

Opening:

The Lenten season calls us to pray.

Our Lady of Good Counsel, guide us on our Lenten journey.

Help us to enter the inner room of our hearts, to close the door to noise, to trivial things, to the countless cares grabbing for our attention.

Help us put them aside during the Lenten season.

In the quiet of our hearts, help us with faith as our guide to speak to God Our Gracious Father, who listens and knows what we need,

Help us to pray with fervor. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen

Scripture: Joel 2:12-13

Reflection:**Intercessions:**

When we come face to face with the challenge of self-giving; when we are asked to go the extra mile, to take the risk of reaching out to another, to offer forgiveness to the heart that rejects us.....

Spirit of God, fill us with the energy of your love

When our world seems bleak; when we walk with sadness written on our soul; when we have days when everything goes wrong....

Spirit of God, stir the energy of your joy within us

When someone needs a simple gesture of thoughtfulness; when a look of love is all that another asks of us; when a good word could take the sting out of the gossip foes.....

Spirit of God, create in us the energy of your kindness

As we face the shadow of our inner world, or peer into the darkness of our outer world; as we struggle to believe in our gifts and blessings.....

Spirit of God, strengthen in us the energy of your goodness

In those difficult times when fear threatens to drown our trust in you; during those trying experiences when we are tempted to doubt all the ways we have known you.....

Spirit of God, renew in us the energy of trusting in you

When anxiety and concern take over our spirit; when restlessness or boredom holds sway over us; when our world cries out in distress and turmoil.....

Spirit of God, deepen in us the energy of your peace

On those days when we hurry too much; at those times when anger flares because our agendas aren't met; when we stop giving people understanding and acceptance.....

Spirit of God, draw us towards the energy of your patience

As we walk on the edge of life and death; as we struggle with the disciplines of spiritual growth; as we yearn to be faithful amidst the many changes of inner and outer growth.....

Spirit of God, move us with the energy of your guidance

Prayer:

Spirit of God, breathed into our hearts in Jesus' resurrection, lift us up with new life, new courage, new passion today

Spirit of God, breathed into our midst in Jesus' resurrection, transform us with new fellowship, new vision, new joy today

Spirit of God, breathed into the world in Jesus' resurrection, work through us to change the face of the earth. Amen

Song: They'll Know We Are Christians

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love

We will work with each other, we will work side by side
We will work with each other, we will work side by side
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love