



# CHRIST CHURCH PARISH CHURCH

Anglican Diocese of Barbados

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## ASCENSION TO PENTECOST NOVENA

May 18, 2023 – May 28, 2023



A Novena is a nine-day period of special prayer and intention for the church. The Ascension to Pentecost Novena is the first novena of the church. It was first made at the direction of our Lord himself when he sent his Apostles back to Jerusalem to await the coming of the Holy Spirit on the first Pentecost.

“Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet.. and when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. **All these with one accord devoted themselves to prayer**, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus..” (Acts 1:12-14). “When the day of Pentecost had come, they were together in one place, and suddenly.. they were filled with the Holy Spirit.. (Acts 2:1-4)

Addressed to the third person of the Blessed Trinity, this Novena is a powerful way to encounter the most misunderstood person of the Godhead and deepen our prayer life, as authentic Christian prayer is impossible without a relationship with the Divine Spirit.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God (Romans 8:26-27).

## What to do Each Day of the Novena

- a) Sing or say quietly the lyrics of the hymn - or listen to the hymn on YouTube
- b) Pray the Novena Prayers
- c) Read, mark, learn and inwardly digest the short bible reading

### NOVENA PRAYERS

Dearest Holy Spirit, as we wait for a fresh anointing of your presence on our lives, we acknowledge your deep, personal love for us as members of the Christ Church Parish Church. We offer this novena so that we may seek the will of our Heavenly Father, be more faithful in the discipleship of our Lord Jesus Christ and more responsive to your holy comfort. Amen

Holy Spirit of God, wind of inspiration, fire of language, guardian of truth, breathe anew on the House of Prayer and Community of Disciples at Christ Church Parish Church. Refresh within your church your many spiritual gifts, that we may be reformed into the glorious body of the eternal Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## **ASCENSION DAY: Thursday May 18**

The Ascension of the Lord on the 40<sup>th</sup> day of Easter.

### **Day One: Friday May 19**

**Hymn 607 CPWI Hymnal. Lord enthroned in heavenly splendour.**

For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.

*Hebrews 9:24*

### **Day Two: Saturday May 20**

**Hymn 569 CPWI Hymnal Alleluia, sing to Jesus.**

But we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. *Hebrews 2:9*

### **Day Three: Sunday May 21**

**Hymn 268 CPWI Hymnal Breathe on me, breath of God.**

But they that wait on the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. *Isaiah 40:31*

### **Day Four: Monday May 22**

**Hymn 270 CPWI Hymnal Come down, O Love divine.**

I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. *Joel 2:28*

### **Day Five: Tuesday May 23**

#### **Hymn 268 CPWI Hymnal Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost**

'So, I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him! *Luke 11:9-13*

### **Day Six: Wednesday May 24**

#### **Hymn 291 CPWI Hymnal Our blest Redeemer, ere he breathed.**

'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. *John 16: 12, 13*

### **Day Seven: Thursday May 25**

#### **Hymn 200 CPWI Come Holy Ghost, our souls inspire.**

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who

activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

*1 Corinthians 12: 4-7*

### **Day Eight: Friday May 26**

**Hymn 271 CPWI Come, gracious Spirit, heavenly dove.**

When the *paraclete* ("comforter", "advocate", "helper") comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. *John 15: 26, 27*

### **Day Nine: Saturday May 27**

**Hymn 852 CPWI Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

For in him every one of God's promises is a 'Yes.' For this reason, it is through him that we say the 'Amen', to the glory of God. But it is God who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us, by putting his seal on us and giving us his Spirit in our hearts as a first instalment. *2 Corinthians 1: 20-22*

## **THE DAY OF PENTECOST**

### **WHITSUNDAY: May 28**

On this day joyfully celebrate God's gift of the Holy Spirit to the church ..and to you!

Almighty God, on this day you opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the

preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

O God, who on this day taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

