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Conversion of Francis Xavier (1534)

**Robena of Grace  
in honor of  
St. Francis Xavier**

**Imprimi Potest**

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Novena of Grace

*in honor of*

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, S. J.

March 4th to March 12th



First Vows of Ignatius and his Companions (1534)

## HISTORY OF THE NOVENA

Among the many devotions adopted by the Faithful to invoke the intercession of Xavier, is a nine days' prayer called the "Novena" in honor of Xavier's canonization. St. Francis himself suggested this devotion to Father Mastrilli, whom he miraculously cured at the point of death, assuring him that "All who would earnestly ask his intercession with God for nine days in honor of his canonization would infallibly experience the effects of his great power in heaven and would receive whatever they asked that would contribute to their salvation." It became known throughout the whole Catholic world as the "Novena of Grace," on account of the innumerable graces and extraordinary favors obtained through the intercession of Xavier.

# NOVENA OF GRACE



## MOTHER DEAR

Mother dear, O pray for me,  
    Whilst far from heav'n and thee,  
I wander in a fragile bark  
    O'er life's tempestuous sea.  
O Virgin Mother, from thy throne,  
    So bright in bliss above,  
Protect thy child, and cheer my path  
    With thy sweet smile of love.

## CHORUS

Mother dear, remember me;  
    And never cease thy care,  
'Till in heaven eternally,  
    Thy love and bliss I share.

## DISCOURSE

### HYMN TO ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

1

Oh, Father St. Francis, we kneel at thy feet  
While blessings and favors we beg and entreat,  
That thou from thy bright throne in heaven  
above

Wouldst look on thy clients with pity and love.

St. Francis Xavier, Oh pray for us!

St. Francis Xavier, Oh pray for us!

2

Oh, Father St. Francis, thy words were once  
strong

Against Satan's wiles and an infidel throng;  
Not less is thy might, where in heaven thou art;  
Oh, come to our aid, in our battle take part.

St. Francis Xavier, Oh pray for us!

St. Francis Xavier, Oh pray for us!



### BENEDICTION

O Salutaris hostia,

Quæ cœli pandis ostium:

Bella premunt hostilia

Da robur, fer auxilium.

Uni trinoque Domino

Sit sempiterna gloria:

Qui vitam sine termino

Nobis donet in patria. Amen.



St. Ignatius Commissions St. Francis Xavier  
for the Missions (1540)



## NOVENA PRAYERS

*People:* O Lord Jesus Christ, true God and true man, my Creator and my Redeemer, for Thy sake alone, and because I love Thee above all things, I am sorry from the bottom of my heart for having offended Thee, and I firmly purpose never to fall into sin again, to confess my sins, and perform the penance that shall be enjoined me, and to make restitution and satisfaction wherever it shall be due from me. For the love of Thee I forgive all my enemies; to Thee I offer up my life, actions and sufferings in satisfaction for my sins; and, since I humbly beg it of Thee, I trust in Thy goodness and infinite mercy, that Thou wilt forgive me them through the merits of Thy precious blood and passion, and wilt give me grace to amend my life, and to persevere in Thy service unto my death. Amen.

(Prayers for each day begin on page 14)

## PRAYER TO ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

*People:* O most lovable and loving Saint Francis Xavier, in union with thee I adore the Divine Majesty. The remembrance of the favors with which God blessed thee during life and of thy glory after death fills me with joy, and I unite with thee in offering Him my humble tribute of thanksgiving and of praise. I implore thee to secure for me, through thy powerful intercession, the inestimable blessing of living and dying in the state of grace. I also beseech thee to obtain the favor I ask in this Novena. (*Here recommend your intentions.*) But if what I ask is not for the glory of God, and the good of my soul, do thou obtain for me what is most conducive to both. Amen.

OUR FATHER, HAIL MARY AND GLORY BE



## PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS FOR THE CONVERSION OF INFIDELS

(500 days indulgence)

*People:* Eternal God, Creator of all things, remember that Thou alone didst create the souls of infidels, forming them to

Thy own image and likeness. Remember, O Lord, Thy only Son, Jesus Christ, who suffered for them, most bountifully shedding His most precious blood. Suffer not, O Lord, Thy Son, and our Lord to be any longer despised by infidels, but rather, being appeased by the entreaties and prayers of Thy elect, the Saints, and of the Church, the most blessed spouse of Thy Son, vouchsafe to be mindful of Thy mercy, and forgetting their idolatry and unbelief, cause them also to know Him whom Thou didst send, Jesus Christ, Thy Son and our Lord, Who is our health, life and resurrection, through Whom we are made free and saved, to Whom be all glory forever. Amen.



*Antiphon:* Well done, thou good and faithful servant, because thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will place thee over many things; enter into the joy of thy Lord.

*Priest:* Our Lord hath guided the just man by right ways.

*People:* And hath shown him the kingdom of God.



St. Francis Xavier in India (1542-49)

LET US PRAY

*People:* O God, who wast pleased to bring to the bosom of Thy Church the nations of the Indies, through the preaching and miracles of St. Francis Xavier, mercifully grant us, that we may imitate his virtues, whose glorious merits we hold in veneration. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



A COMMEMORATION OF  
ST. IGNATIUS LOYOLA

*Antiphon:* This man, despising the world and triumphing over earthly things, heaped up riches in Heaven by word and work.

*Priest:* The Lord loved and adorned him.

*People:* And a garment of glory He put upon him.



LET US PRAY

*People:* O God, who for the propagation of the greater glory of Thy name hast by blessed Ignatius strengthened the church militant with new help, graciously vouchsafe, that we, by his assistance and imitation, valiantly combating upon earth, may merit with him an everlasting crown in Heaven. Amen.

## PRAYER FOR THE FIRST DAY

O God and Lord of the Angels, whom Thou dost entrust with the guardianship of men, I make Thee an offering of all the merits of these heavenly spirits, and those of Thy servant, St. Francis Xavier, who was called an Angel for his purity, and because he preserved men from many spiritual and corporal dangers. I beseech Thee, grant me that purity of soul and body which Thou didst confer on this Thy holy Apostle, and that particular grace, which I beg in this Novena, to Thy greater honor and glory. Amen.



## PRAYER FOR THE SECOND DAY

Lord God of the Archangels, whom Thou dost entrust with the most weighty concerns of Thy Glory, and the benefit of men, I offer up to Thee the merits of these most diligent spirits, and those of thy great servant, St. Francis Xavier, whom Thou madest the Minister of Thy glory, and to whom Thou recommendest the spiritual welfare of innumerable souls, I beseech Thee, grant that I may perform those duties which Thy most holy and divine will has imposed upon me, and also that I may obtain that particular grace which I beg of Thee in this Novena, to Thy honor and glory. Amen.

## PRAYER FOR THE THIRD DAY

Lord God of the Principalities, who according to the disposition of Thy divine will, by means of Angels and Archangels, takest care of the welfare of mankind, enlightening, instructing and governing them; I offer up to Thee the merits of these most zealous spirits and those of Thy Servant, St. Francis Xavier, who enlightened and converted many kingdoms and provinces, and in them innumerable souls, not only by himself, but by his disciples and followers, instructing, teaching and commanding. I beseech Thee, grant me the zeal of this holy Apostle, and the particular petition I tender in this Novena, to Thy greater honor and glory. Amen.



## PRAYER FOR THE FOURTH DAY

Lord God of the Powers, who have a special prerogative to curb the infernal spirits; I offer up to Thee the merits of these Powers, and those of Thy servant, St. Francis Xavier, to whom Thou gavest singular power of expelling devils from bodies and souls. I beseech Thee, grant me the grace to overcome all the temptations of the devil, and that which I beg of Thee in this Novena, to Thy greater honor and glory. Amen.



St. Francis Xavier's Labors in Japan (1549)



## PRAYER FOR THE FIFTH DAY

Lord God of the Virtues, by whose means Thou workest miracles and prodigies peculiar to Thy sovereign power; I offer up to Thee the merits of these most stupendous spirits, and those of Thy servant, St. Francis Xavier, whom Thou madest a worker of new and prodigious miracles, renewing in him the signs and wonders of Thy blessed Apostles, that he might bring the gospel to new nations. I beseech Thee, grant me that profound humility wherewith St. Francis Xavier, amidst so many miracles, sought Thy glory and not his own honor, as also that which I beg in this Novena, to Thy greater honor and glory. Amen.



## PRAYER FOR THE SIXTH DAY

Lord God of the Dominations, who preside over all inferior spirits as ministers of Thy providence, and submit themselves to Thy will, being ever ready to fulfill it; I offer up to Thee the merits of these excellent spirits, and those of St. Francis Xavier, who though superior to many, yet humbly submitted himself to all superiors, acknowledging in them Thy majesty, and readily fulfilling their commands. I beseech Thee, grant me a ready and perfect obedience to all my superiors, and that special petition which I make in this Novena, to Thy honor and glory. Amen.

## PRAYER FOR THE SEVENTH DAY

Lord God of the Thrones, on whom Thou reposest as on the seat of Thy glory and chair of Thy majesty; I offer up to Thee the merits of these supreme spirits, and those of St. Francis Xavier, that throne of Thy glory, that vessel of election to convey Thy name to new nations, who denied himself to himself and to all worldly things, casting them out of his heart, that Thou alone might possess it. I beseech Thee, grant that I may despise all worldly things and rest in Thee alone; grant me also the petition I make in this Novena, to Thy greater honor and glory. Amen.



## PRAYER FOR THE EIGHTH DAY

Lord God of the Cherubim, who are adorned with the most perfect wisdom, I offer up to Thee the merits of these most knowing spirits, and those of Thy servant, St. Francis Xavier, whom Thou didst grace with super-eminent wisdom, and to whom Thou didst reveal most profound secrets, that he might teach Thy law to many peoples and nations. I beseech Thee grant that I may learn to fear and please Thee, which is true wisdom, that by word and example I may teach others to keep Thy commandments, and that Thou wilt also grant me the favor I beg in this Novena, to Thy greater honor and glory. Amen.

## PRAYER FOR THE NINTH DAY

Lord God of the Seraphim, who are inflamed with the most ardent love for Thee, I offer up to Thee the merits of these most fervent spirits, and those of Thy servant, St. Francis Xavier, who like the Seraphim, was inflamed with Thy love; conquering innumerable hardships and dangers of his life to please Thee, and to make those know and love Thee who before offended Thee and knew Thee not. I beseech Thee, grant that I may love Thee, my only God and my Lord, and endeavor to bring all men to the knowledge and love of Thee; and also that Thou wilt grant me that which I ask in this Novena, to Thy greater honor and glory. Amen.





**Death of St. Francis Xavier off the coast of China  
(1552)**

## TANTUM ERGO

*People:*

1. Tantum ergo Sacramentum  
Veneremur cernui,  
Et antiquum documentum  
Novo cedat ritui;  
Præstet fides supplementum  
Sensuum defectui.

*People:*

2. Genitori, Genitoque  
Laus et jubilatio,  
Salus, honor, virtus, quoque  
Sit et benedictio;  
Procedenti ab utroque  
Compar sit laudatio. Amen.

*Priest:* Panem de cælo præstitisti eis.

*People:* Omne delectamentum in se habentem.

## OREMUS

*Priest:* Deus qui nobis sub Sacramento mirabili, passionis tuæ memoriam reliquisti, tribue, quæsumus, ita nos corporis et sanguinis tui sacra mysteria venerari, ut redemptionis tuæ fructum in nobis jugiter sentiamus. Qui vivis et regnas in sæcula sæculorum.

*People:* Amen.

*Priest and People:*

Blessed be God.

Blessed be His Holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true  
Man.

Blessed be the Name of Jesus.

Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.

Blessed be Jesus in the most Holy Sacra-  
ment of the Altar.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary  
most Holy.

Blessed be her Holy and Immaculate Con-  
ception.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and  
Mother.

Blessed be St. Joseph, her most chaste  
spouse.

Blessed be God, in His Angels and in His  
Saints.



*H Y M N*

Holy God, we praise Thy name,  
Lord of all! We bow before Thee;  
All on earth Thy sceptre claim,  
All in heav'n above adore Thee,  
Infinite Thy vast domain,  
Everlasting is Thy reign.

## NOTES

It is earnestly recommended that those who attend one service will not remain for the one following.



*Put Intentions* in the box marked "For Intentions."

*Put favors received* in the box marked "For Favors Received."

*Confessions* after the Masses and all the Services.

*Individual blessings* with the relic are given during the Novena after all Masses and devotions; the relic is exposed for veneration at the Shrine.

*Medals* may be had at the Bookrack.

*St. Francis Xavier Water* may be had in the Rectory corridor.

*Note the Order of Services posted in the Vestibule.*

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