

# St. Patrick Parish Novena



*St. Patrick, pray for us.*

## Background:

A novena is a nine-day prayer made by an individual or by a group either privately or publicly. Apart from the promise of daily prayer and the use of the nine-day prayer, no one formula for praying a novena exists. The first novena, said at the express command of the risen Christ, was kept by the apostles, Mary, and the disciples in the upper room from the day of our Lord's Ascension to Pentecost. (Acts 1:12-14; 2:1-4)

## Intention:

That the unconditional prayer of this group may be used by God to make a way for His Holy Spirit into the lives of the people of St. Patrick: to whom He chooses, by the means He alone chooses, and with the result He chooses--that God's will shall be done.

## Realization:

That God has given to the Church (to us) the choice of carrying out or of frustrating His will – that God is restricted by the poverty or set free by the quality of our prayer. The quality and effectiveness of our prayer are hampered by our lack of love, not only from those outside, but also for those within the Body of Christ by disunity. Effective intercession is not possible without involving the sanctification of ourselves bringing unity within our own personal lives, within our families, and within the parish family. Thus, the real intention of this prayer is to bring God's grace to others; the sincerity of our own conversion and commitment always affects its value.

At the beginning of a novena we show evidence of our deep intention to enter into prayer by our willingness to examine ourselves and confess our sins. Ideally, each should make his confession in the hearing of a priest on or before the first day of the novena. There is power in a forgiven life and purity and openness of the kind that makes a useful channel for God's work uncluttered by sin. Failing sacramental confession, each must begin by acknowledging his specific sins to God in private prayer with an honest and firm intention to turn from one's past attitudes and behavior in favor of the Lord Jesus Christ.

## **NOVENA OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

### **NINE-DAYS PRAYER** (to be used daily by all taking part)

All things are to be sought in God alone; every good and perfect gift comes from Heaven in the hands of the Son of His love: forgiveness, brought by His word; wisdom, (not of this world but of God), in Him crucified; light, for He is light; truth, for He is truth; love, beyond love, who made me and my home on earth, Who seeks me out when I wander from the way, Who suffered and died for me and all mankind; His calling, which is without repentance; His Spirit, which He gives not by measure; rest, for He only is our peace; joy, if we focus on His will; blessedness, if we abide in Him; and life, more abundant and eternal in Him, the Life. All things are to be sought in God alone through Jesus Christ our Lord. All things are to be received from God and used and occupied for good to bear fruit through God.

O my soul, wait still upon God Who abundantly fills all living things, to Whom be the praise, the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

### **FIRST PRAYER EACH DAY FOLLOWED BY THE PRAYER FOR THE DAY**

Heavenly Father, my Lord and my God, I adore You and humbly acknowledge here in Your sacred presence that I am nothing and can do nothing without Your working in me. Come, Holy Spirit, Father of the poor, Comforter of the blest, fulfill the promise of our Savior, Who would not leave us orphans, and anoint, saturate, and

immerse me as You descended on the day of Pentecost upon Mary and upon His first disciples. Grant that I may have a part in those gifts which You did so abundantly bestowed upon them.

Take from my heart all that is not pleasing to You and make it a worthy dwelling place for Jesus. Illumine my mind that I may see and understand the things that are for my eternal welfare. You have called me to this particular parish to be a member of Your body, and I thank You. Give me the grace to learn Your ways here on earth and the grace to work with gratitude and joy considering it an honor to minister to others in this particular fellowship and to bring You to others outside our own parish family.

Give me Your power to work with order, peace, moderation and patience without recoiling from weariness or difficulties; to work above all, with purity of intention and with detachment from self always having death before my eyes and the account which I must render of time lost, talents wasted, good works omitted, of vain complacency in success so fatal to Your work. Glorious Father, grant to me and all of the members of St. Patrick the intentions of this novena of prayer. May Your will be done in me and through me, and may You be praised and glorified forever and ever. Amen.

### **Day One**

Our Father . . . Hail Mary . . .

O God, Who at this time did teach the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit, grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things and to rejoice forever in His holy comfort. Lord, we pray for all the members of this parish family that they may come to know our Savior Jesus Christ in a very personal way. Take up in all of us a dwelling place and make it Your temple. Make us live by grace as adopted sons and daughters of God, encompass all the energies of our souls and create in us a fountain of living water springing up into life everlasting. Amen.

### **Day Two**

Our Father . . . Hail Mary . . .

I pray for Christ's presence in the local body of Christ visible in this community and members of St. Patrick Church in Hutto. For Christ is love in our midst manifesting to one another within the household of faith in outreach to others spiritually and materially. O Lord, we pray for You to set our feet in a large room where hearts are made pure from sin by faith in You and faces are turned to the light. Grant that we may be one in You, and that no narrow walls of division between man and man may destroy the unity which you have made in the Spirit of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

--F.B. MacNutt

### **Day Three**

Our Father . . . Hail Mary . . .

For those who are anointed and appointed as leaders within our parish: the clergy, all the councils and committees; those whose work is seen and known to God alone, that we may be a fresh vision born of a growing awareness of God's love for us with boldness and obedience to that vision of confidence and faith in the Lord. Remember, gracious Lord, these Your ministering servants. Pour out upon them evermore Your Holy Spirit, to strengthen, deepen, chasten and purify them; that in giving themselves up to Your service, they may do and suffer all that You will, and finally may reign with You in life everlasting through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

--J. Armitage Robinsor

### **Day Four**

Our Father . . . Hail Mary . . .

For all the families of the parish, for a knowledge of what true "Headship" and spiritual maturity means within the home; for couples who have recently married and those who are preparing for marriage; for protection against all forces working against the sanctity of marriage and the family; for children, that they may come to know Jesus early in life, that they may make rapid growth in the Spirit, finding favor with God and man through

obedience to their parents; for the single person consecrating himself/herself unto the Lord by a perpetual vow of chastity; for the individual not called to celibacy; for the lonely and restless, especially those who may feel desperate and unprotected.

Merciful Savior who loved Mary and Martha and Lazarus, blessing their home with Your sacred presence, bless, we beseech You, the homes and families of our parish that Your love may rest upon us and Your promised presence may be with us. May we all grow in grace and in the knowledge of You, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Teach us to love one another as You commanded. Help us all to choose the better part that shall not be taken away from us. Hear us, O Jesus, Who, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God for evermore. Amen.

--Canadian Prayer Book

### **Day Five**

Our Father . . . Hail Mary . . .

For all ministries within the Body: remembering especially youth workers, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, musicians, ushers, etc.

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose whole Body of the Church is governed and sanctified, receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before You, for the many vocations, ministries, gifted members within Your Holy Church, that every member of the same, in their vocation and ministry, may truly and Godly serve You through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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### **Day Six**

Our Father . . . Hail Mary . . .

For those whose work is known to God alone and yet, without their clean lives and dedicated prayer, we could not function; for all prayer warriors, for intercessors, for our spiritual benefactors outside the parish; for those engaged actively and aggressively in spiritual warfare for their names are known and feared in hell and whose names are equally known and written in the Lord's book of life; for all our spiritual patrons and intercessors in the Church triumphant before God's throne; for the angels God has assigned to this parish for its spiritual protection and well-being; and in gratitude for all praying saints.

Wherever Your glory be best served, whenever, however, there, then, and in that state, let me Your servant be, only hide not from me Your divine love. Help me to trust You to the utmost. Teach me to serve You as You deserve to be served; to give and not count the cost, to fight and not heed the wounds; to toil and not look for rest; to labor and not ask for any reward save that of knowing that I am doing Your will. Amen.

--St. Ignatius Loyola

### **Day Seven**

Our Father . . . Hail Mary . . .

For those with specific needs, particularly for those in need of healing: physical, emotional, spiritual. Remember especially \_\_\_\_\_; for those whose needs are unknown; for those who may be unaware of their own needs because of spiritual blindness and poverty; for those too shy or too proud to seek help from others; for God's provision for our material needs; for growing numbers of those who are sensitive to God's calling for them for new ministries; for all our needs \_\_\_\_\_; for our land and its development.

Thank You, Father, for those who make their suffering holy and leave no room for pity for themselves; for those whose faith brings light to the dark places of life; and for those whose patience inspires others to hold on. And grant, loving Father, to all who abound in the mysterious fellowship of suffering, the sense of comradeship with others and the knowledge of Your love; grant according to Your holy will and purpose: relief, release, healing, growth and provision in the time of need, and above all, Your peace which passes all understanding through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

--A.H. Johnson

### **Day Eight**

Our Father . . . Hail Mary . . .

For the lapsed and all who have fallen away; for those who have been wounded or hurt by members of the Body; for those who have taken offense at thoughtlessness, harshness, insensitivity, or hypocrisy found within the

Church; for those who have gone away with the sense of not being spiritually fed and finding a lack within the teaching and the day-to-day living out of the faith within the Body of the Church; for those who feel rejected, unwanted, excluded for any reason whatever; for those who have felt rigid demands or bondage from the Body rather than encouragement, healing or assistance; for those who have misinterpreted or misunderstood actions or motives of members within the Body; for those who have lapsed through doubt or temptations from things of the world, the flesh and the devil; for those who actively seek to oppose the work of Jesus Christ and His Church; for those who are drawn away and enticed by longing for secret power or knowledge in mystical experience, the practice of the occult, or in “cult” churches.

Lord, by Your divine presence, raise our souls grievously paralyzed by all kinds of sin and evil deeds, as of old You did raise the sick of the palsy; that being healed, we may cry unto You, merciful Christ, glory be to Your power. Amen.

### **Day Nine**

Our Father . . . Hail Mary . . .

For answered prayer; for those who have gone before us and, through sacrificial giving, have left a rich heritage of faith and material blessing; for all benefactors and friends; for those who have left behind the encouragement of their examples and holy, simple, loving lives; for those whose thoughts and reflections have challenged us to a higher destiny; for the critically ill and dying now; for a merciful visitation of the Lord to those dying without knowledge of Him; for a holy death ourselves assisted by the prayers of the saints and presence of our holy guardian angels leading us to paradise.

### **Nunc dimittis servum tuum**

“Lord, now you are dismissing Your servant in peace” as You have promised; for these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, Whom You have prepared for all the world to see: a light to enlighten the nations and the glory of Your people Israel.

Into Thy hands, God, we commend the souls of all our loved ones especially \_\_\_\_\_, as into the hands of a faithful creator and most loving Savior, beseeching You to grant them pardon and peace and Your infinite goodness, wisdom, and power, to work in them the good purpose of Your perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

--R.W.D. Lee

## **FOR ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH**



*St. Patrick, pray for us.*

Almighty and everlasting God, Who governs all things in heaven and earth, mercifully hear these prayers of us, Your servants, and grant to Your parish, all things that are needed for its spiritual welfare; enlighten and guide our priest and deacons; strengthen and increase the faithful; visit and relieve the sick; soften the wicked; rouse the careless; recover the fallen; restore the penitent; remove all hindrances to the advancement of the truth; bring all to be of one heart and mind within the fold of Your Holy Church, to the honor and glory of Your name. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.