Spirituality



(NCR screenshot)

by Dan Schutte

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***Editor's note:*** *NCR is sharing with our readers a nine-day Novena for Pentecost resource created by board member and composer Dan Schutte. Schutte writes, "if there's ever a moment when we all could use the light and wisdom of the Holy Spirit, it's now. While we wait till we can be together again for Sunday worship, this is a*

*way we can join our hearts in prayer." The entire Novena for Pentecost can be found here.*

**We pray for charity**

Four suggested steps:

1. Place yourself in the presence of God.
    - Close your eyes. Take some slow, deep breaths. Imagine that you are enveloped by the unconditional love of God.
2. Ask for the grace you desire today.
    - Pray that the Holy Spirit may teach you to give and receive the selfless love that is charity, that you may learn to love as Jesus our brother showed us by his example.
3. Spend time in prayer and with the song.
    - Pray as you feel drawn, either sitting in silence or listening to the song. There is no right or wrong way to do it. Distractions are normal for all of us. God smiles on our small efforts without judgement or shame.
4. Pray in gratitude.
    - In your own words, express a simple prayer of thanks to God.

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Christian charity is not just a loving attitude, a feeling that comes and goes with the moment. But rather, it is a choice, an act of the will, whereby we decide to show others care and reverence. We treat them as our closest kin because in reality we are all the beloved sons and daughters of God.

This story appears in the **Novena for Pentecost with Dan Schutte** feature series. View the full series.