

NOVENA OF GRACE

IN HONOR OF SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER

In 1633, the Jesuit priest, Father Mastrilli, was at the point of death as a result of an accident when Saint Francis Xavier appeared to him and asked him to devote his life to missionizing the Indies. Father Mastrilli made a vow before his superior that he would do so if God spared his life. Saint Francis appeared to him again to ask him to renew the vow, and foretold that Father Mastrilli would be martyred. After this second apparition, the priest was completely healed. News of the miracle spread, and this novena began to be prayed. Father Mastrilli kept his vow and was martyred on 17 October 1637.

℣ In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen. O Jesus, answer our petitions as we kneel before Thee.

℟ O Heart of Jesus, hear and grant our prayers.

℣ Pray for us, Saint Francis Xavier,

℟ that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

℣ Let us pray: Come, Holy Ghost, fill the hearts of Thy faithful. Enkindle in them the fire of Thy love. Send forth Thy spirit and they shall be created,

℟ and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth.

℣ Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,

℟ as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

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 to 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 for me the favor I ask in this novena.

(Mention your intentions here.)

But if what I ask is not for the glory of God and for the good of my soul do thou obtain for me what is more conducive to both. Amen.

Recite one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and one Glory Be.

℣ Pray for us, Saint Francis Xavier,

℟ That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Hymn to Saint Francis Xavier:

Oh, Father Saint 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.

Saint Francis Xavier, Oh pray for us!

Saint Francis Xavier, Oh pray for us!

Oh, Father Saint 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.

Saint Francis Xavier, Oh pray for us!

Saint Francis Xavier, Oh pray for us!

Saint Francis Xavier's Prayer for 'Unbelievers':

Eternal God, Creator of all things remember that the souls of unbelievers have been created by Thee and formed to Thy own image and likeness. Behold, O Lord, how to Thy dishonor hell is being filled with these very souls. Remember that Jesus Christ, Thy Son for their salvation suffered a most cruel death. Do not permit, O Lord, I beseech Thee that Thy divine Son be any longer despised by unbelievers, but rather, being appeased by the prayers of Thy saints and the Church the most holy spouse of Thy Son deign to be mindful of Thy mercy and forgetting their idolatry and their unbelief bring them to know Him Whom Thou didst send Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Our Lord Who is our health, life, and resurrection through Whom we have been redeemed and saved to Whom be all glory forever. Amen.

℣ Pray for us, Saint Francis Xavier,

℟ That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

℣ O God, Who did deign, by the preaching and miracles of Saint Francis Xavier, to join unto Thy Church the nations of the Indies, grant, we beseech Thee, that we who reverence his glorious merits, may also imitate his example, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.