

# Easter Prayers in preparation for Pentecost.



## Opening Prayer

Most Blessed One, we pray this week for a new awareness of the gift of the Holy Spirit who lives in our inner hearts. As we struggle to be Christ's body to our world, open our hearts to hear anew the promptings your Spirit makes to each of us urging us on to share and use all our gifts in a loving and unselfish way, so that we can truly become Christ's arms, legs, mouth to and for all our brothers and sisters. Amen.

## Week One

Lord, you asked your disciples to believe and doubt no longer. Help us to believe in your word. Give us peace in our hearts as you gave to your disciples. Help us to recognise your gifts to us and to use them for your good and for the good of others. Forgive us Lord as you forgive others. We ask this in your name. Amen.

## Week Two

Lord, when you appeared to your disciples, they did not recognise you and were afraid because of all that had happened. Their faith was challenged; seeing they did not believe and hearing they did not understand. Lord give us the ability to see you in all we meet and in all our experiences. We ask this in your name. Amen.

## Week Three

Lord, you are the good shepherd protecting and guiding your flock. May we accept in faith your call to follow you on the path you have prepared for us.

Lord, when we lose our way remind us of your constant presence and desire to be with us always. We ask this in your name. Amen.

## Week Four

Lord, you are the vine, we are the branches. A branch cannot bear fruit by itself but must remain part of the vine. May we always remain in your love and let your love shine forth in our lives. We ask this in your name. Amen.

## Week Five

Lord, you commanded us to love one another. You told us this so that we may know and share the joy of your love in this world. May we offer the same love and friendship we receive from you to one another. We ask this in your name. Amen.

## Week Six

Lord, you said that wherever two or three are gathered in your name you are there. You told us to tell the Good News of your eternal love to everyone we meet. May we have the courage to share the joy of experiencing your love and compassion. We ask this in your name. Amen.

## Week Seven

Lord, the disciples were anxious and afraid until you came and stood among them. Your presence brought peace and joy to all those gathered. You gave them the courage to go tell everyone that you had sent the Holy Spirit as a helper and guide to be with us always. Lord, open our minds, our hearts and our spirits to the gifts you offer. We ask this in your name. Amen.

## Concluding Prayer

Lord, we thank you for the great joy of the Resurrection, the mystery of the Ascension and the wonder and power of the Holy Spirit. Awaken in us a greater hunger for the bread of life in the gift of the Blessed Eucharist. Deepen our understanding and nourish our faith in the gifts we receive from the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

# Prayer for the Gifts of the Holy Spirit



Holy Spirit, divine Consoler, I adore You as my true God, with God the Father and God the Son. I unite myself to the adoration You receive from all the angels and saints.

I give You my heart and I offer my thanksgiving for all the blessings which You never cease to give me.

O Giver of all gifts, who filled the soul of the Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with such immense favours, I beg You to grant me the gift of *holy fear*, so that it may act on me as a check to prevent me from falling back into my past failings, for which I beg pardon.

Grant me the gift of *piety*, so that I may serve You for the future with increased strength, follow with more promptness Your inspiration, and observe your divine commandments with greater fidelity.

Grant me the gift of *knowledge*, so that I may know the things of God and, guided by Your holy teaching, may walk, without deviation, in the path of eternal salvation.

Grant me the gift of *fortitude*, so that I may overcome courageously all selfishness and all the false gods of this world which threaten to win me away from you.

Grant me the gift of *counsel*, so that I may choose what is more open to my spiritual growth and may discover and recognise what does not come from your will for me.

Grant me the gift of *understanding*, so that I may be always aware of the mysteries of your creative power and by prayer and meditation detach my thoughts and affections from the passing things of this materialistic world.

Grant me the gift of *wisdom*, so that I may rightly direct all my actions, referring them to God as my final goal; so that, having loved Him and served Him in this life, I may have the happiness of being with Him eternally in the next.

Amen.

(An adaptation of the prayer of St. Alphonsus Liguori)

Please leave this card in Church for the use of others in their prayer.