

Daily Devotions for the Week of May 31-June 6, 2020

Theme of the Week: *Come, Holy Spirit*

1 Begin with the **INVOCATION**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

2 Say the **APOSTLES' CREED**

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

3 Pray the **LORD'S PRAYER**

*Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name, thy
kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven. Give
us this day our daily bread; and
forgive us our trespasses, as we
forgive those who trespass
against us; and lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from
evil. For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.*

4 Read the **LESSON** (see weekly lessons)

5 Say the explanation of the **THIRD ARTICLE**

I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church he daily and fully forgives all sins to me and all believers. On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

6 Pray the **PRAYER** of the **WEEK**

Holy Spirit, God and Lord, come to us this joyful day with your sevenfold gift of grace. Rekindle in our hearts the holy fire of your love that in a true and living faith we may tell abroad the glory of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Father, one God, now and forever. Amen.

7 Pray for **OURSELVES** and **OTHERS**

Theme of the Week: *Come, Holy Spirit*

God's Old Testament people celebrated the gathering of the harvest at the Festival of Weeks. On the fiftieth day, God sent the promised Counselor on the day we call Pentecost (Greek for "fifty"). This day marked the birthday of the New Testament Church and celebrates the harvest of souls won by the son and gathered by the Spirit.

Sunday

John 16:5-11

How could Jesus' departure be advantageous for the disciples? Only when Jesus had finished his redemptive work and returned to the Father would he send the Counselor. At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit fulfilled this promise of Jesus who would work on the world by dwelling in his disciples.

Monday

Acts 2:1-21

Pay particular attention to what the gift of Pentecost is! The sound of violent wind was a sign, but not the gift. What appears as tongues of fire are a sign, but not the gift. The speaking in foreign languages was a result, but was not the gift. The Spirit comes and the wonders of God are proclaimed.

Tuesday

Joel 2:28 & 29

In the Old Testament, God poured out his Spirit on the prophets and so revealed his will through visions and dreams. Joel's prophecy is fulfilled on the great day of Pentecost.

Wednesday

Psalms 51

We sing a portion of psalm 51 in the Service as a response to God's gifts that he gives in the hearing and preaching of his Word. God's Spirit comes with God's Word in order to give the very gifts promised.

Thursday

John 14:23-31

The Spirit comes forth from the Father and the Son. He is the Paraclete, the one called to be at our side. He is the breath of God whose holy work makes us holy by teaching us his Word and thus bring Christ to us and us to Christ. In revealing Christ, he brings forgiveness and eternal life, all Christ won for us.

Friday

Numbers 11:16-30

God anointed the 70 elders with his Spirit so that they prophesied. When Moses' aide loyally objected to some of the elders prophesying, Moses said, "I wish that all the Lord's people were prophets and that the Lord would put his Spirit on them!" What Moses wished, what Joel prophesied is fulfilled at Pentecost.

Saturday

John 16:5-11

As you hear this week's Gospel again, concentrate on the work the Spirit will do and does. He convicts the world in regard to sin, righteousness and judgment. The preaching of the Gospel never leaves hearts the same: be either enlivening or hardening, the Spirit convicts mankind.