

FAVORITE NOVENAS TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Arranged for Private Prayer



With a Short Helpful Meditation
Before Each Novena

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Illustrated in Color



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NOVENA FOR THE FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

MEDITATION

THE Holy Spirit guides us in the way of sanctification and salvation. As He descended upon Jesus at His Baptism by St. John, so the Spirit descends upon us at Baptism and inspires us to a loving union with God through actions and prayer.

Through the Church's Sacraments we have access to grace—the Divine Life of the Trinity. In its wake come the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, which help us to lead truly Christian lives by making us more alert to discern and more ready to carry out the Will of God.

In turn, the Gifts give rise to virtuous acts—good works, desires, and sentiments inspired in us by the Holy Spirit. In Galatians 5:22, St. Paul enumerates twelve such Fruits: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Longanimity, Goodness, Benignity, Mildness, Fidelity, Modesty, Contenance, and Chastity.



NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIGHT OF VATICAN II

MEDITATION

THE Second Vatican Council was aptly described by the Extraordinary Synod of 1985 as “a grace of God and a gift of the Holy Spirit.” Indeed, when convoked by Pope John XXIII, it was immediately placed under the aegis of the Holy Spirit in the prayer the Pope composed to be offered in preparation for the Council. This is completely in accord with the teaching of the Church that Ecumenical Councils are inspired by the Holy Spirit especially when making dogmatic statements. A Council is, in effect, an epiphany of the Holy Spirit.

In Vatican II, the influence of the Spirit is seen most powerfully in the *Dogmatic Constitution on the Church* and the *Dogmatic Constitution on Sa-*

power and profit, may they serve God and their brothers and sisters faithfully in the spirit of poverty and humility. Amen.

EIGHTH DAY—THE SPIRIT AND THE PRIESTLY LIFE

Teaching of Vatican II

“In order that, in all conditions of life, priests may be able to grow in union with Christ, they possess the exercise of their conscious ministry. They also enjoy the common and particular means, old and new, which the Spirit never ceases to arouse in the People of God and which the Church commends, and sometimes commands, for the sanctification of her members. . . .

“Nourished by spiritual reading, under the light of faith, they can more diligently seek signs of God’s Will and impulses of His grace in the various events of life, and so from day to day become more docile to the mission they have assumed in the Holy Spirit.”

—Decree on the Ministry and Life of Priests, no. 18

“Holiness does much for priests in carrying on a fruitful ministry. Although Divine grace could use unworthy ministers to effect the work of salvation, yet for the most part God chooses, to show forth His wonders, those who are more open to the power and direction of the Holy Spirit, and who can by reason of their close union with Christ and their holiness of life say with St. Paul: ‘And yet I am alive; or rather, not I; it is Christ that lives in me’ (Gal 2:20).”

—Decree on the Ministry and Life of Priests, no. 12

Prayer for Priests

O HOLY Spirit, Jesus has ordained that the Word should be preached and the Sacraments administered by the ministry of priests. Grant them, we beg You, Your continual Divine assistance.