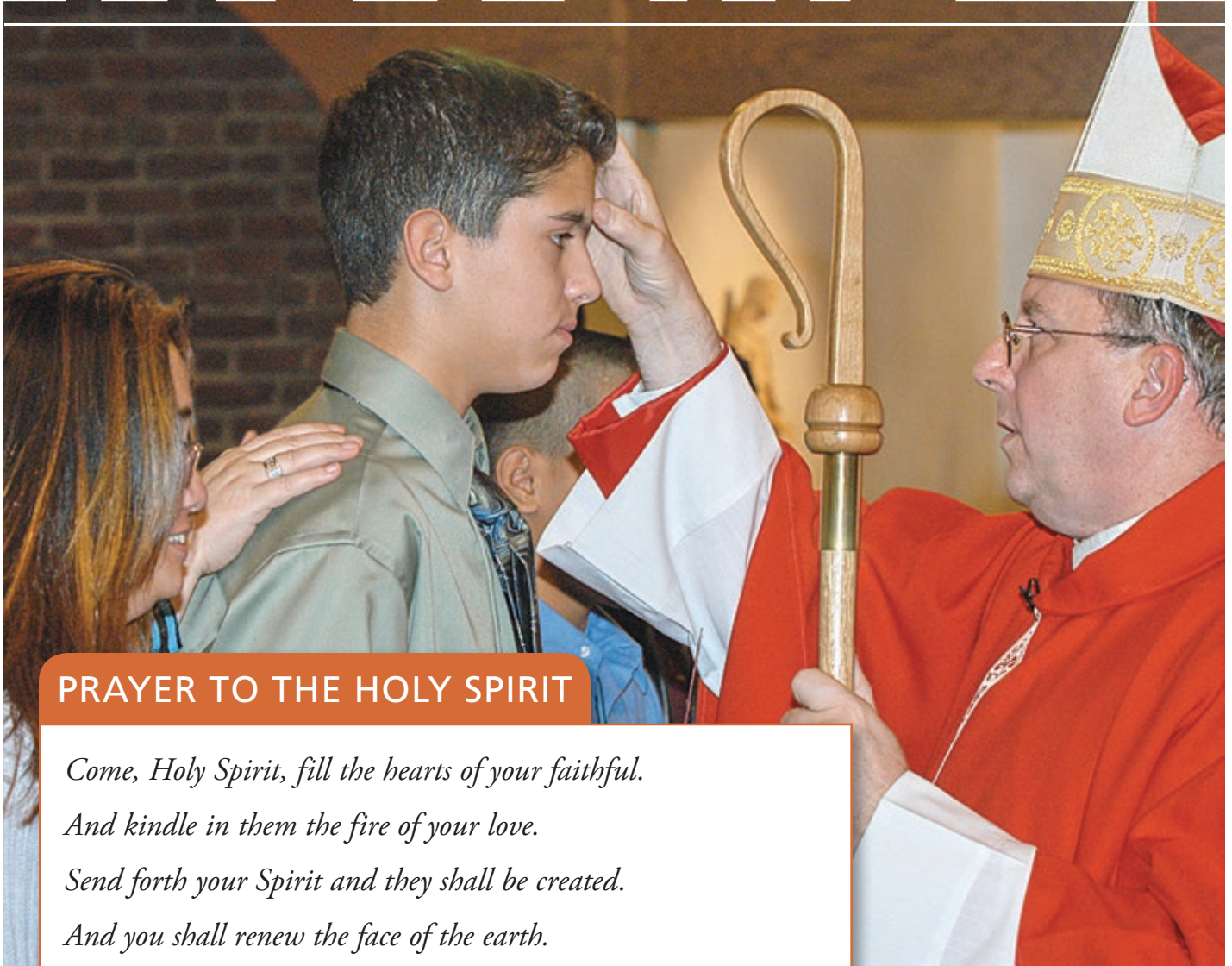


Confirmation

Novena



PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.

And kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.

And you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray.

O God, by the light of the Holy Spirit you have taught the hearts of your faithful. In the same Spirit, help us to know what is truly right and always rejoice in your consolation.

We ask this through Christ, Our Lord.

Amen.

Novena



Praying a Novena

As the day of your Confirmation approaches, take time to reflect on what it means to live in the Spirit of Jesus. One way to do this is by making a novena. A novena is nine days of prayer focused on a special intention. In the Acts of the Apostles, we read of Jesus' disciples spending nine days in prayer after his Ascension before the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost.

Making this novena could be one of the most important things you do to prepare for Confirmation. If you are truly open to the Holy Spirit at work in your heart, you will discover more about God's great love for you and be ready to respond to his love as a confirmed Catholic.

For each of the nine days leading up to your Confirmation, set aside time to read the prayer. You can observe the novena with your family and sponsor. If prayed as a group, designate someone to lead the prayer. After the Reading, pause for private reflection. The novena also includes brief activities for each day to help you practice the intention stated in the prayer.

Day 1

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I lack.
To still waters he leads me; he restores my soul.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Reading

Proverbs 1:2,5,7

That people may know wisdom and discipline,
may understand intelligent sayings;
The wise by hearing them will advance in learning,
the intelligent will gain sound guidance,
Fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;
fools despise wisdom and discipline.

Silence

Response

Matthew 3:11

I am baptizing you with water[.]
He will baptize you with the holy Spirit and with fire.

Prayer

Let us pray. Come, Holy Spirit! Help us rejoice in the countless blessings God has given us. Teach us to do God's will. Reveal to us what is necessary to rest in the **knowledge** of God's love.

Amen.

Practice

Spend extra time in silent prayer to talk and listen to the Spirit in your heart.



Day 2

I will listen for what God, the LORD, has to say;
surely he will speak of peace to his people and to his faithful.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Reading

Proverbs 3:13–15

Happy the one who finds wisdom,
the one who gains understanding!
Her profit is better than profit in silver,
and better than gold is her revenue;
She is more precious than corals,
and no treasure of yours can compare with her.

Silence

Response

Luke 3:22

[T]he holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove.

“You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

Prayer

Let us pray. May the Holy Spirit reconcile all divisions in friendships, families, among nations, and in the Church. May the Spirit’s **wisdom** help us work for reconciliation and peace.

Amen.

Practice

Seek forgiveness when necessary. Pray for peace in a particular part of the world.



Day 3

I bless the LORD who counsels me;
even at night my heart exhorts me.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Reading

Proverbs 8:12,14,17

I, Wisdom, dwell with prudence,
and useful knowledge I have.
Mine are counsel and advice;
Mine is strength; I am understanding.
Those who love me I also love,
and those who seek me find me.

Silence

Response

Luke 1:35

The holy Spirit will come upon you,
and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.

Prayer

Let us pray. May the Holy Spirit give us **counsel** to act justly, to see Christ in those who are poor, and to pray for those who mourn.

Amen.

Practice

Earn and set aside money to donate to a charitable cause.

love

Day 4

Preserve my life, for I am devoted;
save your servant who trusts in you.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Reading

Proverbs 21:1–3

A king's heart is channeled water in the hand of the LORD;
God directs it where he pleases.
All your ways may be straight in your own eyes,
but it is the LORD who weighs hearts.
To do what is right and just
is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

Silence

Response

Mark 10:16

[H]e embraced them and blessed them,
placing his hands on them.

Prayer

Let us pray. May the Holy Spirit fill our hearts with love of the Father and respect for creation. May the gift of **piety** enable us to respect and care for nature and not destroy it.
Amen.

Practice

Take a walk outside, admiring God's handiwork.

Day 5

Give me understanding to keep your law,
to observe it with all my heart.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Reading

Proverbs 10:23–25

Crime is the entertainment of the fool;
but wisdom is for the person of understanding.
What the wicked fear will befall them,
but the desire of the just will be granted.
When the tempest passes, the wicked are no more;
but the just are established forever.

Silence

Response

Luke 12:49

I have come to set the earth on fire,
and how I wish it were already blazing!

Prayer

Let us pray. May the Holy Spirit's gift of **understanding** enlighten us to better grasp Christ's love for us. May we show our love by serving our brothers and sisters.
Amen.

Practice

Do something nice for someone, and don't let him or her know that you did it.



Day 6

The LORD is my strength and my shield
in whom my heart trusts.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Reading Proverbs 21:20–22

Precious treasure and oil are in the house of the wise,
but the fool consumes them.
Whoever pursues justice and kindness
will find life and honor.
The wise person storms the city of the mighty,
and overthrows the stronghold in which they trust.

Silence

Response John 12:3

Mary took a liter of costly perfumed oil . . .
and anointed the feet of Jesus.

Prayer

Let us pray. May the Holy Spirit strengthen us with **fortitude** to accept suffering with faith. Let our prayers comfort the dying, and may all who have died be welcomed to eternal life.
Amen.

Practice

Speak and think positively; do not complain.



Day 7

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
prudent are all who practice it.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Reading Proverbs 1:29–30,33

Because they hated knowledge,
and the fear of the LORD they did not choose.
They ignored my counsel,
they spurned all my reproof;
But whoever obeys me dwells in security,
in peace, without fear of harm.

Silence

Response Luke 11:20

But if it is by the finger of God that [I] drive out demons,
then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

Prayer

Let us pray. May the gift of **fear of the Lord** enable us to reject sin, and may the Spirit of the Lord live in us as his temple.
Amen.

Practice

Keep God in mind as you make decisions throughout the day.

kindness

Day 8

Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked,
He is like a tree planted near streams of water, that yields its fruit in season.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Reading Proverbs 27:1–2,18

Do not boast about tomorrow,
for you do not know what any day may bring forth.
Let another praise you, not your own mouth;
a stranger, not your own lips.
Those who tend a fig tree eat its fruit;
so those attentive to their master will be honored.

Silence

Response Matthew 7:17,20
[E]very good tree bears good fruit, . . .
So by their fruits you will know them.

Prayer

Let us pray. By tending to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, may our lives overflow with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity.
Amen.

Practice

Be kind to someone with whom you've had a disagreement.

Day 9

Sing joyfully to God our strength;
raise loud shouts to the God of Jacob!

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Reading Proverbs 8:33–35

Listen to instruction and grow wise,
do not reject it!
Happy the one who listens to me,
attending daily at my gates, keeping watch at my doorposts;
For whoever finds me finds life,
and wins favor from the LORD . . .

Silence

Response John 6:27
Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you.
For on him the Father, God, has set his seal.

Prayer

Let us pray. On this day of Confirmation, may we be filled with zeal to proclaim the Gospel and with the joy and strength of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Practice

Be pleasant and gracious to all.

goodness