

9 Days of Prayer

DAYS

*resources
for keeping
a simple
Novena
of prayer*



Kingdom People

love • compassion • justice • freedom

Deeply Rooted in Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

OUR FATHER, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

NOVENA - 9 DAYS of PRAYER

A Novena of prayer is a simple tradition borrowed from the Roman Catholic Church in which we are encouraged to pray with a special focus over 9 consecutive days, reflecting the 9 days between Ascension and Pentecost.

In this version of the Novena each day has a general theme with a reading from scripture and a prayer. Find a regular opportunity in each of the 9 days to spend a few minutes offering the general theme and the special focus to God. The reading and prayer are an encouragement to be still before God. You can add prayers in your own words. Best of all try to be still before God.

The special focus may be a personal one, or shared with others. It may be to do with the needs of individuals, the life of the Church or events in the world.

It is suggested that the 9 Days starts on a Saturday so that it ends on a Sunday, but if you wish to use it on your own then it doesn't matter when you start or finish.

“Jesus says, You, each of you, come apart into a desert place, and rest a while.”

Mark 6.31

DAY 1 SATURDAY

Theme: *The Love of God / The God of Love*

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

1 John 4:7-9

**God of wonder and of joy:
grace comes from you,
and you alone are the source of life and love.
Without you, we cannot please you;
without your love,
our deeds are worth nothing.
Send your Holy Spirit,
and pour into our hearts
that most excellent gift of love,
that we may worship you now
with thankful hearts
and serve you always with willing minds;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

from the Marriage Service

DAY 2 THE FIRST SUNDAY

Theme: *Resurrection Hope*

But now has Christ been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who sleep. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

1 Corinthians 15:20-22

**God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

Additional Collect: Easter Day

DAY 3 MONDAY

Theme: *Faith and the workaday world*

We go forth to our work and labour until the evening.
O LORD, how manifold are your works! in wisdom you
have made them all: the earth is full of your riches.

Psalms 104:23-24

**O Christ the Master Carpenter,
who at the last, through wood and nails,
purchased our whole salvation:
wield well your tools in the workshop of this world,
so that we who come rough hewn to your bench
may here be fashioned
to a truer beauty of your hand.
We ask it for you Name's sake.**

from the Celtic tradition

DAY 4 TUESDAY

Theme: *Science, Technology and Education / Baptism and Confirmation / Original Blessing*

And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Genesis 1:31

**Almighty and ever-living God,
you have given us your servants
new birth in baptism
by water and the Spirit,
and have forgiven us all our sins.
Let your Holy Spirit rest upon us:
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding;
the Spirit of counsel and inward strength;
the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness;
and let our delight be in the fear of the Lord.
Amen.**

from the Confirmation service (adapted)

DAY 5 WEDNESDAY

Theme: *Relationships - family, friends, neighbours*

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?"

Luke 10:25-29

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

a prayer in the Franciscan tradition

DAY 6 THURSDAY

Theme: *Holy Communion*

Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

Luke 22:19-20

**Strengthen for service, Lord,
the hands that have taken holy things;
may the ears which have heard your Word
be deaf to clamour and dispute;
may the tongues which have sung your praise
be free from deceit;
may the eyes which have seen
the tokens of your love
shine with the light of hope;
may the bodies which have been fed by your body
be refreshed with the fullness of your life;
glory to you for ever.**

Liturgy of the Malabar

DAY 7 FRIDAY

Theme: *The Cross*

And when they came to the place which is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand and the other on the left. And Jesus said, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And parting his garments among them, they cast lots.

Luke 23:33-34

**Lord Jesus Christ,
we thank you for all the benefits
you have won for us,
for all the pains and insults
you have borne for us.
Most merciful redeemer,
friend and brother,
may we know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly, day by day.**

St Richard of Chichester (de Wyche) 1197-1253

DAY 8 SATURDAY

Theme: *Patience - "The meaning's in the waiting"*

You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Indeed we call blessed those who showed endurance. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

James 5:8-11

Support us, O Lord,
all the day long of this troublous life,
until the shadows lengthen
and the evening comes,
the busy world is hushed,
the fever of life is over and our work is done.
Then, Lord, in your mercy
grant us a safe lodging,
a holy rest, and peace at the last;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Cardinal John Henry Newman 1801-1890

DAY 9: THE SECOND SUNDAY

Theme: *Resurrection & Ascension*

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age!"

Matthew 28:16-20

**Risen Christ,
you have raised our human nature
to the throne of heaven:
help us to seek and serve you,
that we may join you at the Father's side,
where you reign with the Spirit in glory,
now and for ever.**

Additional Collects: Ascension

ADDITIONAL PRAYERS

MORNING & MIDDAY

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life, to serve you is perfect freedom. Defend us your servants from all assaults of our enemies; that we may trust in your defence, and not fear the power of any adversaries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Eternal God and Father, you create us by your power and redeem us by your love: guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may give ourselves in love and service to one another and to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bless us Lord, on this midday: Keep us joyful, simple and merciful according to the gospel. Amen. *Taizé*

EVENING & NIGHT

Lighten our darkness, Lord, we pray; and in your mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who wake, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, sustain the dying, calm the suffering, and pity the distressed; all for your love's sake, O Christ our Redeemer.

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the silent hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world, may rest upon your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you most humble and hearty thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And give us, we pray, such a sense of all your mercies that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;

LIVING IN HOPE

Heavenly Father, in your Son Jesus Christ you have given us a true faith and a sure hope. Strengthen this faith and hope in us all our days, that we may live as those who believe in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins and the resurrection to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FOR THE CHURCH

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light, look favourably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery, and by the tranquil operation of your perpetual providence carry out the work of our salvation: and let the whole world feel and see that things which were cast down are being raised up and things which had grown old are being made new and that all things are returning to perfection through him from whom they took their origin, even Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gelasian Sacramentary C8th

SALVATOR MUNDI

Jesus, Saviour of the world, come to us in your mercy:
we look to you to save and help us.
By your cross and your life laid down,
you set your people free:
we look to you to save and help us.
When they were ready to perish you saved your disciples:
we look to you to come to our help.
In the greatness of your mercy loose us from our chains:
forgive the sins of all your people.
Make yourself known as our Saviour and mighty Deliverer:
save and help us that we may praise you.
Come now and dwell with us Lord Christ Jesus:
hear our prayer and be with us always.
And when you come in your glory:
make us to be one with you,
and to share the life of your kingdom.

Come now and dwell with us
Lord Christ Jesus:
hear our prayer
and be with us always.
And when you come in your glory:
make us to be one with you,
and to share the life of your kingdom.

Salvator Mundi



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