Come Holy Spirit

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When the Spirit came he came with wind and fire. In modern life wind and fire are two of the things we take out insurance policies against.

Fr. John Dalrymple

You ask how the bread becomes the body of Christ, and the wine the blood of Christ. I shall tell you: the Holy Spirit comes upon them and accomplishes what surpasses every word and thought.

St. John Damascene

I often find myself in the position of trying to persuade adults that the Holy Spirit is a dynamic force in their lives. Because for many people I attempt to catechize, the Holy Spirit is a strange large bird that hovers over the church and never touches down in their neighbourhood.

Alice Camille

Start with my toes,
You old Ghost
Spirit the soles of my shoes
And teach me to Pentecostal
Boogaloo
Sprain my ankles with dancing
Sandle around my feet
To roam with me in the rain
And feel at home in my footprints

Nancy McCready

O divine Spirit, I wish to be like a feather before you, so that your breath may carry me wherever it pleases, and I may never offer it any resistance.

Francis Libermann

Renew the Face
Come, Consoler Spirit blest,
Troubled soul’s most welcome guest,
Soothing hand on fevered brow.

Restful ease in toil and stress,
Cooling wind when heats oppress,
Comfort in all grief art thou.

Light of lights, in darkness shine,
Flood our hearts with light divine,
Burn within us, living fire.

I have only once in my life visited the Niagara Falls. It was an amazing sight to watch so much water pouring incessantly from above the vantage point I had taken up. It is such a powerful metaphor of the Holy Spirit being poured out on the church on the Day of Pentecost; but even more importantly, the Holy Spirit is still being poured out upon us as the gift of the Father and the Son … How can we put ourselves close again to the Niagara of grace that is the Holy Spirit and be re-energized with the gift of a fresh heart?

Very Rev. Dr. Ken Newell
Fitzroy Presbyterian Church, Belfast

All of us long for a Pentecostal church:
a church in which the Spirit rules, and not the letter;
a church in which understanding breaks down the fences we erect against each other.
We are impatient with a church that seems so unpentecostal, so unspiritual, so narrow and fearful.

Pope Benedict XVI

Father all-powerful and ever-living God …
your Spirit changes our hearts:
enemies begin to speak to one another,
those who were estranged join hands in friendship,
and nations seek the way of peace together.
Your Spirit is at work
when understanding puts an end to strife,
when hatred is quenched by mercy,
and vengeance gives way to forgiveness

Eucharistic Prayer for Reconciliation II

Without the Holy Spirit . . .
Christ stays in the past
The gospel is a dead letter
The church is an organization
Authority is a way to dominate
Mission is propaganda
Liturgy is an echo of the past
Christian life is a slave morality

With the Holy Spirit
The risen Christ is here
The gospel is the power of life
The church lives with the life of the Trinity
Authority is a liberating service
Mission is Pentecost
Liturgy is memorial and anticipation
All Christian living is holy

St. Ignatius of Latakia

The wind is the Holy Spirit.
The trees are Mary.
Rumi, Sufi poet

of the Earth