



My Dear Brothers and Sisters,
We're in that in between time at the end of Easter – after the Ascension of the Lord, but before the sending of the Holy Spirit. It is a great opportunity for us to join with the Disciples in the Upper Room in preparing our hearts for a greater outpouring of the Holy Spirit. One of the great prayers for this is the *Veni, Sancte Spiritus* – the “Come Holy Spirit” – which we pray as the Sequence on Pentecost Sunday (just before the Gospel Acclamation).

Come, Holy Spirit, come!
And from your celestial home
Shed a ray of light divine!
Come, Father of the poor!
Come, source of all our store!
Come, within our bosoms shine.

You, of comforters the best;
You, the soul's most welcome guest;
Sweet refreshment here below;
In our labor, rest most sweet;
Grateful coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.

O most blessed Light divine,
Shine within these hearts of yours,
And our inmost being fill!
Where you are not, we have naught,
Nothing good in deed or thought,
Nothing free from taint of ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour your 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.

On the faithful, who adore
And confess you, evermore
In your sevenfold gift descend;
Give them virtue's sure reward;
Give them your salvation, Lord;
Give them joys that never end. Amen. Alleluia.

This week, let's pray through this prayer to the Holy Spirit. Let us let Him enter more deeply into our minds and hearts. Let Him comfort us, shine His light, heal our wounds, bend our stubbornness, melting our icy hearts, and pour out His gifts, power and fruit upon us.

Come, Holy Spirit, Come!