit of **Wisdom**, come to me. In all my ways guide me, that mind and soul may be as one. Come, wise Spirit, come.

Romans 12:3-8

Spirit of **Understanding**, enlighten me. Let this mind of mine perceive deeply. Let me comprehend and believe calmly. Come, understanding Spirit, come.

John 14:20

Spirit of **Counsel**, whisper to me. Keep me humble as I ask for advice and guidance in the problems of my life. Come, counseling Spirit, come.

Isaiah 30:21

Spirit of **Knowledge**, inform me. May I know the truths revealed, and know myself through truths of faith. Come, knowing Spirit, come.

Ephesians 3:14-21

Spirit of **Strength**, uphold me. Sustain this life, this breath, this soul, this flesh, and stand with me against the foe. Come, strong Spirit, come.

Psalms 63

Spirit of **Devotion**, raise me up. In flame my heart with love and adoration, with praise and gratitude, with hope and joy. Come, devoted Spirit, come.

Galatians 4:1-7

Spirit of the **Fear of the Lord**, penetrate me. With loving awe, let me come to you in reverence for your holiness, in wonder at your grace: on this alone may I depend. Come, awesome Spirit, come.

II Corinthians 3:18

We give you thanks, Holy Spirit, for you speak to us in ways that surprise us. You uncover truths we keep hidden from ourselves. You support us in tasks we are afraid to undertake alone.

We give you thanks, Holy Spirit, for the gift of life, and for all the signs of life surrounding us. Remind us as we experience the beauty of creation that we are experiencing you.

Nurture us, Spirit of Hope. Stay close to us. Root us in you. Make us desire you so much that our only fear is to lose you and our greatest joy is your love for us.

Fifth Novena

Reading: “The Presence of God,” Fr. Thomas Judge, CM
from Missionary Cenacle Meditations, page 3

Live more in the presence of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Realize more and more that every human being whom you meet is the living image of the Blessed Trinity. Respect and honor all as a consequence. Rejoice if opposition comes, and please God by yielding to no movement of discouragement.

“And immediately the Spirit drove him forth into the desert.”(Mk. 1:12) What spirit is this which had so much power over Jesus? It is the Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit, the third person of the Blessed Trinity who led Jesus. The same Holy Spirit that led Jesus is leading us. If we listen to Jesus we shall be changed– led to higher things, away from trifling matters. Begin each day thoughtfully, with a spirit of joy and thanksgiving.

I do not know what God is speaking to you– what the Holy Spirit is speaking to you. That is God’s secret. It is yours provided that you listen to God’s voice. Be in that solitude with our Lord and open your heart to Him. Jesus is saying: “The Holy Spirit is driving me into my solitude. Come with me.”

Blessed Spirit of **Wisdom**, help me to seek God. Make God the center and order of my life, so that love and harmony may reign in my soul.

Blessed Spirit of **Understanding**, enlighten my mind, that I may know and love the truths of faith and make them my own.

Blessed Spirit of **Counsel**, enlighten and guide me in all my ways, that I may always know and do your holy will. Make me prudent and courageous.

Blessed Spirit of **Fortitude**, uphold my soul in every time of trouble and adversity. Make me loyal and confident.

Blessed Spirit of **Knowledge**, help me to know good from evil. Teach me to do what is right in your sight. Give me clear vision and firmness in decision.

Blessed Spirit of **Piety**, possess my heart. Incline it to a true faith in you, to a holy love of you, my God. Awaken in me the desire to seek you with my whole soul, you who are my truest joy.

Blessed Spirit of **Holy Fear**, penetrate my inmost heart so I may always be aware of your presence. Make me run from sin. Give me intense reverence for you and for every human person, whom you made in your image.

Holy Spirit, confident in your deep and personal love for me, I place into your hands the petitions I have been carrying in my heart.

Teach me, Holy Spirit, to seek and know you. Grant me true repentance and sincere patience with myself and others. Keep me from sin. Increase my faith, my hope, and my love for my brothers and sisters. Nurture within me the virtues I particularly need.

Guide me in the way of true discipleship. Strengthen in me an attitude of obedience, a recognition of your words even when they may come from unexpected sources. Give me discerning ears.

Take some time for silence.

Blessed be God the Father, who has created us.

Blessed be God the Son, who has redeemed us.

Blessed be God the Holy Spirit, who sanctifies us.

Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

Sixth Novena

Reading: “A Prayerful Spirit,” Fr. Thomas Judge, CM
from Missionary Cenacle Meditations, page 163

The highest of all gifts that God has given us is the very Source of all gifts, the gift of the Holy Spirit himself. The Spirit of God within us makes us pleasing to God by the inpouring of his grace and this he gives to help us in the great work of prayer. He grants us this help in three ways: in attracting us to prayer, in teaching us prayer, and in helping us in prayer.

Our prayer should not be narrow, personal prayer; it should reach to the throne of God only after having touched the farthest bounds of God’s creation and mourned in every human misery, and rejoiced in God’s goodness to all. We should pray for the Church, for the Holy Father, for saints and for sinners on earth. We pray that the reign of the Holy Spirit will come in the hearts of all. We pray for every need of the Church.

Let me sum up: you must be men and women of prayer, then you will be men and women of charity. May you receive the Holy Spirit and ever remain faithful to his inspirations. This is my prayer for you.

Opening prayer

Loving Father, we pause from the activities of the day to remember that you are the one who has called us to be here, and you are the one who calls us to put our gifts at the service of one another. We come before you with open hands and hearts. We ask you to pour out your Holy Spirit on us. We come as people of faith, standing ready to hear and follow your call wherever you lead us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Come Holy Spirit, Spirit of **Wisdom**. Grant that we may recognize and appreciate what is good, what is true, what is beautiful. Help us to discern their presence, even when they may be hidden in our midst.

Come Holy Spirit, Spirit of **Understanding**. Enlighten our minds concerning the mysteries of salvation, the mysteries of life and love, of person and relationship. Grant that we may understand them more fully and live them more deeply.

Come Holy Spirit, Spirit of **Counsel**. Incline our hearts to do what is right and just. Help us to be attentive to your call within ourselves, and respectful of your call in others. Grant that each of us might mature in faith, hope and love, until we come to the fullness of life in Christ.

Come Holy Spirit, Spirit of **Fortitude**. Give us the strength, courage, and perseverance to live each day joyfully and enthusiastically. May we speak the truth with gentleness, act justly, love tenderly, and walk with our God.

Come Holy Spirit, Spirit of **Knowledge**. Teach us how to live in the here and now, to see things as they really are, to accept ourselves and others with our limitations as well as our giftedness. Help us to live in this reality without losing the vision of how things might be and give the hope to attain them.

Come Holy Spirit, Spirit of **Reverence**. Fill us with the sense of your presence that this awareness may both influence and be reflected in all our thoughts, words, deeds, and relationships.

Come Holy Spirit, Spirit of **Love**. Fill us with your life-giving grace. Unite us to all those who love you so that we might be a mutual support to one another as we reach out to those in need.

Stay with us, Holy Spirit, we pray. Grace us with your presence, and with it, the fullness of our own humanity. Help us to claim our strength and our need, our awesomeness and our fragile beauty. We ask this so that, encouraged by the truth, we might work to restore compassion to the human family and renew the face of the earth. Amen.

Seventh Novena

Reading: “The Gift of Fortitude,” Fr. Thomas Judge, CM
from Missionary Cenacle Meditations, page 171

Everything is a gift of God. Every breath we breathe, every step we take, every heart beat, all our seeing and hearing, the food we eat, all that we possess, all that we can sense and visibly perceive are gifts of the Holy Spirit, but in the natural order. Now there are other gifts; the best gift and every perfect gift coming down from this same Father of lights, are the supernatural gifts.

These are above the gifts of nature, far higher than heaven is above earth. We group them together: Faith, Hope and Charity; sacramental gifts; virtues; all that we speak of as the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit. There is one of those gifts to which I would direct your prayerful attention, and that is the Gift of Fortitude. This gift is preeminent among the gifts. We may even say the most necessary of them.

We may indeed have the Gift of Knowledge, we may have the Gift of Understanding, even the queenly Gift of Wisdom, but unless we have fortitude we will be faithless to grace and to the lights of the Holy Spirit. It will avail us little to know our duty and not to do it. But often to do God’s will demands Christian courage, demands fortitude. Frequently we should plead with the Spirit of God for fortitude, seven times a day, and if we still fail, seventy times a day. We should say, “Holy Spirit, give me the gift of fortitude.”

Reading: Ephesians 3: 14-21

This, then, is what I pray, kneeling before the Father, from whom every family, whether spiritual or natural, takes its name:

Out of his infinite glory, may God give you the power through his Spirit for your hidden self to grow strong, so that Christ may live in your hearts through faith, and then, planted in love and built on love, you will with all the saints have the strength to grasp the breadth and length, the height and depth, until knowing the love of Christ, which is beyond all knowledge, you are filled with the utter fullness of God.

Glory be to God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory be to God from generation to generation in the Church and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

Come, Spirit of **Wisdom**. Send me your holy wisdom, so that I may choose what is best even when choosing from among many good things.

Come, Spirit of **Understanding**. Send me your true insight, so that I may begin to grasp my own role within the vast unfolding of your will.

Come, Spirit of **Counsel**. Send me your guiding words through the voices of the people you have placed in my life.

Come, Spirit of **Fortitude**. Send me your steady strength, so that I may have the courage to risk my comfort and security in the quest to become who I am, the person you created.

Come, Spirit of **Knowledge**. Send me the intelligence to recognize the truth, and the will to believe it even when I don’t want to.

Come, Spirit of **Piety**. Send me the discipline to pray faithfully and the thirst to continually nurture my spiritual development.

Come, Spirit of **Wonder and Awe**. Send me profound respect for all creation, and the grace to know and accept my place within it.

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.

Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my works, too, may be holy.

Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I may love only what is holy. Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, that I may defend all that is holy. Guard me, O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy.

St. Augustine

Eighth Novena

Reading: “Love of God and Neighbor,” Fr. Thomas Judge
from Missionary Cenacle Meditations, page 172

I would also call your attention to a particular fruit of the Holy Spirit, charity. Charity is the love of God, is the love of our neighbor. The love of God demands of us that we do much for him. It exacts that we know God, that we serve him. It should be our ceaseless searching to discover that way, to live in that way in which we can better know, love and serve God.

How ardently I pray the Holy Spirit to infuse into us this holy virtue, the love of God. The love of God makes all things easy. If you falter by the way, your trouble will be, not that you did not receive grace, but that you did not cooperate with the loving advances of the Holy Spirit.

Pray, then, pray much, pray often during the novena that you may have an abundance of this fruit of holy charity. Truly loving God, you will surely love your neighbor. God’s love will make the burdens of life easy to bear. No prayer will please heaven more than the prayer of the heart for charity.

God of fire and love, grant us the gift of **Wisdom**, the ability to look upon life as a great and remarkable gift from you. Help us to recognize your presence in all people, places, and things. Help us to judge events in our lives according to our belief in you.

Come Holy Spirit, renew our hearts, inspire our wisdom!

God of breath and life, grant us the gift of **Understanding**, and lead us beyond just knowing the beliefs of the Church. Help us grasp the meaning of what we believe. Help us act in ways that show our Christian faith makes a difference. Help us discover your plan in our lives.

Come Holy Spirit, renew our hearts, inspire our understanding!

God of wind and light, grant us the gift of **Knowledge**, the certainty of knowing that You care for us. Help us lead lives of loving action wherever we are— at home, at work, at school, in the world. Show us how the truths of our faith give direction to our lives. Lead us when we come together to share our faith.

Come Holy Spirit, renew our hearts, inspire our knowledge.

God of water and oil, grant us the gift of **Right Judgement**. Help us to see right and good things to do among the many choices we have to make every day. Help us to choose the right way to act. Help us to guide others and to seek guidance of others when we need it.

Come Holy Spirit, renew our hearts, inspire our judgement.

God of healing and strength, grant us the gift of **Courage**, the strength to maintain our beliefs as Christians. Help us to choose what is right in spite of hardship and suffering. Help us to make the world a better place for all people.

Come Holy Spirit, renew our hearts, inspire our courage.

God of holiness and healing, grant us the gift of **Reverence**. Help us to honor you as most loving creator, and all people as our brothers and sisters. Help us to praise you freely, and to grow as we pray. Help us to act peacefully in our love.

Come Holy Spirit, renew our hearts, inspire our reverence.

God of commitment and power, grant us the gift of **Wonder and Awe**, respecting your goodness and majesty. Help us to always value your plan for the world, and to desire to build up your reign on earth. Help us to cherish all of your creation, because it conveys your love. Help us to be forever grateful for your abundant love and life.

Come Holy Spirit, renew our hearts, inspire our wonder and awe.

Grant, almighty Father, that we may so please your Holy Spirit by our prayers, that by your grace, we may be freed from all temptations. Through Christ our Lord, amen.

Ninth Novena

Reading: "The Apostles," Fr. Thomas Judge, CM
from Missionary Cenacle Meditations, page 143

What a grace to think the thoughts of an Apostle! What a blessing to pray the prayers of an Apostle. What a privilege to make the confession of an Apostle. What a destiny to be of the Church of the Apostles. What a promise to be of their faith! To be inspired with their love means to inherit their promise of the kingdom of heaven.

Unworthy would we be of these graces if we did not wish to exert ourselves to follow them. What we have through them we must share with others. Here is where charity grips us to do our share that God's name be hallowed, that his kingdom come, and that his holy will be done.

The Holy Spirit governs the Church. Each and every one of us is personally responsible to the Spirit for these inspirations and for the holy impulses and graces we receive. What fruit will these bring forth for good? What is our contribution to the Church of the Apostles? What are we doing to diffuse the light and give out the warmth of Catholic truth and charity?

Opening Prayer

Divine Spirit of God, come down upon this group with the fullness of your power, your light, and your strength. Make our hearts overflow with your gifts of wisdom and understanding, counsel and strength, knowledge and fear of the Lord. Help us today and in the days ahead to make known the glory of God shining in the face of Jesus. Amen.

Spirit of **Wisdom**, adjust our values and give us the means to discern and attain that which is essential.

Spirit of **Understanding**, give us the enlightenment to grasp the mysteries of your redemptive love and to embrace all that they entail.

Spirit of **Counsel**, incline our hearts to justice, that we may do what is right and just for all.

Spirit of **Knowledge**, grant that we may be permeated with eternal values as we labor for a better society.

Spirit of **Fortitude**, give us the strength to overcome all that is an obstacle to what you want us to do.

Spirit of **Piety**, let your love permeate and encompass our whole lives and all that we do.

Spirit of the **fear of the Lord**, grant us the fear that keeps alive the sense of the sacred and which directs all our acts toward good.

"If you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the Torah. The Spirit's fruit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!... If we live in the Spirit, let us also follow the Spirit."

Galatians 5:18, 22-2

Take this time to reflect on the experience of the Novena.
(A long silence or meditative music may be appropriate here.)

What have the past nine days been like for you? How hard was it to remain faithful to the commitment of the novena? What did you learn?

Please share with the group something of your experience. In particular, mention any fruits of the Holy Spirit which you are aware of receiving.

Alternate sides

Holy Spirit, anoint our minds so that being consecrated in truth we may witness by our lives the mysteries of faith.

Holy Spirit, anoint our bodies that we may be renewed in physical strength.

Holy Spirit, anoint our eyes so that we may see beyond ordinary experiences to the extraordinary revelation of your love in the daily providence of our lives.

Holy Spirit, anoint our ears so that we may hear and respond to the needs and concerns of those we live with as well as those we minister to.

Holy Spirit, anoint our hands so that they will have the courage to reach out and touch others, bringing your healing and compassion.

Holy Spirit, anoint our tongues so that we may proclaim the Good News to the blind, the lame, the sick, the dying, to those who are in any way abandoned.

Closing Prayer

O most Holy Spirit, anoint the very depths of our hearts that we may be sensitive to your promptings, guidance, and direction. Awaken in us the reality of your presence as we go forth commissioned in the name of the Triune God.

Blessed be God the Father, who has created us.
Blessed be God the Son, who has redeemed us.
Blessed be God the Holy Spirit, who sanctifies us.
Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity,
now and forever.
Amen.

The Missionary Cenacle Family

The Missionary Cenacle Family has maintained a perpetual novena to the Holy Spirit since 1913. We offer it for the following intentions:

- for a spread of devotion to the Most Blessed Trinity, and in a particular way to the Holy Spirit
- for the spread of a knowledge of and a devotion to the mystery of the Incarnation, and all the mysteries of our Lord
- to exalt the holy name of Jesus
- to console the heart of Jesus
- for priests
- for the success of the Ecumenical movement and for the coming of the Reign of God among all God's people

These novenas are anonymous works which have circulated within the Missionary Cenacle Family and individual acknowledgments are not possible. The readings from Father Judge were edited for the sake of clarity and brevity.

The Missionary Cenacle Family is a spiritual family within the Roman Catholic Church. It was founded to give glory to the Triune God through works of charity and by spreading certain devotions of the Church.

The chief devotions of the Missionary Cenacle Family are to the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, the Eucharist, and the Incarnation. Our major feast days are Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, and the Feast of the Annunciation. It is through contemplation of these mysteries that members of the Missionary Cenacle Family find the insight and courage needed to carry out our various ministries in the Church. Our founder, Fr. Thomas Judge, taught us to have a practical kind of devotion, what he called a "devotional knowledge," to these and other mysteries.

We find in particular that a devotion to the Holy Spirit encourages us to ask for the graces we need to meet the challenges we face in our daily lives. We receive the gifts we need to continue our mission to take on abandoned works and preserve the Faith among those at risk of losing it. Thus, our devotions are practical indeed: they actually help us do what needs to be done.

Our devotion to the mystery of the Trinity is reflected in the relationships we experience as members of a spiritual family. The four branches, lay and vowed, are quite interconnected and it is not unusual to find missions in which lay members and religious members serve together. Local gatherings of members are called missionary cenacles. (In the case of sisters, priests and brothers, the term also refers to their residences.) We find spiritual support and guidance when we gather together, and we are also happy to celebrate life and enjoy each others' company.

Our work is greatly needed in the Church. If you are interested in exploring a lay or religious vocation to the Missionary Cenacle Family, or serving in its volunteer program, please visit www.msbt.org. *Missionary Cenacle Meditations* and other publications on the spirituality and history of the Missionary Cenacle Family are available through archive288@aol.com or:

Missionary Cenacle Press
3501 Solly Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19136