

A VIGIL FOR PENTECOST

THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. While some Christians accept these as a definitive list of specific attributes, others understand them merely as examples of the Holy Spirit's work through the faithful. We believe that Christians receive these seven gifts at Baptism, and that they are strengthened at Confirmation so that we can proclaim the truths of the faith.

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Ve - ni sanc - te Spi - ri - tus, ve - ni sanc - te Spi - ri - tus,
ve - ni, ve - ni sanc - te Spi - ri - tus, ve - ni sanc - te Spi - ri - tus.

Christopher Walker

Isaiah 11:1

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

WISDOM

Proverbs 2:1-8

The Lord gives wisdom;
from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;
he stores up sound wisdom for the upright;
he is a shield to those who walk blamelessly,
guarding the paths of justice
and preserving the way of his faithful ones.

Veni Sancte Spiritus

SILENCE

Come, Holy Spirit, Kindly rest on me!
Bring WISDOM; may I never fail to see
The truth revealed by nothing save His light
When worldly ways would hide God from my sight.
And prompt me by this visionary grace
To see within my neighbour Jesus' face.

UNDERSTANDING

Psalm 119:34-37

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes,
and I will observe it to the end.
Give me understanding, that I may keep your law
and observe it with my whole heart.
Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for I delight in it.
Turn my heart to your decrees,
and not to selfish gain.
Turn my eyes from looking at vanities;
give me life in your ways.

Veni Sancte Spiritus

SILENCE

Come, Holy Spirit, Kindly rest on me!
Bring UNDERSTANDING; never let me be
Persuaded by pretended truth or lies
But keep me from whatever God denies,
That I may see in ordinary things
Clear signposts to the hidden King of kings.

COUNSEL

Exodus 18:19-20

I will give you counsel, and God be with you! You should represent the people before God, and you should bring their cases before God; teach them the statutes and instructions and make known to them the way they are to go and the things they are to do

Veni Sancte Spiritus

SILENCE

Come, Holy Spirit, Kindly rest on me!
Bring COUNSEL to enable me to see,
Where cunning evil masquerades as good,
The truth behind the lie - as Jesus would -
And keep me always faithful to his Way
When everything around me bids me stray.

FORTITUDE

2 Maccabees, 7:20-23

Although she saw her seven sons perish within a single day, their mother bore it with good courage because of her hope in the Lord. She encouraged each of them in the language of their ancestors. Filled with a noble spirit, she reinforced her woman's reasoning with a man's courage, and said to them, 'I know not how you came to being in my womb. It was not I who gave you life and breath, nor I who set in order the elements within each of you. Therefore the Creator of the world, who shaped the beginning of humankind and devised the origin of all things, will in his mercy give life and breath back to you again, since you now forget yourselves for the sake of his laws.'

Veni Sancte Spiritus

SILENCE

Come, Holy Spirit, Kindly rest on me!
Bring FORTITUDE that I may never flee
From suffering the life of faith may bring
But, rather, in adversity, may sing
In praise of You, the Father, and the Son
Until the Peace of Christ at last is won.

KNOWLEDGE

Job 37: 14-16
Hear this, O Job;
stop and consider the wondrous works of God.
Do you know how God lays his command upon them,
and causes the lightning of his cloud to shine?
Do you know the balancings of the clouds,
the wondrous works of the one whose knowledge is perfect?

Veni Sancte Spiritus

SILENCE

Come, Holy Spirit, Kindly rest on me!
Bring KNOWLEDGE that my thoughts be ever free
From servitude to what is heard and seen
And glimpse what everlasting life might mean.
Then will I live each day as God intends
Content with every joy or trial He sends.

PIETY

Exodus 20: 2-4

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them.

Veni Sancte Spiritus

SILENCE

Come, Holy Spirit, Kindly rest on me
Bring PIETY that I may ever be
Aware God's love gives every breath I take
And thank him for this life each time I wake;
Correct me when, forgetting whence I came,
I fail to reverence my creator's name.

FEAR OF THE LORD

Psalm 22:23-24

All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
For he did not despise or abhor
the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me,
but heard when I cried to him.

Veni Sancte Spiritus

SILENCE

Come, Holy Spirit, kindly rest on me!
Bring filial FEAR OF GOD that I may be
Obedient to my Lord's life-giving law
And filled with hope and humble, reverent awe
Wait patiently for Christ's eternal reign
When all creation will praise God again.

Holy Spirit, God of light, fill us with your radiance bright;
Gentle father of the poor, make us, by your help, secure;
Come, your boundless grace impart, bring your love to every heart.

Lord of consolation, come, warm us when our hearts are numb;
Great consoler, come and heal, to our souls your strength reveal;
Cool, refreshing comfort pour, and our peace of mind restore.

Light immortal, fire divine, with your love our hearts refine;
Come, our inmost being fill, make us all to do your will;
Goodness you alone can give, grant that in your grace we live.

Come, our lukewarm hearts inspire, mold our wills to your desire;
In our weakness make us strong, and amend our every wrong;
Guide us when we go astray, wash our stain of guilt away.

Give to every faithful soul, gifts of grace to make us whole;
Help us when we come to die, so that we may live on high;
Ever let your love descend, give us joys that never end.