

Praying for the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

A. Opening Prayer –

Come Holy Spirit and fill the hearts of your people and enkindle in us the fire of your love, send forth your Spirit and we shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit does instruct the hearts of the faithful grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in His Consolation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thank You Lord that You would grant all of them according to the riches of Your glory to be strengthened with power through Your Holy Spirit in their inner man, so that Christ may dwell in their hearts through faith, and that they being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth, length, height and depth and to know the love of Christ, which surpasses knowledge, that they may be filled up to all the fullness of God. (Ephesians 3:16-19)

B. Opening Songs

1. Give Us Clean Hands: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=onGbkeWkA64>

2. Holy Spirit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LaRH0ItRfZg>

C. Prayer before receiving

1. Prayer of Surrender to God

Loving Father,

I surrender to you today with all my heart and soul. Please come into my heart in a deeper way. I say, "Yes" to you today. I open all the secret places of my heart to you and say, "Come on in." Jesus, you are the Lord of my whole life. I believe in you and receive you as my Lord and Savior. I hold nothing back.

Holy Spirit, bring me to a deeper conversion to the person of Jesus Christ. I surrender all to you: my time, my treasures, my talents, my health, my family, my resources, my work, relationships, time management, successes and failures. I release it and let it go.

I surrender my understanding of how things 'ought' to be, my choices and my will. I surrender to you the promises I have kept and the promises I have failed to keep. I surrender my weaknesses and strengths to you. I surrender my emotions, my fears, my insecurities, my sexuality. I especially surrender _____ (Here mention other areas of surrender as the Holy Spirit reveals them to you.)

Lord, I surrender my whole life to you, the past, the present, and the future. In sickness and in health, in life and in death, I belong to you. (Remain the Lord in a spirit of silence through your thoughts, a heart song, or simply staying in His presence and listening for His voice.)

2. Renewal of Baptismal Promises

V. Do you reject Satan?

R. I do.

V. And all his works?

R. I do.

V. And all his empty promises?

R. I do.

V. Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth?

R. I do.

V. Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

R. I do.

V. Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

R. I do.

V. God, the all-powerful Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and forgiven all our sins. May he also keep us faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

3. Commitment Prayer

Jesus, I know now that I am Yours
and You are mine forever.

Thank You for sending Your spirit to me that I might have the power to live this new
life with You.

Stir up Your Spirit in me. Release Your Spirit in me.

Baptize me with the fullness of Your Spirit that I may experience Your presence
and power in my life.

That I may find new meaning in your Scriptures.

That I may find new meaning in the sacraments.

That I may find delight and comfort in prayer.

That I may be able to love as you love
and forgive as You forgive

That I may discover and use the gifts you give me
for the life of the Church.

That I may experience the peace and the joy
that you have promised us.

Fill me with Your Spirit, Jesus. I wish to receive
all that You have to give me.

Amen

4. A Prayer for Inner Healing (optional)

D. Invitation to receive Prayer for Baptism/Filling of the Holy Spirit

1. Important Attitudes:

a. **Relax.** The more relaxed we are, the easier it is to receive the Lord's gifts. It is much harder to put something in a clenched fist than in an open, relaxed hand. The Lord loves you and wants you to experience his love in a new way.

b. After we have prayed with everyone, we will gather in a large group to thank and praise God together.

c. While you are waiting, pray for your brothers and sisters or praise God. We want an atmosphere of prayer to pervade the room until we are finished.

2. Teams of two will be seated at the front of the Nave. Those receiving prayer are to come forward to the stations that are open. After prayer those recipients are to return to their chairs until all have received and Monsignor McCarron leads us in the closing.

1. **Mark** will be playing instrumental music in the background during prayer.

E. **Brief teaching** on spontaneous praise & singing in tongues

* If the Spirit leads this may start a time of Jubilation.

F. **Closing Teaching and instructions:**

1. **Different people have different experiences.**

a. Particular feelings and experiences are not the important thing. Look for the ways God is at work in you and respond to God's presence through gifts and charisms. If you did not speak in tongues or receive prophecy and healing tonight, do not worry about it! Do not make the mistake of identifying baptism in the Spirit with "getting the gift of tongues." In your prayer during this coming week give time to praise and thanksgiving, aloud, if possible. But whether in tongues or with your own words, it is good to praise and thank Jesus for the gifts of the Spirit. (If you find yourself wanting to pray beyond words, then pray aloud with sounds. Concentrate on God.) Pay attention to prophetic words and images. Use the Scriptures to pray with, especially the Psalms.

b. Be aware that doubts and temptations can rob us of God's gift of the Spirit. For Satan the next best thing to keeping you from God is convincing you that the gifts and the fire of the Spirit are not the keys to life. Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. Satan is just a defeated angel.

c. You can't expect all your problems to go away at once. You need time to let God's love seep into areas that are broken. The Holy Spirit will empower you to look at what is needed and then learn ways to be transformed.

d. Be faithful in daily prayer and to your local faith community. Pray with the charisms you have received. "You have been faithful in managing small amounts, so I will put you in charge of large amounts. Come on in and share my happiness" (Mt. 25:21) What happened tonight is just a beginning.

e. Be mindful about sharing experiences with others. It is possible to scare people off, to give them more than they are ready for. The first thing to do is to love them more than you did before and serve them. The change in you will be a witness to Christ. Go easiest with those who are closest to you – especially your family. We will be talking about how to share what we have found next week.

We will also be talking about how to grow in the life of the Spirit. You need instruction on how to respond to baptism in the Holy Spirit.

G. Concluding praise and worship in the large group.

1. Light A Fire: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Jzqq4B8H2Q>

H. (End with the Sign of Peace.) Closing Prayer