Opening Prayer

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.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

Introduction

We have gathered here in cyberspace as a community to keep the Vigil of Pentecost together. In a crisis we turn to God, and now in this collective global crisis overtaking us we pray for a new Pentecost, an outpouring of the Holy Spirit as on that day there appeared as tongues of fire, settling on the Apostles and setting their hearts ablaze to witness to the Jesus who walked with them once. This frightened little community of believers were huddled together in fear of the opposition outside, were then transformed into bold witnesses of the Good News.

We too are in a very similar situation but on a much larger global scale. Apprehensive and uncertain, we are lockdown in our homes and wait for a break-through. We find ourselves as a society losing control of our lives and hopes in the future.

The impact of Covid-19 only revealed the soft underbelly of our societies. So how do we respond to the flotsam and jetsam that’s being left behind: the migrants on foot, the sick and the dying, the vulnerable, the hungry, the jobless,….

Every crisis is an invitation to move forward, or if we fail to meet it, we regress. The lack of empathy and compassion for unfortunates so cruelly affected by this crisis, will ‘decivilise’ our societies.

This is a collective crisis, it demands a collective response. The Holy Spirit is the Antrayamin, the comforter, our advocate, the inner voice that speaks to our consciences and deepest unconscious. We cannot discern the voice of the Spirit in the desert of noise that surrounds our lives. So we pause and pray together for another Pentecost to renew our lives. We invite all of goodwill to this venture.

(Rudi Heredia)
Reading:

Acts 2: 1-11: They were filled with the Holy Spirit, Universalism of the Church and/or
John 20:19-23: Receive the Holy Spirit

Time for Reflections and Intercessions

Holy Spirit enrich us with your gifts: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord.

Response: Holy Spirit, Our Antaryamin, kindle in us the Fire of your love

Help us to have compassion for the migrants who are suffering inhumanly in the rigours of their walk home.

Response: Holy Spirit, Our Antaryamin, kindle in us the Fire of your love

That we be open to the call of the Spirit to hear and respond to the voice of the Antaryamin in the context of the present crisis

Response: Holy Spirit, Our Antaryamin, kindle in us the Fire of your love

The Society of Jesus is your work. We ask you to help us to be faithful to our call, to discern the signs of the times and respond to them in the most approiatate manner in the spirit of MAGIS.

Response: Holy Spirit, Our Antaryamin, kindle in us the Fire of your love

Help us to be fires that kindles other fires, so that our collective efforts can enlighten the whole universe.

Response: Holy Spirit, Our Antaryamin, kindle in us the Fire of your love

We thank you that you have inspired in us in the Society in S. Asia to a meaningful response to the need of the hour. We implore the Spirit to continue to inspire us.

Response: Holy Spirit, Our Antaryamin, kindle in us the Fire of your love

God who taught us the dignity of work, help us to treat our labourers with the human dignity they deserve.

Prayer: Rudi Heredia, SJ & Vincent Ekka, SJ

Concluding Prayer- Holy Spirit the Antaryamin

Come Holy Spirit the Comforter, Antaryamin

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Come Holy Spirit, Antaryamin! (the Indwelling Presence)

Come Holy Spirit, the flame of the everlasting one,
Come Holy Spirit, the within of all that is,
Come Holy Spirit, the fire of all that is active,
Come Holy Spirit, to fill the hearts of every one of humankind,

Come Holy Spirit, Kindle in us the Fire of your Love

Come to show us the fragility of our basic health care,
Come to enlighten us on the deadly threats to global solidarity,
Come to teach us the terrorism of our armament race,
Come to shake us up from the arrogance of being always right,

Come Holy Spirit, Come to renew our universe,

Come to lay bare our world’s deep-seated problems
of hunger, social inequalities, racial disparities, religious discrimination,
Come to expose our vulnerability and to uncover our false and superfluous certainties;
Come to expose our misconceived habits and priorities,
Come to help us listen to the cry of the poor, the migrants and of our ailing planet,

Come Holy Spirit, Come as the Power of Conversion,

Come to lay bare all our prepackaged ideas and forgetfulness of what nourishes our people’s souls,
Come to put us in touch with our roots of belonging to the entire creation as brothers and sisters,
Come to shake us awake from wars or injustice across the world,
Come to reveal to us how we have been blinded by our life-styles, our fast-faced lifestyle,
Come to unmask our blinded-ness in celebrating the wrong heroes,
Come to celebrate with us the ones who truly matter – the farmers, daily labourers, health-care personnel, our teachers, our elders,

Come Holy Spirit, Breath in us the Spirit of Trust

Come to nurture every tiny atom of the whole cosmos,
Come as the soothing breeze to this pandemic,
Come as gentle breeze of comfort to all Corona warriors - doctors, nurses, security personnel,
Come as consoling touch to the children and the elderly,

Come Holy Spirit, Kindle in us the Fire of your Love

Come Holy Spirit, walk with us on this pandemic road, stay with us as we distance from one another,
Come Holy Spirit, the flame of the everlasting one,
Come Holy Spirit, the within of all that is,
Come Holy Spirit, the fire of all that is active – our Comforter! Antaryamin!

Come Holy Spirit, Kindle in us the Fire of your Hope!

*Antaryamin, Sanskrit word meaning, the Indwelling Presence

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