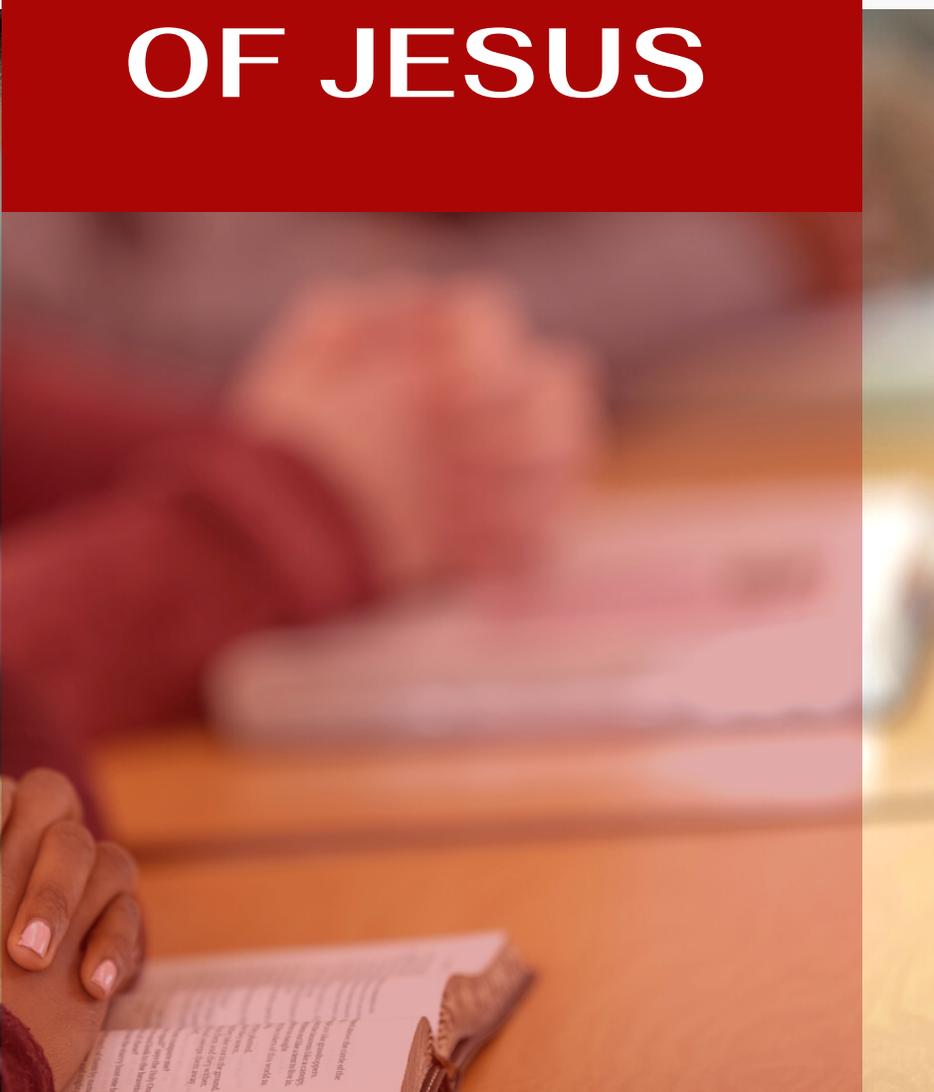


NOVENA TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS



AN INVITATION TO THOSE INVOLVED IN AND THOSE WHO CARE FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO TO PRAY TOGETHER – JUNE 2022

**As the school year comes to a close,
we look back and reflect.**

From the difficult first steps back to 'normal' to the heartbreaking news of the war in Ukraine to the hope-filled anticipation of the Holy Father's journey to Canada this July, "unprecedented" has become our new normal. As an education community, we have embraced the opportunities to accompany one another in hope even through these uncertain times. We have embraced the call to restore, renew and rebuild.

Let us pray together in preparation for the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Let us find our sure comfort and rest in the Christ's love for each and every one of us. Let us always remember:

*"Jesus Christ loves you; he gave his life to
save
you; and now he is living at your side every
day
to enlighten, strengthen and free you."
(Pope Francis, *The Joy of the Gospel*, 164)*





STRUCTURE AND USE OF THE NOVENA

A novena is an ancient form of prayer in the Catholic tradition consisting of nine consecutive days of prayer leading up to a particular feast day where a particular blessing or grace is sought.

The devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the celebration of the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus are part of our longstanding tradition in the Church. Students in Catholic Schools in Ontario learn about this devotion in the Grade 6 *Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ* program during Unit 5.

You may begin each day with an announcement of the Theme.

Then say, "Let us pray." (pause)

Make the Sign of the Cross and proceed with the day's prayer as shown below.

Each day, the prayer incorporates a small Scripture passage from the readings of the day. In this way, our prayer is joined with the prayer of the whole Church worldwide. It is recommended that you observe a brief pause following the proclamation of the short Scripture passage. This allows for a moment of silent reflection and our collective prayer then follows from the Word of God.

IN PREPARATION: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15 |

WE TAKE COMFORT IN YOU, O LORD

On this day, before our Novena begins, we think of Psalm 31. This psalm reminds us how strong God's love is and how safe and loved we feel when we rest in and with God.

Over the next nine days our prayers will focus on the heart of Jesus – his Sacred Heart. We will remember his great love for us. The love of God is secure like a rock and strong like a fortress. Jesus' heart is full of the love of God for us. His love is a comfort to us.

*In you, O Lord, I seek refuge;
Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.
You are indeed my rock and my fortress;
for your name's sake lead me and guide me,
I will exult and rejoice in your steadfast love,*

*Blessed be the Lord,
for he has wondrously shown his steadfast love to me
Let your heart take comfort,
All who hope in the Lord.
(Psalm 31: 1, 3, 7, 21, 24)*

FIRST DAY: THURSDAY, JUNE 16

(Matthew 6: 7 - 15)

We Pray as You Taught Us

Let us pray +

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O my Jesus, I place my trust in you.

*Jesus said, "Pray then in this way:
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.*

And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

(pause for a moment of silent reflection)

Encouraged by your words we now ask for the the **grace to live and forgive as you taught us.**

Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place all our trust in you.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, full of compassion and love, have mercy on us.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SECOND DAY: FRIDAY, JUNE 17

(Matthew 6: 19 – 21)

We Remember that your Love is our Greatest Treasure

Let us pray +

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O my Jesus, I place my trust in you.

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, ... but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven... For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

(pause for a moment of silent reflection)

Encouraged by your words we now ask for **the grace of knowing that your love is our greatest treasure and helps us to love others.**

Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place all our trust in you.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, full of compassion and love, have mercy on us.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THIRD DAY: SATURDAY, JUNE 18

(Matthew 6:25, 33)

We Trust in You, O Lord

Let us pray +

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O my Jesus, I place my trust in you.

Jesus said, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life... strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

(pause for a moment of silent reflection)

Encouraged by your words we now ask for **the grace not to worry but to love and serve you and to trust in you.**

Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place all our trust in you.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, full of compassion and love, have mercy on us.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

FOURTH DAY: SUNDAY, JUNE 19

(Luke 9: 14, 16 – 17)

You Give Us Your Very Body and Blood to Strengthen Us

-The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

Let us pray +

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O my Jesus, I place my trust in you.

For there were about five thousand men... And taking the five loaves and the two fish, Jesus looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. And all ate and were filled. What was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.

(pause for a moment of silent reflection)

Encouraged by your words we now ask for **the grace of thankful hearts, especially for the gift of your body and blood in the Eucharist.**

Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place all our trust in you.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, full of compassion and love, have mercy on us.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

FIFTH DAY: MONDAY, JUNE 20

(Matthew 7:1)

Judgement Belongs to God not Us

Let us pray +

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O my Jesus, I place my trust in you.

"Do not judge, so that you may not be judged."

(pause for a moment of silent reflection)

Encouraged by your words we now ask for **the grace never to judge others.**

Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place all our trust in you.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, full of compassion and love, have mercy on us.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SIXTH DAY: TUESDAY, JUNE 21

(Matthew 7:12)

You Give Us the Golden Rule

Let us pray +

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O my Jesus, I place my trust in you.

In everything do to others as you would have them do to you.

(pause for a moment of silent reflection)

Encouraged by your words we now ask for **the grace to live by the Golden Rule.**

Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place all our trust in you.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, full of compassion and love, have mercy on us.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SEVENTH DAY: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

(Psalm 119: 33 - 34)

Teach Us, O Lord, to Follow You

Let us pray +

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O my Jesus, I place my trust in you.

*Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes,
and I will observe it to the end.*

*Give me understanding, that I may keep your law
and observe it with my whole heart.*

(pause for a moment of silent reflection)

Encouraged by your words we now ask for **the grace to learn more every day about how to follow you, Jesus.**

Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place all our trust in you.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, full of compassion and love, have mercy on us.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

EIGHTH DAY: THURSDAY, JUNE 23

(Luke 1: 13, 17)

You Call Us to Announce the Good News like John the Baptist

(The Solemnity of the Nativity of John the Baptist is celebrated today in most places because tomorrow is the celebration of the Sacred Heart of Jesus)

Let us pray +

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O my Jesus, I place my trust in you.

Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John.

...He will turn many to the Lord their God ... and make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

(pause for a moment of silent reflection)

Encouraged by your words we now ask for **the grace to be like John the Baptist and announce the Good News that you have come to save us.**

Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place all our trust in you.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, full of compassion and love, have mercy on us.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



NINTH DAY: FRIDAY, JUNE 24 (Romans 5: 5)

Your Love has been Poured into our Hearts

- Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Let us pray +

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O my Jesus, I place my trust in you.

Hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

(pause for a moment of silent reflection)

Encouraged by your words we now ask for **the grace of your Holy Spirit we can show others your love.**

Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place all our trust in you.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, full of compassion and love, have mercy on us.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



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