

NOVENA

**to prepare for the celebration
of the Solemnity
of the Sacred Heart of Jesus**





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First Day, Wednesday before the Body and Blood of the Lord:

Sing to the Melody of Beethoven's "Song of Joy":

God is love, let heaven's adore him;
God is love, let earth rejoice;
Let creation sing before him
And exalt him with one voice.
God who laid the earth's foundation,
God who spreads the heav'ns above,
God who breathes through all creation:
God is love, eternal Love.

Leader: Show us your mercy and love.

ALL: And grant us your salvation.

Leader: Sacred Heart of Jesus, we implore,

ALL: That we may love you more and more.

Reader: **Wisdom! Be Attentive! Listen to the Word of the Lord!**

As the Father loves me, so I also love you.

Remain in my love.

**If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love,
just as I have kept my Father's commandments**

and remain in his love (Jn 15:9-10).

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Moment of Silent Meditation or Spoken Reflection

Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord Jesus who manifests to us his Sacred Heart:

ALL: **Lord, have mercy!**

Leader: Give us the faith and hope to believe in your love. “

Give us the grace to experience your love. “

Give us the openness to understand your love. “

Give us the surrender to accept your love. “

Give us the perseverance to share your love. “

Leader: Take my yoke upon you and learn from me.

ALL: **For I am gentle and humble of heart.**

Leader: Let us pray:

Father, we rejoice in the gifts of love

we have received from the heart of Jesus your Son.

Open our hearts to share his life

and continue to bless us with his love.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

ALL: **Amen.**

Leader: Jesus, meek and humble of heart,

ALL: **Make our hearts like unto yours.**



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Second Day, Thursday before the Body and Blood of the Lord:

Sing to the Melody of Beethoven's "Song of Joy":

God is love; and love enfolds us,
All the world in one embrace:
With unfailing grasp God holds us,
Ev'ry child of ev'ry race.
And when human hearts are breaking
Under sorrow's iron rod,
Then we find that self-same aching
Deep within the heart of God.

Leader: Show us your mercy and love.

ALL: **And grant us your salvation.**

Leader: Sacred Heart of Jesus, we implore,

ALL: **That we may love you more and more.**

Reader: **Wisdom! Be Attentive! Listen to the Word of the Lord!**

**I have told you this so that my joy might be in you
and your joy might be complete.**

This is my commandment:

love one another as I love you (Jn 15:11-12).

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**

Moment of Silent Meditation or Spoken Reflection

Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord Jesus who manifests to us his Sacred Heart:

ALL: **Lord, have mercy!**

Leader: Give us the joy to realize that you love us. “
Give us the insight to know that we are loved. “
Give us the poverty of spirit to make room for your love. “
Give us the purity of heart to sustain your love. “
Give us the passion to love one another. “

Leader: Take my yoke upon you and learn from me.

ALL: **For I am gentle and humble of heart.**

Leader: Let us pray:

Father, we honor the heart of your Son
broken by human cruelty and inhumanity yet symbol of love's triumph,
pledge of all that the human family is called to be.
Teach us to see Christ in the lives we touch,
and to offer him living worship
by love-filled service to our brothers and sisters.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

ALL: **Amen.**

Leader: Jesus, meek and humble of heart,

ALL: **Make our hearts like unto yours.**



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Third Day, Friday before the Body and Blood of the Lord:

Sing to the Melody of Beethoven's "Song of Joy":

God is love; and though with blindness
Sin afflicts all human life,
God's eternal loving kindness
Guides us through our earthly strife.
Sin and death and hell shall never
O'er us final triumph gain;
God is love, so Love forever
O'er the universe must reign.

Leader: Show us your mercy and love.

ALL: **And grant us your salvation.**

Leader: Sacred Heart of Jesus, we implore,

ALL: **That we may love you more and more.**

Reader: **Wisdom! Be Attentive! Listen to the Word of the Lord!**

**No one has greater love than this,
to lay down one's life for his friends.**

**I no longer call you slaves,
because a slave does not know what his master is doing.**

I call you friends because I have told you everything

I have heard from my Father (Jn 15:13-15).

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**

Moment of Silent Meditation or Spoken Reflection

Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord Jesus who manifests to us his Sacred Heart:

ALL: **Lord, have mercy!**

Leader: Give us the grace to feel your sacrificial love. “

Give us the will to give ourselves in love for others. “

Give us liberation from our enslavement to sin. “

Give us the satisfaction of friendship with you. “

Give us the ear to truly hear your message of love. “

Leader: Take my yoke upon you and learn from me.

ALL: **For I am gentle and humble of heart.**

Leader: Let us pray:

Father, we have wounded the heart of Jesus your Son,

but he brings us forgiveness and grace by his sacrifice on the Cross.

Help us to prove our grateful love and make amends for our sins.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

ALL: **Amen.**

Leader: Jesus, meek and humble of heart,

ALL: **Make our hearts like unto yours.**



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Fourth Day, Saturday before the Body and Blood of the Lord:

Sing to the Melody of Beethoven's "Song of Joy":

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us your humble dwelling;
All your faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, source of all compassion,
Love unbounded, love all pure;
Visit us with your salvation,
Let your love in us endure.

Leader: Show us your mercy and love.

ALL: **And grant us your salvation.**

Leader: Sacred Heart of Jesus, we implore,

ALL: **That we may love you more and more.**

Reader: **Wisdom! Be Attentive! Listen to the Word of the Lord!
It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you
and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain,
so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you.
This I command you: love one another** (Jn 15:16-17).

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**

Moment of Silent Meditation or Spoken Reflection

Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord Jesus who manifests to us his Sacred Heart:

ALL: **Lord, have mercy!**

Leader: Give us a profound awareness of your call to love. “
Give us the inner peace of being called into love. “
Give us the insight to see you in others and love them. “
Give us the strength to love always and everywhere. “
Give us the confidence to ask the Father for what we need. “

Leader: Take my yoke upon you and learn from me.

ALL: **For I am gentle and humble of heart.**

Leader: Let us pray:
Father, give us the strength and love of the heart of your Son
that, by following his call and becoming one with him,
we may have eternal salvation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

ALL: **Amen.**

Leader: Jesus, meek and humble of heart,

ALL: **Make our hearts like unto yours.**



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Fifth Day, Sunday, the Body and Blood of the Lord:

Sing to the Melody of Beethoven's "Song of Joy":

**Come, Almighty, to deliver;
Let us all your life receive;
Suddenly return and never,
Nevermore your temples leave.
Lord, we would be always blessing,
Serve you as your hosts above,
Pray, and praise you without ceasing,
Glory in your precious love.**

Leader: Show us your mercy and love.

ALL: **And grant us your salvation.**

Leader: Sacred Heart of Jesus, we implore,

ALL: **That we may love you more and more.**

Reader: **Wisdom! Be Attentive! Listen to the Word of the Lord!
If your love me, you will keep my commandments.
And I will ask the Father
and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always,
the Spirit of truth which ... remains with you,
and will be in you** (Jn 14:15-17).

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**

Moment of Silent Meditation or Spoken Reflection

Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord Jesus who manifests to us his Sacred Heart:

ALL: **Lord, have mercy!**

Leader: Give us the fidelity and loyalty of loving you. “
Give us the grace to make your love known to others. “
Give us opportunities to love you by loving one another. “
Give us the awareness of your Spirit of truth. “
Give us the enjoyment of the Spirit's presence and power. “

Leader: Take my yoke upon you and learn from me.

ALL: **For I am gentle and humble of heart.**

Leader: Let us pray:
Father, no secret is hidden from you
for every heart is open to you and every wish is known.
Fill our hearts with the light and truth of your Holy Spirit
that we may perfectly love you and fittingly praise you.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

ALL: **Amen.**

Leader: Jesus, meek and humble of heart,

ALL: **Make our hearts like unto yours.**



NOVENA

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Sixth Day, Monday after the Body and Blood of the Lord:

Sing to the Melody of Beethoven's "Song of Joy":

**Finish then your new creation,
Pure and spotless, gracious Lord;
Let us see your great salvation
Perfectly in you restored.
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we sing before th' Almighty,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

Leader: Show us your mercy and love.

ALL: And grant us your salvation.

Leader: Sacred Heart of Jesus, we implore,

ALL: That we may love you more and more.

Reader: **Wisdom! Be Attentive! Listen to the Word of the Lord!**

**Whoever loves me will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,**

and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him (Jn 14:23).

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Moment of Silent Meditation or Spoken Reflection

Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord Jesus who manifests to us his Sacred Heart:

ALL: Lord, have mercy!

Leader: Give us the courage to keep and fulfill Christ's word of love. "

Give us obedience as a response in love to love. "

Give us the ecstatic awareness of the Father's love. "

Give us the readiness of heart for your indwelling. "

Give us the energy to share your indwelling with others. "

Leader: Take my yoke upon you and learn from me.

ALL: For I am gentle and humble of heart.

Leader: Let us pray:

Father, you dwell within us to confirm us in your love.

Fill our own hearts with the spirit of your charity,

that we may please you with our thoughts, words, and deeds
and love you in our brothers and sisters.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

Leader: Jesus, meek and humble of heart,

ALL: Make our hearts like unto yours.



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Seventh Day, Tuesday after the Body and Blood of the Lord:

Sing to the Melody of Beethoven's "Song of Joy":

**There's a wideness in God's mercy
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in God's justice
Which is more than liberty.
There is plentiful redemption
In the blood that has been shed;
There is joy for all the members
in the sorrows of the Head.**

Leader: Show us your mercy and love.

ALL: And grant us your salvation.

Leader: Sacred Heart of Jesus, we implore,

ALL: That we may love you more and more.

Reader: **Wisdom! Be Attentive! Listen to the Word of the Lord!**

In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him. In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an expiation for our sins (1 Jn 4:9-10).

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Moment of Silent Meditation or Spoken Reflection

Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord Jesus who manifests to us his Sacred Heart:

ALL: Lord, have mercy!

Leader: Give us the eyes to see God's revelation of love. "
Give us the insatiable taste for your life to the full. "
Give us the true feel for your sacrificial love for us. "
Give us the healing fragrance of love poured out for us. "
Give us the heart and hand to share your self-emptying love. "

Leader: Take my yoke upon you and learn from me.

ALL: For I am gentle and humble of heart.

Leader: Let us pray:

Father, in your great love for us
you have given us your only Son, Jesus Christ.
Make he take us up into his own perfect sacrifice
so that we may offer you fitting worship in spirit and in truth
through our devotion to you and our service to others.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

Leader: Jesus, meek and humble of heart,

ALL: Make our hearts like unto yours.



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Eighth Day, Wednesday after the Body and Blood of the Lord:

Sing to the Melody of Beethoven's "Song of Joy":

For the love of God is broader
Than the measures of our mind,
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more simple,
We should take him at his word,
And our lives would be thanksgiving
For the goodness of our Lord.

Leader: Show us your mercy and love.

ALL: **And grant us your salvation.**

Leader: Sacred Heart of Jesus, we implore,

ALL: **That we may love you more and more.**

Reader: **Wisdom! Be Attentive! Listen to the Word of the Lord!**
Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must have love for one another.
No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains
in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us (1 Jn 4:11-12).

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**

Moment of Silent Meditation or Spoken Reflection

Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord Jesus who manifests to us his Sacred Heart:

ALL: **Lord, have mercy!**

Leader: Give us the gratitude to acknowledge your love. “
Give us the humility to let your love shine through us. “
Give us the ability to make you known by our loving. “
Give us the grace to bring your love to perfection. “
Give us the creativity to find new ways of sharing your love. “

Leader: Take my yoke upon you and learn from me.

ALL: **For I am gentle and humble of heart.**

Leader: Let us pray:
Father, you share with us the fullness of your love,
you show us your love through the heart of your only Son,
and you send us into the world to bring that love to perfection.
May we be ever more faithful witnesses of your love
so as to make your Church the living sign of true love for all.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

ALL: **Amen.**

Leader: Jesus, meek and humble of heart,

ALL: **Make our hearts like unto yours.**



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Ninth Day, Thursday (and Vigil of the Solemnity):

Sing to the Melody of Beethoven's "Song of Joy":

Troubled souls, why will you scatter
Like a crowd of frightened sheep?
Foolish hearts, why will you wander
From a love so true and deep?
There is welcome for the sinner
And more graces for the good;
There is mercy with the Savior,
There is healing in his blood.

Leader: Show us your mercy and love.

ALL: **And grant us your salvation.**

Leader: Sacred Heart of Jesus, we implore,

ALL: **That we may love you more and more.**

Reader: **Wisdom! Be Attentive! Listen to the Word of the Lord!
Beloved, let us love one another because love is of God; everyone
who loves is begotten by God and knows God. ... God is love and
whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him.** (1 Jn 4:7,16).

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**

Moment of Silent Meditation or Spoken Reflection

Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord Jesus who manifests to us his Sacred Heart:

ALL: **Lord, have mercy!**

Leader: Give us the faith to experience your love. “

Give us the hope to trust in the power of your love. “

Give us the charity to reveal your love by our loving. “

Give us the grace to always remain in your love. “

Give us devotion to your Sacred Heart in word and action. “

Leader: Take my yoke upon you and learn from me.

ALL: **For I am gentle and humble of heart.**

Leader: Let us pray:

Father, look on the heart of Jesus Christ your Son,
mirror of your love for us and model for our love for one another.
Because of his love, draw us closer to him,
accept the sacrifice of our lives lived in love,
and help us to express and make present that love
in our harmony with one another and our service toward others
so that we may live now and always in communion with Christ our Lord
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

ALL: **Amen.**

Leader: Jesus, meek and humble of heart,

ALL: **Make our hearts like unto yours.**