

Let us Pray 2017 – Pentecost Sunday 4 June

For an outpouring of the charisms of preaching and teaching, and for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit over the peoples of the Woy Woy Peninsula and Central Coast and beyond.

Veni Creator Spiritus (9th century hymn used at ordinations, consecrations, synods and coronations)

Latin text

*Veni, Creator Spiritus,
mentes tuorum visita,
imple superna gratia,
quae tu creasti, pectora.*

*Qui diceris Paraclitus,
donum Dei altissimi,
fons vivus, ignis, caritas,
et spiritalis unctio.*

*Tu septiformis munere,
dextrae Dei tu digitus
tu rite promissum Patris,
sermone ditans guttura.*

*Accende lumen sensibus,
infunde amorem cordibus,
infirma nostri corporis
virtute firmans perpeti.*

*Hostem repellas longius
pacemque dones protinus;
ductore sic te praeviso
vitemus omne noxium.*

*Per te sciamus da Patrem
noscamus atque Filium,
te utriusque Spiritum
credamus omni tempore.*

Amen.

English version

Come, Holy Ghost, Creator, come
from thy bright heav'nly throne;
come, take possession of our souls,
and make them all thine own.

Thou who art called the Paraclete,
best gift of God above,
the living spring, the living fire,
sweet unction and true love.

Thou who art sevenfold in thy grace,
finger of God's right hand;
his promise, teaching little ones
to speak and understand.

O guide our minds with thy blest light,
with love our hearts inflame;
and with thy strength, which ne'er decays,
confirm our mortal frame.

Far from us drive our deadly foe;
true peace unto us bring;
and through all perils lead us safe
beneath thy sacred wing.

Through thee may we the Father know,
through thee th'eternal Son,
and thee the Spirit of them both,
thrice-blessed three in One.

Amen.

Litany of the Saints by John D Becker (sung) Luke 20:38b *For to Him all men are in fact alive.*

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

1. Mary and Joseph, pray for us.
Michael and all angels, pray for us.
Anna, Joachim, Elizabeth, pray for us.
Elijah, Moses, John the Baptist, pray for us.
Isaac, Sarah, Abraham, pray for us.
Jacob, Joseph, Samuel, pray for us.
Ruth, David and Solomon, pray for us.
Isaiah, Jeremiah, pray for us.
All you holy men and women, pray for us.

2. Peter, Paul, Andrew, pray for us.
James, John, and all apostles, pray for us.
Mary Magdalene, Veronica, pray for us.
Barnabas, Matthias, pray for us.
Stephen, Philip, and Cornelius, pray for us.
Prisca and Aquila, pray for us.
Timothy and Titus, pray for us.
Linus, Cletus, and Clement, pray for us.
All you holy men and women, pray for us.

3. Lawrence and Chrysogonus, pray for us.
Innocent and Boniface, pray for us.
Hippolytus and Polycarp, pray for us.
Athanasius and Basil, pray for us.
Felicity, Perpetua, pray for us.
Cosmos and Damien, pray for us.
John Chrysostom and Justin, pray for us.
Lucy, Agatha, and Agnes, pray for us.
All you holy men and women, pray for us.

4. Jerome and Eusebius, pray for us.
Scholastica and Benedict, pray for us.
Ambrose, Monica, Augustine, pray for us.
Martin and Gregory, pray for us.
Clare, Francis, and Dominic, pray for us.
Francis Xavier, Ignatius, pray for us.
Elizabeth and Catherine, pray for us.
Louis and Wenceslaus, pray for us.
All you holy men and women, pray for us.

5. Lord, be merciful, save Your people.
From all evil, save Your people.
From every sin, save Your people.
From everlasting damnation, save Your people.
By Your incarnation, save Your people.
By Your death and resurrection, save Your people.
By Your gift of the spirit, save Your people.
Have mercy on us sinners, save Your people.
Christ hear us, Lord Jesus hear our prayer.

6. Lord give new life, hear our prayer.
To His chosen, hear our prayer.
By the grace of baptism, hear our prayer.
Oh Jesus Son of the living God, hear our prayer.
Send Your Spirit, hear our prayer.
In its fullness, hear our prayer.
On your sons and daughters, hear our prayer.
Who believe and profess you, hear our prayer.
Christ hear us, Lord Jesus hear our prayer.

In order to do what the first disciples did when they waited for the Holy Spirit to come, let us listen to the **Word of God**.

Acts 1:12-13

So from the Mount of Olives, as it is called, they went back to Jerusalem, a short distance away, no more than a Sabbath walk; and when they reached the city they went to the upper room where they were staying; there were Peter and John, James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Jude son of James. With one heart all these joined constantly in prayer, together with some women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.

- From this we learn that unity, prayer in common, and the presence and intercession of Mary the mother of Jesus, daughter of the Father and spouse of the Holy Spirit is important.

Acts 2:32-39

God raised this man Jesus to life, and of that we are all witnesses. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, He has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit. For David himself never went up to heaven, but yet he said: 'The Lord declared to my Lord, take your seat at my right hand, till I have made your enemies your footstool'. For this reason the whole House of Israel can be certain that the Lord and Christ whom God has made is this Jesus whom you crucified. Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, 'What are we to do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered, 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God is calling to Himself.

- From this Pentecost speech of St Peter we learn God's pathway to the gifts of the Holy Spirit: Repent, Believe, Surrender (since that is part of letting yourself be plunged under the waters of Baptism) and Receive.

So we are going to do those things before praying for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Unity

Heavenly Father we ask you to forgive us for the sins which destroy unity among us.
For the times we have gossiped and aided the spread of rumours: Lord have mercy.
For the times we have been jealous of the gifts, talents and responsibilities of others: Lord have mercy.
For the times we failed to root out antipathy and hatred from our hearts: Lord have mercy.
For the times we have not stretched out the hand of friendship: Lord have mercy.
For the times we have been prejudiced against each other: Lord have mercy.
For the times we failed to see the good in each other and did not find common ground: Lord have mercy.

As a sign of our willingness to grow in unity, let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace, (Rom 16:16)
(V. Peace be with you. R. And also with you.)

And then sing together the prayer He taught us all:

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. Amen.

Mary, Mother of Jesus

We invoke the intercession with the earliest known anthem to Mary, from the 4th century or earlier:

Latin Text

*Sub tuum praesidium
confugimus,
Sancta Dei Genetrix.
Nostras deprecationes ne despicias
in necessitatibus nostris,
sed a periculis cunctis
libera nos semper,
Virgo gloriosa et benedicta*

English Translation

We fly to Thy protection,
O Holy Mother of God;
Do not despise our petitions
in our necessities,
but deliver us always
from all dangers,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin. Amen.

And like the apostles and disciples, we pray with Mary, using a sung version of her canticle from Luke 1:46-55 (tune: Amazing Grace)

My soul proclaims the Lord my God,
My Spirit sings His praise!
He looks on me, He lifts me up
And gladness fills my days.

His mercy is forever more
His name I praise again.
His strong right arm puts down the proud
And raises lowly man.

All nations now will share my joy
His gifts He has outpoured;
His little one He has made great;
I magnify the Lord.

He fills the hungry with good things
The rich He sends away;
The promise made to Abraham
Is filled to endless day.

Repent

Let us beg God's forgiveness for the times we have failed to do our best as preachers and teachers.

For the times we have failed to pray for light, power and guidance as we prepared our homilies and lessons: Lord have mercy

For the times we have failed to pray for the parishioners and students entrusted to us: Lord have mercy

For the times we have failed to proclaim Jesus as Lord, repentance as necessary and God's mercy as available to all: Lord have mercy

For the times we have put our needs to be liked before our duties to preach and teach the whole truth: Lord have mercy

For the times we have failed to respond to the promptings of Your Holy Spirit: Lord have mercy

For the times we have diluted the Gospel message: Lord have mercy

For the times we have not been faithful to the vows we made to You: Lord have mercy

For the times we have been rebellious, disobedient or disrespectful to those authority over us: Lord have mercy

For the times we have been half-hearted, lazy or cynical in our ministries to parishioners, seekers of truth and students: Lord have mercy

For the times we have not sought the truth through study and prayer, for fear where it may lead: Lord have mercy

For the times we have sought fame and fortune for ourselves, and not Your glory alone: Lord have mercy

For the times we have failed to be good examples to those entrusted to us: Lord have mercy

For the times that we have failed to proclaim the kingdom of God and to invite people into it: Lord have mercy

(a few moments to silently add in prayers of your own....)

May Almighty God have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

Believe

Let us renew the promises of faith we made at our Baptisms:

V. Do you renounce 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, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead and is 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. And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins, keep us by His grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord, for eternal life.

R. Amen.

Surrender prayer of Charles de Foucauld

Father, I abandon myself into Your hands;
do with me what You will.
Whatever You may do, I thank You:
I am ready for all, I accept all.
Let only Your will be done in me,
and in all Your creatures -
I wish no more than this, O Lord.
Into Your hands I commend my soul:
I offer it to You with all the love of my heart,
for I love You, Lord, and so need to give myself,
to surrender myself into Your hands without reserve,
and with boundless confidence,
for You are my Father. Amen.

Ask

(Luke 11:13b How much more will the Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!)
Let us pray together the 13th century Sequence for Pentecost:

Holy Spirit, Lord of Light,
From the clear celestial height.
Thy pure beaming radiance give.

Come, Thou Father of the poor,
Come, with treasures which endure;
Come, Thou Light of all that live!

Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow.

Thou in toil art comfort sweet;
Pleasant coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.

Light immortal, Light divine,
Visit Thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill.

If Thou take Thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay;
All his good is turned to ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour Thy dew,
Wash the stains of guilt away.

Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.

Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and Thee adore,
With thy sevenfold gifts descend.

Give us comfort when we die;
Give us life with thee on high;
Give us joys that never end.
Amen. Alleluia.

And this prayer based on Acts 4:24-25a,29-30

Master and Lord, it is You who made heaven and earth and sea, and everything in them; You it is who promised victory through the Holy Spirit speaking through David, Your servant. Now, Lord, take note of the threats of Your enemies and help Your servants to proclaim Your message with all boldness, by stretching out Your hand to heal and to work miracles and marvels through the name of Your holy servant Jesus. Please increase in us Your precious gift of faith, that we may serve You by not only believing in miracles but for miracles. Grant us the grace to recognise opportunities for praying with those in need, and also the needed courage and boldness to do so, that these opportunities may no longer be lost, and that Your loving power break into the lives of souls. May Your charismatic gifts work in me as You will, as much as You will and according to Your will. Amen.

Receive

Now each group will come forward for prayer, while the rest raise their hands in prayer over them, and pray out loud for them in English or in any other language.

The first group are those who have been ordained to preach (priests, deacons, pastors). Some of these may have lain prostrate before the Lord during their ordination rites, and may wish to do so again. Others may wish to use the kneelers or to kneel around the steps of the altar.

The second group are those who have been ordained to preach (priests, deacons, pastors) and are not able to be present with us, but whose photographs are. Those carrying these photographs will stand in the middle facing the congregation, with the photographs held near their hearts.

The third group are those who teach the Gospel to primary school children in our State Schools and other Schools. They may wish to use the kneelers or to kneel around the steps of the altar as we pray for the outpouring of charisms of teaching over them.

The fourth group are those who teach the Gospel to secondary school children in State Schools and other Schools. They may wish to use the kneelers or to kneel around the steps of the altar as we pray for them.

The fifth group are those who teach Sunday School, Children's Liturgy of the Word, Kids Club, and those who prepare children and teenagers to receive the sacraments. They may wish to use the kneelers or to kneel around the steps of the altar as we pray for the outpouring of charisms of teaching over them.

The sixth group are those who teach adults how to grow in faith, those who prepare adults to receive sacraments (eg baptism, confirmation, marriage), and those who teach in tertiary institutions (eg seminaries, faculties of theology and philosophy). They may wish to kneel as we pray for them.

The seventh group are those who teach the Gospel in any way, and are not able to be present with us, but whose photographs are. Those carrying these photographs will stand in the middle facing the congregation, with the photographs held near their hearts.

Give Thanks with the Te Deum, a 4th century hymn of praise and thanksgiving to God

We praise You, O God, we acclaim You as the Lord.
Everlasting Father, all the world bows down
before You.

All the Angels sing Your praise, the hosts of heaven
and all the angelic powers,

All the Cherubim and Seraphim, call out to you in
unending song:

Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord God of angel hosts!
The heavens and earth are filled with Your majesty
and glory.

The glorious band of Apostles,
The noble company of Prophets,
The white-robed army who shed their blood for
Christ, all sing Your praise.

And to the ends of the earth Your Holy Church
proclaims her faith in You:

Father, whose majesty is boundless,
Your true and only Son, Who is to be adored,
the Holy Spirit sent to be our Advocate.

You, Christ, are the King of glory,
Son of the eternal Father.

When You took our nature to save mankind You did
not shrink from birth in the Virgin's womb.

You overcome the power of death opening the
Father's kingdom to all who believe in You.

Enthroned at God's right hand in the glory of the
Father, You will come in judgment according to
Your promise.

You redeemed Your people by Your Precious Blood.
Come, we implore You, to our aid.

Grant us with the Saints a place in eternal glory.
Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance.

Rule them and uphold them for ever and ever.
Day by day we praise You: we acclaim You now
and to all eternity.

In Your goodness, Lord, keep us free from sin.
Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

May Your mercy always be with us, Lord
for we have hoped in You.

In You, Lord, we put our trust:
we shall not be put to shame.

Amen.

This ends the formal part of our Pentecost prayers.

#LetUsPray2017

Prayers will continue informally with anyone who wishes to stay.

Those who desire individual prayer should come to a kneeler, and people will come and pray with you.

Those who would like to pray individually over the photographs are invited to do so.

For anyone who needs a break, tea and coffee are available in the back room.

Any group who feels inspired to go onto the local streets to preach and teach, say so, and we will pray for you and send you off, and pray that hearts will be open.

We will also spend time praying for anyone who wants their charisms of evangelisation, hospitality, administration, discernment, intercession etc fanned into flame (2 Tim 1:6) or anyone who feels a desire to receive them.

www.societyofsaints.net/blog/let-us-pray-2017

Optional prayers and hymns for the time of Informal Prayer

A shorter sung version of the Te Deum:

1. Holy God, we praise thy Name;
Lord of all, we bow before thee!
All on earth thy sceptre claim,
all in heaven above adore thee;
infinite thy vast domain,
everlasting is thy reign.

2. Hark! the loud celestial hymn
angel choirs above are raising,
cherubim and seraphim,
in unceasing chorus praising;
fill the heavens with sweet accord:
Holy, holy, holy, Lord.

3. Lo! the apostolic train
join the sacred Name to hallow;
prophets swell the loud refrain,
and the white robed martyrs follow;
and from morn to set of sun,
through the Church the song goes on.

4. Holy Father, Holy Son,
Holy Spirit, Three we name thee;
while in essence only One,
undivided God we claim thee;
and adoring bend the knee,
while we own the mystery.

God can do it again
And again and again
He's the same God today
As He always has been
Yesterday, now, forever
He's always the same
There's no reason to doubt
God can do it again

Time after time
I hear you people say to me
Why don't we see miracles
Like there used to be?
I still believe in miracles
God hears us when we pray
'Cause God was God back
yesterday
And God is God today

You ask God to meet your
needs
So why not trust in Him?
God has done it all before
He'll do it all again
He's willing much more willing
Than I could ever say
To perform a mighty miracle
In your life today

1. O breathe on me, O breath of God,
fill me with life anew
that I may love the things You love,
and do what You would do.

2. O breathe on me, O breath of God,
until my heart is pure;
until my will is one with Yours,
to do and to endure.

3. O breathe on me, O breath of God,
my will to Yours incline,
until this selfish part of me
glows with Your fire divine.

4. O breathe on me, O breath of God,
so I shall never die,
but live with You the perfect life
for all eternity.

Spirit of the living God,
Fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God,
Fall afresh on me.

1. Come down, O love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

2. O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Prayer of the second Vatican Council:

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
conscious of our sinfulness,
but aware that we gather in Your name.
Come to us, remain with us,
and enlighten our hearts.
Give us light and strength
to know Your will, to make it our own,
and to live it in our lives.
Guide us by Your wisdom,
support us by Your power,
for You are God,
sharing the glory of Father and Son.
You desire justice for all;

1. Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit
Come with Your fire
Holy Spirit Holy Spirit
Come with Your fire
Holy Spirit, come with Your fire
Holy Spirit, come with Your fire

Refrain
Come, Holy Spirit,
Let the fire fall
Come, Holy Spirit,
Let the fire fall

Let the fire fall!
Let the fire fall!

2. Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit
Purify my heart
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit
Purify my heart

Holy Spirit,
Purify my heart
Holy Spirit,
Purify my heart

Spirit of the living God,
Fall afresh on us.
Melt us, mould us, fill us, use us.
Spirit of the living God,
Fall afresh on us.

3. Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps
with loathing.

4. And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far out-pass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till Love create a place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

enable us to uphold the rights of others;
do not allow us to be misled by ignorance
or corrupted by fear or favour.
Unite us to Yourself in the bond of love
and keep us faithful to all that is true.
As we gather in Your name,
may we temper justice with love,
so that all our discussions and reflections
may be pleasing to You, and earn the reward
promised to good and faithful servants.
We ask this of You who live and reign with the
Father and the Son, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

3. Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit,
Set my life on fire
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit,
Set my life on fire

Holy Spirit,
Set my life on fire
Holy Spirit,
Set my life on fire (refrain)

Let the fire fall!
Let the fire fall!