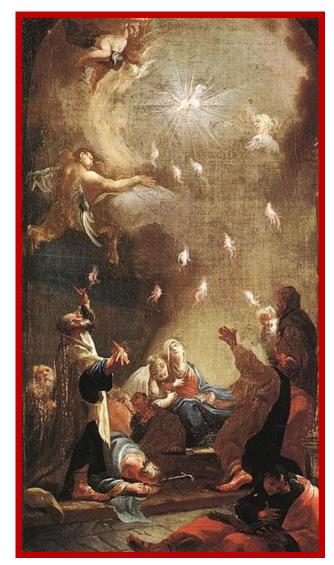


Four Prayers to the Holy Ghost



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FIRST PRAYER TO GOD THE HOLY GHOST.

O Holy Spirit of Grace, be Thou my Wisdom, to teach me my faith; my Understanding, in all my doubts; my Strength against all temptations; my Knowledge, in what belongs to the state of life to which I am called; my Godliness, in all my actions; my Fear, all the day long: that Thou mayst be my Comfort at the last. and my Bliss forever. Amen.

SECOND PRAYER TO GOD THE HOLY GHOST.

O Thou Author of Sanctification,
Spirit of love and truth,
I adore Thee as the Origin
of my eternal welfare,
I thank Thee as the Sovereign
Dispenser of the benefits
that I receive from on high;
and I invoke Thee as the source

of the light and strength which is necessary to me to know good and to practice it. O Spirit of light and strength, enlighten my understanding, strengthen my will, purify my heart, rule all the movements thereof. and make me docile to all Thy inspirations. Pardon me. Spirit of grace and mercy; pardon my continual unfaithfulness. and the wretched blindness with which I have so repulsed the gentlest, and the most powerful impulses of Thy Grace. I desire by the aid of this same Grace to cease from being rebellious against it, and henceforth to follow its movements with such docility, that I may taste the fruits and enjoy the blessings which Thy Sacred Gifts produce in the soul. To Thee, with the Father and the Son, be all glory forever. Amen.

THIRD PRAYER TO GOD THE HOLY GHOST.

Come, then, O Holy Spirit, come; come, O come, Most Merciful Comforter; come, Thou Blessed Paraclete; come, Thou Celestial Fire; come, Thou Purifier of sins, Thou Healer of wounds: come, Thou Upholder of the falling, Thou Lifter-up of the fallen. come, Thou Teacher of the humble, Thou Destroyer of the proud; come, Thou Friend of the friendless. Hope of the hopeless, Consoler of the sorrowful. Haven of the weary, Physician of the sick; come, Thou glory of the living, Only Salvation of the dying! Come, O Most Holy, Thrice Holy, Holy Ghost, come, and have pity on me; direct me and defend me;

strengthen me and comfort me; confirm me, and gladden me; fit me for Thyself; and having made me fit, dwell in me forever; and grant that my littleness may be acceptable to Thy Greatness, my weakness to Thy Strength, according to the multitude of Thy compassion; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, Who with the Father liveth and reigneth in Thy Unity forever and ever. Amen.

FOURTH PRAYER TO GOD THE HOLY GHOST.

O Holy Spirit,
be Thou present,
and from heaven
shed down Thy consolations
on them that expect Thee;
sanctify the temple
of our body,
and consecrate it
a habitation to Thyself.

Make the souls that desire Thee joyful with Thy presence. Make the house fit for Thee, the Inhabitant: adorn Thy chamber and surround the place of Thy rest with all virtues; strew its floor with jewels; let Thy mansion shine with the brightness of carbuncles and precious stones; and let the odors of all Thy gifts inwardly discover themselves; let Thy fragrant balsam perfume Thy residence, and expel whatever is noisome and the spring of corruption; do Thou make this joy permanent and lasting: and this renovation of Thy creature do Thou continue forever in unfading beauty. Amen.

−A prayer of St. Cyprian.