



Pentecost Musical Oratory

When the bell is rung, all stand and sing:

Come down, O Love divine,
Seek thou this soul of mine,
And visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
Within my heart appear,
And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
Till earthly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
And let thy glorious light
Shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
Mine outward vesture be,
And lowliness become mine inner clothing;
True lowliness of heart,
Which takes the humbler part,
And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,
With which the soul will long,
Shall far outpass the power of human telling;
For none can guess its grace,
Till they become the place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

All kneel for the prayer to the Holy Spirit:

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of thy faithful and kindle in them the fire of thy love.

ψ. Send forth thy Spirit and they shall be created:

℞. And thou shalt renew the face of the Earth.

Let us pray.

O God, who has taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that by the gift of the same Spirit, we may always be truly wise and ever rejoice in his consolation.

Through Christ our Lord. ℞. Amen.

From the prophet Ezekiel (37:1–14)

‘I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live’

All stand and sing:

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what thou dost love,
And do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Until my heart is pure,
Until with thee I will one will,
To do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Till I am wholly thine,
Until this earthly part of me
Glows with thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
So shall I never die,
But live with thee the perfect life
Of thine eternity.

From the Epistle of St Paul to the Romans (8:22–27)

‘The Spirit himself intercedes for us’

All stand and sing:

O thou who camest from above
The pure celestial fire to impart,
Kindle a flame of sacred love
On the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn
With inextinguishable blaze,
And trembling to its source return
In humble prayer, and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart’s desire
To work, and speak, and think for thee;
Still let me guard the holy fire,
And still stir up the gift in me.

Ready for all thy perfect will,
My acts of faith and love repeat,
Till death thy endless mercies seal,
And make my sacrifice complete.

From the Instructions to Catechumens by St Cyril of Jerusalem

‘The Spirit comes gently’

All stand to sing the Pentecost sequence. The organ plays alternate verses by Jehan Canon Revert of Notre Dame, Paris.

Veni, Sancte Spíritus,
Et emítte caelitus
Lucis tuæ rádiúm.

*Come, thou Holy Spirit, come,
And from thy celestial home
Shed a ray of light divine!*

Veni, pater páuperum;
Veni, dator múnerum;
Veni, lumen córdium.

*Come, thou Father of the poor!
Come, thou Source of all our store!
Come, within our bosoms shine!*

Consolátor óptime,
Dulcis hospes ánimæ,
Dulce refrigériúm.

*Thou, of comforters the best;
Thou, the soul's most welcome guest;
Sweet refreshment here below;*

In labóre réquies,
In æstu tempéries,
In fletu soláciúm.

*In our labour, rest most sweet;
Grateful coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.*

O lux beatíssima,
Reple cordis íntima
Tuórum fidéliúm.

*O most blessèd Light divine,
Shine within these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill!*

Sine tuo númine
Nihil est in hómine,
Nihil est innóxium.

*Where thou art not, man hath nought,
Nothing good in deed or thought,
Nothing free from taint of ill.*

Lava quod est sórdidum,
Riga quod est áridum,
Sana quod est sáucium.

*Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour thy dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away;*

Flecte quod est rígidum,
Fove quod est frígídum,
Rege quod est dévium.

*Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.*

Da tuis fidélibus,
In te confidéntibus,
Sacrum septenárium.

*On the faithful, who adore
And confess thee, evermore
In thy sevenfold gift descend;*

Da virtútis méritum,
Da salútis éxitum,
Da perénne gáudium.
Amen. Alleluía.

*Give them virtue's sure reward
Give them thy salvation, Lord;
Give them joys that never end.
Amen. Alleluia.*

From the treatise of St Basil the Great, 'On the Holy Spirit'

'He is the source of holiness'

All stand to sing the following hymn:

Veni, Creátor Spíritus,
Mentes tuórum vísita,
Imple supérna grátia,
Quæ tu creásti péctora.

*Creator-Spirit, all-divine,
Come, visit every soul of thine,
And fill with thy celestial flame
The hearts which thou thyself didst frame.*

Qui díceris Paráclitus,
Altíssimi donum Dei,
Fons vivus, ignis, cáritas,
Et spiritalís únctio.

*O gift of God, thine is the sweet
Consoling name of Paraclete
And spring of life and fire and love
And unction flowing from above.*

Tu septifórmis múnere,
Díg'tus patrénæ délixteræ,
Tu rite promíssum Patris,
Sermóne ditans gúttura.

*The mystic sevenfold gifts are thine,
Finger of God's right hand divine;
The Father's promise sent to teach
The tongue a rich and heavenly speech.*

Accénde lumen sénsibus:
Infund' amórem córdibus:
Infírma nostri córporis
Virtúte firmans pérpeti.

*Kindle with fire brought from above
Each sense, and fill our hearts with love;
And grant our flesh, so weak and frail,
The strength of thine which cannot fail.*

Hostem repéllas lóngius,
Pacémque dones prótinus:
Ductóre sic te prævio
Vitémus omne nóxium.

*Drive far away our deadly foe,
And grant us thy true peace to know;
So we, led by thy guidance still,
May safely pass through every ill.*

Per te sciámus da Patrem,
Noscámus atque Fílium,
Tequ' utriúsque Spíritum
Credámus omni témpore.

*To us, through thee, the grace be shown
To know the Father and the Son;
And Spirit of them both, may we
Forever rest our faith in thee.*

Deo Patri sit glória,
Et Fílio, qui a mórtuis
Surréxit, ac Paráclito,
In sæculórum sæcula. Amen.

*To Sire and Son be praises meet,
And to the Holy Paraclete;
And may Christ send us from above
That Holy Spirit's gift of love. Amen.*

All kneel.

O Holy Spirit of God, take us as your disciples. Guide us, enlighten us, sanctify us. Bind our hands that they may do no evil. Cover our eyes that they may see it no more. Sanctify our hearts that evil may not dwell within us. Be our God and our Guide. Wherever you lead us, we will go. Whatever you forbid us we will renounce. And whatever you command us, in your strength, we will do. Lead us, then, into the fulness of your truth. Amen.

All stand and sing:

Love Divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
Pure unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
Into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in thee inherit,
Let us find the promised rest:
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its Beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation,
Perfectly restored in thee,
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!