



NINE DAY NOVENA PRAYERS
FOR THE
FAITHFUL DEPARTED

40TH DAY MEMORIAL PRAYER SERVICE

Prepared by:
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- ❖ The Novena Prayer for the Faithful Departed should begin right away on the day of the death the loved one and continuing until the Ninth Day even though burial has taken place before the end of the nine day novena. If the person died near midnight, the Novena can begin the following day.
- ❖ On the 40th Day of the death of the loved one, the 40TH DAY COMMEMORATION portion of this novena is to be prayed.
- ❖ On the First year Anniversary of the death of the loved one, the Nine Day Novena is to be prayed days leading the actual death anniversary.

In the name of the Father.....

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
 All: And kindle in them the fire of your love.
 Leader: Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
 All: And you shall renew the face of the earth.
 Leader: Let us pray,
 All: O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

ACT OF CONTRITION

All: My God, I believe in Thee. I hope in Thee. I love Thee above all things. With all my Soul, With all my heart, and with all my strength; I love Thee because thou are infinitely good and worthy of being loved and because I love Thee, I repent with all my heart of having offended Thee; have mercy on me a sinner.
Amen

NOVENA PRAYERS

O God our loving and merciful Father, by the resurrection from the dead of our Savior Jesus Christ, death no longer has dominion over those who die in holiness. Help us to see death for what it really is: the end of poverty and the beginning of riches; the end of frustration and the beginning of fulfillment; the end of fear and the beginning of tranquility; the end of pain and the beginning of joy; the end of weakness and the beginning of strength.

Let not grief overwhelm us, or a sense of loss embitter us. Cast out our fears and let not our hearts be troubled. Let Your Spirit of Peace come alive within our experience and hurt, our sorrow and isolation, our sadness today and loneliness tomorrow. We humbly commend to You, N whom You have called out of this mortal life. You treated him/her always with great love. Now that You have freed him/her from all evils of this earth, bring him/her into Your Paradise where there is no more grief or mourning or sadness but peace and joy with Your Son and the holy Spirit Forever.

We thank You for all the blessings You have given to N in his/her mortal life. We pray that he/she was able to glorify You with the life he/she lived and the way he/she made use of his/her blessings.

Lord God, grant that we will never forget that life is short and uncertain. Let Your Spirit guide us in holiness, justice and service to our brothers and sisters. Be with us merciful Jesus, during our moment of sorrow and

loneliness. You are the Rock, our Fortress and Strength. We trust in You and in Your glorious Resurrection. We lift up to You our grief and sorrow, confident that You will change our mourning to rejoicing that our beloved N now rests in Your Peace.

God, of the living and the dead, grant to the soul of N the remission of all her sins that through pious supplications she may obtain the pardon she has always desired. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. AMEN.

THE CHAPLET OF THE DIVINE MERCY

Leader: You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

All: O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You! (3x)

*Our Father,
Hail Mary,*

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Then, on the large bead before each decade:

Leader: Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ

All: In atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

On the ten small beads of each decade, say:

Leader: For the sake of His sorrowful Passion,

All: Have mercy on us and on the whole world.

After the fifth decade, we say: (Three times)

Leader: Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

All: Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion is inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair

nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself. AMEN.

(Repeat 3x)

Leader: Jesus

All: I trust in you.

THE HOLY ROSARY

All: Lord Jesus, open our lips and inflame our hearts and cleanse them of useless and evil thoughts. Enlighten our minds that we may seriously meditate on Your sufferings and death and the pains endured by Your most glorious Mother; and deign to hear and receive us before Your great Majesty You who lives and reigns forever. Amen.

All: My most merciful Jesus look down with eyes of pity on the soul of N for whom You have suffered and died on the cross.

The Apostle's Creed (page 4), the 3 Hail Marys, the Lord's Prayer and the Doxology.

THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES

On Mondays and Saturdays

All: O God, who is ever so loving and merciful, we humbly beseech You in behalf of N, whom You have called out of this world. Do not deliver him/her into the hands of the enemy nor forget him/her forever, but bid the Holy Angels lead him/her to paradise, his/her true country, that for as much as in You, he/she put his/her hope and trust. He/she may not endure the pains of hell, but may come to the possession of eternal joys. Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. AMEN.

First Mystery: The Annunciation of Gabriel to Mary (Luke 1:26-38)

Second Mystery: The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth (Luke 1:39-56)

Third Mystery: The Birth of Our Lord (Luke 2:1-21)

Fourth Mystery: The Presentation of Our Lord (Luke 2:22-38)

Fifth Mystery: The Finding of Our Lord in the Temple (Luke 2:41-52)

THE LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

On Thursdays

All: Be merciful, we beseech You O Lord, for the soul of N, for whom we offer to you this sacrifice of praise, humbly beseeching Your Majesty that by those holy and propitiatory offerings, he/she may be found worthy to win everlasting rest. Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. AMEN.

First Mystery: The Baptism of Our Lord in the River Jordan (Matthew 3:13-16)

Second Mystery: The Wedding at Cana, when Christ manifested Himself (Jn 2:1-11)

Third Mystery: The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God (Mark 1:14-15)

Fourth Mystery: The Transfiguration of Our Lord (Matthew 17:1-8)

Fifth Mystery: The Last Supper, when Our Lord gave us the Holy Eucharist (Mt 26)

THE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

On Tuesdays and Fridays

All: Grant we beseech You, Almighty God that the soul of N who departed out of this world may be cleansed by this novena prayers, receive forgiveness and everlasting rest. Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. AMEN.

First Mystery: The Agony of Our Lord in the Garden (Matthew 26:36-56)

Second Mystery: Our Lord is Scourged at the Pillar (Matthew 27:26)

Third Mystery: Our Lord is Crowned with Thorns (Matthew 27:27-31)

Fourth Mystery: Our Lord Carries the Cross to Calvary (Matthew 27:32)

Fifth Decade: The Crucifixion of Our Lord (Matthew 27:33-56)

THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

On Wednesdays and Sundays

All: Absolve, O Lord, the soul of N from every bond of sin so that by Your aid he/she deserves to escape the judgment of wrath, and come to the enjoyment in eternal light. Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. AMEN.

First Mystery: The Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord (John 20:1-29)

Second Mystery: The Ascension of Our Lord (Luke 24:36-53)

Third Mystery: The Descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-41)

Fourth Mystery: The Assumption of Mary into Heaven

Fifth Mystery: The Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth

The Hail Holy Queen

Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life our sweetness and our hope. To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; To you do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, your eyes of mercy toward us and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary!

Leader: Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God

All: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray,

O God, whose only begotten Son, by His life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal salvation. Grant, we beseech You, that while meditating on these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

LITANY OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Lord, have mercy on us,

Lord, have mercy on us

Christ, have mercy on us.

Christ, have mercy on us

Lord, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us

Christ, graciously hear us.

Christ, graciously hear us.

God the Father of Heaven,

Have mercy on the soul of N.

That You would be pleased to have mercy
on those of whom no special remembrance is made on earth,
That You who would be pleased to grant them
all the pardon and remission of all their sins
That You would be pleased to deliver the souls
of our relatives and friends from the pains of hell
That You would be pleased to receive them
into the company of the blessed,
That You who would be pleased to fulfill all their desires

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

have mercy on us

From the gate of hell,
O Lord, hear my prayer.

*Deliver the soul of N, O Lord.
And let my cry come unto You*

Let us pray,

Merciful Father, hear our prayers and console us. As we renew our faith in your Son, whom you raised from the dead, strengthen our hope that our dear departed will share in Christ's resurrection.

O Lord, to You, we humbly entrust N. In this life you embraced him/her with your tender love; deliver him/her now from every evil and bid him/her enter eternal rest. The old order has passed away: welcome him/her, then, into paradise, where there will be no sorrow, no weeping or pain, but the fullness of peace and joy with your Son and the Holy Spirit in eternity.

Into your hands, Father of mercies, we commend N in the sure and certain hope that, together with all who have died in Christ, he/she will rise with him. We give you thanks for the blessings which you bestowed upon N in this life: they are signs to us of your goodness and of our fellowship with the saints in Christ.

Merciful Lord, turn toward us and listen to our prayers: open the gates of paradise to your servant and help us who remain to comfort one another with assurances of faith, until we all meet in Christ and are with you and with N for ever. AMEN.

FIRST DAY

Leader: Lord our God, receive our supplications, prayers and mortifications and sighs in suffrage for the holy souls for whom we make this novena; and we pray that by the motherly love bestowed on you by your most holy Mother, when she followed you on the way of sorrow up to Mount Calvary, and grant what we ask of you in this novena for your greater honor and glory.

All: AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READING

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Wisdom 3:1–9

The souls of the virtuous are in the hands of God, no torment shall ever touch them. In the eyes of the unwise, they did appear to die, their going looked like a disaster, their leaving us, like annihilation; but

they are in peace. If they experienced punishment as men see it, their hope was rich with immortality; slight was their affliction, great will their blessing be. God has put them to the test and proved them worthy to be with him; he has tested them like gold in a furnace, and accepted them as a holocaust. When the time comes for his visitation they will shine out; as sparks run through the stubble, so will they. They shall judge nations, rule over peoples, and the Lord will be their king forever. They who trust in him will understand the truth, those who are faithful will live with him in love; for grace and mercy await those he has chosen.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 27)

Response: I believe I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? (Response)

One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:

to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,

to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple. (Response)

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!

"Come," my heart says, "seek his face!"

Your face, Lord, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me. (Response)

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage;

wait for the Lord! (Response)

GOSPEL

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

(Continue on to the Concluding Prayer on Page 19)

SECOND DAY

Leader: Merciful God, we beseech you, by the pain which your Holy Mother saw you suffer and agonize on the cross, that the holy souls in purgatory be freed from those pains; especially for the soul of N, for whom we are praying and offering in this novena. Bring those who are submerged in their sins to a true knowledge of their guilt and grant what we ask of you in this novena, for your greater honor and glory.

All: AMEN

SCRIPTURE READING

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah. 25:6–9

The Lord will destroy Death for ever. On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich food. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 116)

Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.

The Lord protects the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me. (Response)

I kept my faith, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted";
I said in my consternation, "Everyone is a liar." (Response)

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.

O Lord, I am your servant; You have loosed my bonds. (Response)

GOSPEL

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Matthew 11:25-30

At that time Jesus said in reply, "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike. Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him. "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for your selves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

(Continue on to the Concluding Prayer on Page 19)

THIRD DAY

Leader: Almighty Father, to whom nobody asks without the hope of receiving, by the intercession of St. Joseph and the Blessed Virgin Mary, enable the suffering souls in purgatory to be able to leave that place, especially for the soul of N. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

All: AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READING

FIRST READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 5:5–11

Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? Hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man — though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die — but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled, surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 23)

Response: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. (Response)

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff-- they comfort me. (Response)

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. (Response)

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long. (Response)

GOSPEL

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus told his disciples this parable: “The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them, but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps. Since the bridegroom was long delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

At midnight, there was a cry, ‘Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’ Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise ones replied, ‘No, for there may not be enough for us and you. Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.’ While they went off to buy it, the bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him. Then the door was locked. Afterwards the other virgins came and said, ‘Lord, Lord, open the door for us!’ But he said in reply, ‘Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.’ Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

(Continue on to the Concluding Prayer on Page 19)

FOURTH DAY

Leader: Gracious God, through whose mercy the saints rest in glory, we beg you to set free those blessed souls in purgatory, especially for the soul of N , for whom we are praying in this novena. May you radiate your compassion and love to them so they may enter into your Kingdom. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

All: AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READING

FIRST READING

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans 5:17-21

Brothers and Sisters: If, by the transgression of one person, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one person Jesus Christ. In conclusion, just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all, so through one righteous act acquittal and life came to all. For just as through the disobedience of one person the many were made sinners, so through the obedience of one the many will be made righteous. The law entered in so that transgression might increase but, where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through justification for eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 25)

Response: Those who hope in you, O Lord, shall not be disappointed.

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

According to your steadfast love remember me,
for your goodness' sake, O Lord! (Response)

Relieve the troubles of my heart, and bring me out of my distress.
Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins. (Response)

O guard my life, and deliver me; do not let me be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.
May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you. (Response)

GOSPEL

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus said to his disciples: "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.'

Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.' Then they will answer and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?' He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.' And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

(Continue on to the Concluding Prayer on Page 19)

FIFTH DAY

Leader: Sovereign Lord, in whom it is proper to be merciful, through the intercession of St. Michael, the archangel, and by the sorrow of your Blessed Mother who suffered when the soldier pierced your side with a lance, have mercy on the soul of N for whom we are offering this novena and bring him/her to your eternal rest in heaven, for the better glory and honor of your name.

All: AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READING

FIRST READING

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans 6:3-9

Brothers and Sisters: Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life. For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection. We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin. For a dead person has been absolved from sin. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 42)

Response: My soul is thirsting for God, the God of my life.

As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God. (Response)

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
When shall I come and behold the face of God? (Response)

These things I remember, as I pour out my soul:
how I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God,
with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival. (Response)

GOSPEL

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Luke 7:11-17

Soon afterward Jesus journeyed to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd accompanied him. As he drew near to the gate of the city, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. A large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, he was moved with pity for her and said to her, "Do not weep." He stepped forward and touched the coffin; at this the bearers halted, and he said, "Young man, I tell you, arise!" The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, exclaiming, "A great prophet has arisen in our midst," and "God has visited his people." This report about him spread through the whole of Judea and in all the surrounding region.

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

(Continue on to the Concluding Prayer on Page 19)

SIXTH DAY

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, incline your ears to our petitions. Have mercy on the souls in purgatory, especially for the soul of N for whom we make this novena. We humbly ask you to set them free and bring them to the happiness in heaven, for the greater glory and honor of your name.

All: AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READING

FIRST READING

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to the Timothy 4:1-2,68

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingly power: proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient; convince, reprimand, encourage through all patience and teaching. For I am already being poured out like a libation, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me, which the Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearance.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 103)

Response: The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever. (Response)

As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.
For he knows how we were made; he remembers that we are dust. (Response)

As for mortals, their days are like grass; they flourish like a flower of the field;
for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more. (Response)

But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting
to everlasting on those who fear him,
and his righteousness to children's children, to those who keep his covenant
and remember to do his commandments. (Response)

GOSPEL

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Luke 12:35-40

Jesus said to his disciples: "Gird your loins and light your lamps and be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival. Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself, have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them. And should he come in the second or third watch and find them prepared in this way, blessed are those servants. Be sure of this: if the master of the house

had known the hour when the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

(Continue on to the Concluding Prayer on Page 19)

SEVENTH DAY

Leader: Lord of mercy, hear our prayer. May our brother/sister N, whom you called your son/daughter on earth, enter into the Kingdom of peace and light, where your saints live in glory. We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

All: AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READING

FIRST READING

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

Brothers and Sisters: We know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven. So we are always courageous, although we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord. Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 143)

Response: O Lord, hear my prayer.

Lord, listen to my prayer: turn your ear to my appeal.

You are faithful, you are just; give answer. Do not call your servant to judgment for no one is just in your sight. (Response)

I remember the days that are past: I ponder all your works.

I muse on what your hand has wrought and to you I stretch out my hands.

Like a parched land my soul thirsts for you. (Response)

Lord, make haste and give me answer: for my spirit fails within me.

In the morning let me know your love for I put my trust in you. (Response)

Teach me to do your will for you, O Lord, are my God.

Let your good spirit guide me in ways that are level and smooth. (Response)

GOSPEL

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John 14:1-6

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where I am going you know the way." Thomas said to him, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

(Continue on to the Concluding Prayer on Page 19)

EIGHT DAY

Leader: Creator and Redeemer of all mankind, through the infinite merits of passion, death and resurrection, we beg you to shower the immense treasures of your clemency on those blessed souls, especially for the eternal repose of the soul of N. Bring those who are in sin to a true knowledge and repentance and grant what we ask for in this novena, through Christ, our Lord.

All: AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READING

FIRST READING

A Reading from the First Letter of St. John 3:14-16

Beloved: We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers. Whoever does not love remains in death. Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life remaining in him. The way we came to know love was that he laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If someone who has worldly means sees a brother in need and refuses him compassion, how can the love of God remain in him? Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 130)

Response: Out of the depths I cry to you, Lord.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive to my voice of my pleading. (Response)

If you, O Lord, mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness, for this we revere you. (Response)

My soul is waiting for the Lord I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord more than the watchman for daybreak. (Response)

Because with the LORD there is mercy and fullness of redemption;
Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. (Response)

GOSPEL

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Luke: 23:33, 39-43

When Jesus and the others came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him and the criminals there, one on his right, the other on his left. Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us." The other, however, rebuking him, said in reply, "Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same condemnation? And indeed, we have been condemned justly, for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this man has done nothing criminal." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

(Continue on to the Concluding Prayer on Page 19)

NINTH DAY

Leader: Lord God, you are the glory of the believers and the life of the just. Your Son redeemed us by dying and rising to life again. Our brother/sister N, was faithful and believed in resurrection. Give to him/her the joys and the blessings of the life to come. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

All: AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READING

FIRST READING

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep. Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 63)

Response: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. (Response)

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life; my lips shall speak your praise. (Response)

So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. (Response)

You have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice
My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. (Response)

GOSPEL

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John 14:1-6

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where I am going you know the way." Thomas said to him, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

(Continue on to the Concluding Prayer on Page 19)

40 DAYS MEMORIAL PRAYER SERVICE

Leader: Blessed are you, Lord our God, lover of souls you uphold us in life and sustain us in death: to you be glory and praise for ever! For the darkness of this age is passing away as Christ the bright and morning star brings to his saints the light of life. As you give light to those in darkness who walk in the shadow of death so remember in your kingdom your faithful servants, especially **N**, that death may be for them the gate to life and to unending fellowship with you; where with your saints you live and reign one in the perfect union of love now and for ever.

All: AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READING

FIRST READING

A Reading from the Book of Revelation 21:1-7.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them [as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away." The one who sat on the throne* said, "Behold, I make all things new." Then he said, "Write these words down, for they are trustworthy and true." He said to me, "They are accomplished.* I [am] the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water. The victor will inherit these gifts, and I shall be his God, and he will be my son.

But as for cowards, the unfaithful, the depraved, murderers, the unchaste, sorcerers, idol-worshipers, and deceivers of every sort, their lot is in the burning pool of fire and sulfur, which is the second death."

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 118)

Response: Open for me the gates of righteousness:

I will enter and offer thanks to the Lord.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, his mercy endures forever.

Let Israel say: his mercy endures forever.

Let the house of Aaron say, his mercy endures forever.

Let those who fear the LORD say, his mercy endures forever. (Response)

In danger I called on the LORD; the LORD answered me and set me free.

The LORD is with me; I am not afraid; what can mortals do against me?

The LORD is with me as my helper; I shall look in triumph on my foes.

Better to take refuge in the LORD than to put one's trust in mortals.

Better to take refuge in the LORD than to put one's trust in princes. (Response)

All the nations surrounded me; in the LORD's name I cut them off.

They surrounded me on every side; in the LORD's name I cut them off.

They surrounded me like bees; they burned up like fire among thorns;

in the LORD's name I cut them off. (Response)

I was hard pressed and falling, but the LORD came to my help.

The LORD, my strength and might, has become my savior.

The joyful shout of deliverance is heard in the tents of the righteous:

"The LORD's right hand works valiantly; the LORD's right hand is raised;

the LORD's right hand works valiantly." (Response)

I shall not die but live and declare the deeds of the LORD.
The LORD chastised me harshly, but did not hand me over to death.
Open the gates of righteousness; I will enter and thank the LORD.
This is the LORD's own gate, through it the righteous enter. (Response)

I thank you for you answered me; you have been my savior.
The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes.
This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice in it and be glad.
LORD, grant salvation! LORD, grant good fortune! (Response)

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD.
We bless you from the house of the LORD.
The LORD is God and has enlightened us.
Join in procession with leafy branches up to the horns of the altar.
You are my God, I give you thanks; my God, I offer you praise.
Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, his mercy endures forever. (Response)

GOSPEL

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John 17:24-26.

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: "Father, my disciples are your gift to me. I wish that where I am they also may be with me, that they may see my glory that you gave me, because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

Righteous Father, the world also does not know you, but I know you, and they know that you sent me. I made known to them your name and I will make it known, that the love with which you loved me may be in them and I in them."

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

CONCLUDING PRAYERS

Leader: Saints of God, come to his/her aid!
Hasten to meet him/her, angels of the Lord!

All: Receive his/her soul and present him/her to God the Most High.

Leader: May Christ, who called you, take you to himself;
may angels lead you to the bosom of Abraham.

All: Receive his/her soul and present him/her to God the Most High.

Leader: Eternal rest grant unto him/her, O Lord.

All: And let Your perpetual light shine upon him/her.

Leader: May she/he rest in peace.

All: Amen.

Leader: May the soul of N and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

All: Amen.

Leader: May the love of God and the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ bless and console us and gently wipe every tear from our eyes: in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

