NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

The word ***novena*** means “nine” and is used to describe nine days of private or public prayer for a specific cause. The nine days of a novena come from the time that the Apostles and Mary waited in prayer between the Ascension of Jesus and the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. This was the period of time in which the Church prepared to go forth into the world to carry out Christ’s mission. These nine days, in essence, constituted the very first novena.

- Acts 1:13–14 tells us that, after Jesus’ Ascension, the Apostles, along with some women, including Mary the Mother of Jesus, gathered in the upper room and devoted themselves to prayer.
- Acts 2:1–4 tells us that, on the Jewish feast of Pentecost the Holy Spirit descended upon the group gathered in that upper room. The Jewish Feast of Pentecost took place 50 days after the Sunday of Passover week.
- This means the Apostles and Mary gathered in fervent prayer for nine days - between the Ascension and Pentecost - before the Holy Spirit descended upon them on the Feast of Pentecost.

We invite you to pray this simple

Novena to the Holy Spirit

on the 9 days between Ascension Thursday and Pentecost Sunday.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.

And kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created.

And you shall renew the face of the earth.

AMEN.

OUR FATHER, HAIL MARY, GLORY BE

SIGN OF THE CROSS