

# Prayer Service to Prepare for Pentecost

## INTRODUCTION

Good morning, and welcome to our prayer to prepare for the Feast of Pentecost.

### **OPTIONAL: OPENING SONG**

Let us begin our prayer by raising our voices and singing God's praise.

Please join in our opening song...

## OPENING PRAYER

Let us begin with the sign of our faith: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

And let us pray: God our Father, we thank you for calling us to be Jesus' disciples. We know that You love us more than we can ever imagine. And so, we lay our lives before you, trusting in Your great mercy. We are sorry for the times we haven't acted as followers of Jesus. And we ask you to forgive us, and heal us, in Jesus' name.

Open our hearts now, loving Father, to hear Your word, as we prepare for the great feast of Your Holy Spirit at Pentecost. We make this prayer to you in the name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

And now, let us listen to God's word.

## READING

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah (Jer 1: 4-9)

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.' Then I said, 'Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.' But the Lord said to me, 'Do not say, "I am only a boy"; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

**OPTIONAL: RESPONSE** (Suggested Song: You are Near)

**Reflection Question:** Did you ever think that before you were born, God made a special plan for your life? And that He sent the Holy Spirit to help you to live out that plan?

## READING

A reading from the Gospel of John (Jn 14: 23, 25-27)

Jesus said to His disciples, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with

you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## **RESPONSE**

The response to our prayers is: *Come, Holy Spirit!*

Holy Spirit, come fill us with *wisdom* – to understand Your holy ways:

*Come, Holy Spirit!*

Holy Spirit, come fill us with *knowledge* – of the Father’s great love for us in Christ.

*Come, Holy Spirit!*

Holy Spirit, come fill us with *understanding* – to know the truth of the Catholic faith.

*Come, Holy Spirit!*

Holy Spirit, come fill us with *right judgement* – to see what we must do as Jesus’ disciples.

*Come, Holy Spirit!*

Holy Spirit, come fill us with *courage* – to follow Jesus in all things.

*Come, Holy Spirit!*

Holy Spirit, come fill us with *reverence* – to have holy respect for all that is sacred and true.

*Come, Holy Spirit!*

Holy Spirit, come fill us with *wonder and awe* – to see Your greatness in all things and live for Your glory.

*Come, Holy Spirit!*

## **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

Let us pray for the Church. That all who belong to Jesus will listen to the Holy Spirit’s call to work and pray for peace.

We pray to the Lord.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

Let us pray for the world and all our civic leaders. That we will help one another to live in the goodness, truth and unity of the Holy Spirit. We pray to the Lord.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

Let us pray for all those who are suffering in our school, our families, our community and world. That the Holy Spirit will comfort them, heal them, and send caring friends to bring them hope and joy. We pray to the Lord.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

Let us pray for our Pastor, our Bishop, Principal, teachers, EAs, parents, grandparents, and all who help us grow as disciples of Jesus. That God might give them the wisdom and courage to continue leading one another in faith. We pray to the Lord.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

Let us pray for ourselves. That our hearts might be open to welcome the Holy Spirit more fully into our lives. We pray to the Lord.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

Let us pray for all our needs (pause).

Let us also pray for those who are lonely or separated from their families and friends, and those who are sick at this time (pause).

Let us bring all these needs before God our loving Father with childlike trust, using the words that Jesus gave us:

*Our Father...*

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

God our Father, you knew us before we were born. You called us at Baptism to live as brothers and sisters in the love of Christ. Prepare our hearts and minds today to welcome your Holy Spirit at Pentecost. And make us ready to say “yes” every day to the Holy Spirit’s wonderful plans for our lives. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord. Amen.

And may Almighty God bless us: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.