

Heart of Jesus, generous to all who turn to you...
Heart of Jesus, fountain of life and holiness...
Heart of Jesus, propitiation for our sins...
Heart of Jesus, loaded down with opprobrium...
Heart of Jesus, bruised for our offenses...
Heart of Jesus, obedient to death...
Heart of Jesus, pierced with a lance...
Heart of Jesus, source of all consolation...
Heart of Jesus, our life and resurrection...
Heart of Jesus, our peace and our reconciliation...
Heart of Jesus, victim for our sins...
Heart of Jesus, salvation of those who trust in you...
Heart of Jesus, hope of those who die in you...
Heart of Jesus, delight of all the saints...

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,

ALL: Spare us, O Lord.

LEADER: Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,

ALL: Graciously hear us, O Lord.

LEADER: Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,

ALL: Have mercy on us, O Lord.

LEADER: Jesus, meek and humble of heart,

ALL: Make our hearts like yours.

LEADER: Let us pray.

ALL: Almighty and eternal God, look upon the pierced Heart of your most beloved son and upon the praises and satisfaction which he offers you for the salvation of sinners. In your great goodness, grant us forgiveness and the things we ask in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you forever and ever.

LEADER: Let us go in the confidence and the peace of Jesus Christ.

ALL: Amen.



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NOVENA AND LITANY TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS



INTRODUCTION

A novena is nine days of prayer for a particular intention. St. John the Evangelist encourages us to pray: “we have this confidence in him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us” (1 Jn 5:14). God indeed blesses those who complete novenas with sincerity. To cite one example, after making a novena, St. Julia Billiard was cured of 22 years’ paralysis on the feast of the Sacred Heart, June 1, 1804.

The Novena to the Sacred Heart honors Jesus Christ as the highest expression of God’s infinite love for humankind. Jesus himself points to his Heart, urging us to imitate him in loving: “Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls” (Matthew 11:29). In an apparition to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque in 1675, Jesus revealed his Sacred Heart aflame with love while pierced and encircled with thorns. “Behold the Heart that has so loved humankind,” he said to her, asking her to spread devotion to his Heart through her spiritual director, the Jesuit priest St. Claude la Colombiere.

The Litany of the Sacred Heart included in this leaflet may be prayed on its own or as part of the Novena to the Sacred Heart. This centuries-old litany was approved in its modern form by Pope Leo XIII in 1899. The prayer asks God for mercy in 33 invocations, one for each year of the earthly life of Jesus Christ.

NOVENA TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

LEADER: In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Lord Jesus Christ, we place ourselves in your presence, thanking you for your love for the whole world. We honor your Sacred Heart, full of mercy and compassion for sinners. We ask you, gentle, humble Jesus, to fill our hearts with your Spirit and inflame us with your love.

LEADER: Heart of Jesus, hear us and grant our prayers.

ALL: Divine Heart of Jesus, we come to you seeking rest in our weariness, patience in our trials, peace in our troubles, strength in our temptations, and light in our darkness. We firmly believe that you can grant our requests. You do not refuse a contrite and humble heart.

LEADER: Jesus, you promised that where two or more are gathered in your name, you are in our midst. You told us: “Ask and you will receive, seek and you will find, knock and it will be opened to you.”

ALL: We speak to you now with childlike confidence as we make our petitions in this novena to your Sacred Heart. (Mention your petitions here)

LEADER: In all our petitions, may your will be done.

ALL: We ask that our prayers advance the glory of God and the coming of the Kingdom you proclaimed, Lord Jesus. We believe that the will of your Heart is what is best for us and our loved ones. We abandon ourselves and our petitions to the will of your loving Heart.

LEADER: May you remain always in the constant love of Jesus.

ALL: Amen.

LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

The Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is optional for the Novena to the Sacred Heart.

LEADER: Let us meditate on the depths of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Lord, have mercy on us.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

LEADER: Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, hear us.

ALL: Christ, graciously hear us.

LEADER: God, the Father of heaven,

ALL: Have mercy on us (repeat this response after each invocation below).

LEADER: God, the Son, Redeemer of the world...

God, the Holy Spirit...

Holy Trinity, one God...

Heart of Jesus, Son of the eternal Father...

Heart of Jesus, formed by the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Virgin Mother...

Heart of Jesus, substantially united to the Word of God...

Heart of Jesus, of infinite majesty...

Heart of Jesus, sacred temple of God...

Heart of Jesus, tabernacle of the Most High...

Heart of Jesus, house of God and gate of heaven...

Heart of Jesus, burning furnace of charity...

Heart of Jesus, abode of justice and love...

Heart of Jesus, full of goodness and love...

Heart of Jesus, abyss of all virtues...

Heart of Jesus, most worthy of all praise...

Heart of Jesus, king and center of all hearts...

Heart of Jesus, in whom are all treasures of wisdom and knowledge...

Heart of Jesus, in whom dwells the fullness of divinity...

Heart of Jesus, in whom the Father was well pleased...

Heart of Jesus, of whose fullness we have all received...

Heart of Jesus, desire of the everlasting hills...

Heart of Jesus, patient and most merciful...