

The Novena for the Election

Begin the Novena for the Election on Monday, October 26 and conclude it on Tuesday, November 3. It can be prayed at any time. The structure of the Novena:

- Sign of the Cross
- Asking the Intercession of a particular Saint [see below]
- Saying the Novena Prayer [see below]
- Concluding with the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be.
- Sign of the Cross

Seeking the Intercession of the Saints

Day 1 (October 26): St. Jude, patron saint of impossible causes: join us in praying for this election and for these intentions [state your personal intentions here].

Day 2 (October 27): St. Frances Cabrini, you who tirelessly built the Kingdom of God in America: join us in praying for this election and for these intentions [state your personal intentions here].

Day 3 (October 28): St. Thomas More, martyred for your uncompromising faith: join us in praying for this election and for these intentions [state your personal intentions here].

Day 4 (October 29): St. Jose Sanchez del Rio, martyred for your child-like yet fearless faith in Christ the King: join us in praying for this election and for these intentions [state your personal intentions here].

Day 5 (October 30): St. Kateri Tekakwitha, who fled to Canada in order to freely practice your faith: join us in praying for this election and for these intentions [state your personal intentions here].

Day 6 (October 31): St. Damien de Veuster of Molokai, selfless servant of the lepers of Hawaii: join us in praying for this election and for these intentions [state your personal intentions here].

Day 7 (November 1): St. John Neumann, founder of the diocesan Catholic school system in America: join us in praying for this election and for these intentions [state your personal intentions here].

Day 8 (November 2): St. Rita, patroness of hopeless causes: join us in praying for this election and for these intentions [state your personal intentions here].

Day 9 (November 3): Mother Mary, Immaculate Conception: Patroness of the Americas: join us in praying for this election and for these intentions [state your personal intentions here].

The Novena Prayer

Heavenly Father, nothing can overcome your greatness. But we are weak and need a deeper gift of hope as we come to our election time and the future of our country. Help us remember that political power can never replace the mission of the Church to preach the Gospel to all nations. Send your Holy Spirit upon us to help us form our consciences according to the Gospel so that we may both vote and act for the Kingdom of God. As we wrestle with the complexities of political life, let us never forget the preeminence of the need to protect the child in the womb and the mother who carries the child. In our respect for all human life, let us pray as well for those who are poor, weak, or marginalized, those who are immigrants and refugees, all those affected by war, those who are ill, those struggling financially, and all who suffer from the failings of the political systems of this world. Give us the courage to always be detached from our political loyalties and be first a faithful follower of Jesus, the true King. And when it comes time for us to contribute to the political realm by our vote, help us to cast our vote in a way that is pleasing to you. For these elections in our nation, O God, please bless us with the best possible outcome in this fallen world at all levels of government. Finally, just as you brought our salvation from the horrible death of your Son, we pray that from the political work in our country, you will bring about great good for your people. We make this prayer, with the help of the Holy Spirit, through your Son, Christ our Lord. Amen.

What is a Novena? The word “novena” comes from the Latin word for nine (“novem”). Typically, a novena refers to nine successive days of prayer, asking God for a specific intention. A novena often invokes a saint’s intercession. Novenas also often begin or end on days of importance either in the Church or within wider society. Novenas are ancient devotions that help us become more intentional and persistent in prayer. The importance of the number nine associated with the praying of a novena can be traced back to Scripture. In the Acts of the Apostles, Jesus gathers his disciples and exhorts them to pray after his Ascension. Tradition holds that that Apostles followed this command; they, gathered with the Blessed Virgin Mary, prayed together during the nine days between the Ascension and the Descent of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost). Another connection people make with the significance of the number nine in a novena is that Mary bore Jesus in her womb for nine months before Jesus was born. The parallel between these two images is striking. Jesus spends nine months in Mary’s womb before coming forth to fulfill his mission on earth, and Mary and the Apostles spend nine days in prayer before going forth to spread the Gospel after Pentecost. May these images prompt us to begin the work of building the Kingdom of God in prayer.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

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October 18, 2020
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pastor: Father Charles Danielson

OFFICE HOURS: Tues. & Sat. 9:30am—1:00pm

PARISH SECRETARY:

Christine Porter

email: stfranciswindsor@vermontcatholic.org

JOIN US AT MASS!

We are glad to see more and more folks coming back! Please be sure to sit only in seats designated to allow for proper social distancing. And remember your masks! Thank you!

ALTAR SERVER COORDINATOR: Ron Hamel, Jr.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES:

The new classes are just beginning. Contact Christine Porter for scheduling.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Are welcome and urged to register with Parish Office

Finance Council: Richard Fenton 885-3598 – Ginny Fox 436-2831 — Frederick Lord 356-6496 –
Andrew Robbins 738-3512 John Scanlon 484-9427

Parish Council: Barbara Barbour 299-7117 – Joyce Corbin 484-3329—Janet Farley 674-6065 –
Mary Anne Mesropian 674-9284 — Colleen DeSchamp 484-5245 – Steve Giroux 674-9509



WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday & Thursday
Mass 9:00 am

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 6:00 pm
Sunday 10:30 am

HOLY DAYS

As Announced

RECONCILIATION

11:15-12:00 noon

FUNERALS, MARRIAGES,

BAPTISMS

By arrangement

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to have a Mass intention said for a friend or loved one, please contact the Parish office. There are many dates currently available.

TV MASS & SPIRITUAL RESOURCES

For the weekly schedule of Diocesan activities, including daily Mass at 12:05pm and Sunday Mass at 10:00am on Sunday, live rosary at 11:15am, visit www.vermontcatholic.org/spiritualresources

Additionally, televised Masses can be seen on Windsor On Air Comcast Channel 8 & 1081 at the following times every week: Saturday at 5:00 pm, Sunday at 5:00 am, 7:00 am, and 5:00 pm and on WCAX-TV Channel 3 at 6:00 a.m.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please remember in your prayers:

Peg Grimard, Dale West, Jan Lepisko, Lisa Moeller, Kathy Whited, Rhonda McFarland, Christiane Zue, Claire Harlow, Elinor Garcia, Nancy LaBounty, Officer Kevin Valencia, Sandra Carney, Joan Schuyler, Renee Bowling, John Ayers, David Dillon, Joseph Farley, John Scanlon, Ron Poulin, Archer David Ruzik.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

William Tansey, Wesley Hrydziusko, Peter Kilfeather, Masie Ayers, Kacey Leavitt, John Crump, Gerald Lepisko, Father Raphael Kakwawu Nyabenda, Paul Koch, Peter Toepfer, Phil Turgeon, Shirley Bates, Hugh Duling, Phil Salzano, Anne Juzwiak, Nancy Levesque, Joan Lemire, Freida Leneau, Nancy Marsden, Nancy Hall, Earl White Sr., Charles Rushia and Mark Curtis

OFFERINGS

Offerings Report for FY 2021

Weekly Offertory for October 11, 2020: \$1,179.00

Weekly Offertory Goal: \$1,951.14

Offertory Collected (Year to Date): \$26,071.00

Offertory Year to Date Goal: \$29,267.10

Donations/Fees received in addition to Offertory:

October 11, 2020: \$345.00

Total Donations/Fees (Year to Date): \$ 1,532.00

Donation/Fee Year to Date Goal (\$935.12/wk): \$14,278.68

In addition to regular offertory, the donations received included \$200.00 for Mass intentions, \$145 in memory of Mark Curtis

MASS ATTENDANCE

September 27	74
October 4	80
October 11	57

2nd COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

This weekend, we celebrate World Mission Sunday. We celebrate this day by remembering our baptismal call – to bring the Gospel to all! The collection today for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith ensures the work and service of the Mission Church, as it supports priests, religious, and lay leaders who offer the Lord's mercy and concrete help to the most vulnerable communities in the Pope's missions. Thank you for your generosity.

2nd COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

The Priests' Benefit Fund works to support our priests throughout their ministry, but especially seeks to provide senior and disabled priests with sufficient financial means to lead a prayerful and dignified life. This Fund was established as a means to care for the ill and aged priests with healthcare needs, and support a pension program and health insurance coverage. The Annual Collection for this fund will be taken up on the weekend of October 26 & 27. Your support is greatly appreciated.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	10/17	6:00pm
For the Hannah and George families by Helen George		
Sunday	10/18	10:30am
For the Parishioners and Benefactors of St. Francis of Assisi Parish		
Tuesday	10/20	9:00am
For the repose of the soul of Gina Kicinski by Christine Porter		
Thursday	10/22	9:00am
For our Diocese, State, and Nation		
Saturday	10/24	6:00pm
For the Parishioners and Benefactors of St. Francis of Assisi Parish		
Sunday	10/25	10:30am
For the repose of the souls of George and Alyce Anderson by Myra Poland		

Message from Fr. Rick,

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

Our Lord's words might well raise the question: what belongs to Caesar and what belongs to God?

Well, in one sense of course, it all belongs to God. That said it also must be said that there are those things in any human society that are directly under the concern and authority of the State, and there are things likewise that are specifically in the special competence of the Church.

The Church recognizes the principle of prudential judgment.

There are issues about which people of good will can and do legitimately disagree. These issues (the proper role of government in the arena of health care for example) are, in a representative Democracy like the U.S., "hashed out" if you will through vigorous debate with people offering various perspectives on the issues of the day. Then there are other issues concerning, for example recognizing the right to life of the unborn, the elderly, the handicapped, and the dying. These issues, because they represent a clear, direct threat to the most fundamental right of all - the right to life - require a robust defense of this most precious right and an equally robust rejection of any threat to that right.

This election year, as in any other, Catholics have a serious obligation before God to know their faith and to cast their votes in such a way as to uphold that faith.

WREATHS

The Church will be selling wreaths again this year as a fundraiser. We do not yet have the final cost but we are hoping it will be the same as last year. This year, wreaths will all be pre-ordered. More information to come... Please support our Parish! Any questions, please call Crikett French at 802-674-6605.

DAILY ROSARY APOSTOLATE

The Diocese continues to offer a daily Rosary online. Individuals from around the diocese have been joining Valerie Parzyck in leading each day. Interested in leading a rosary? Here are the details: "I would love it if you would schedule a time with me to record a Rosary. What does that look like exactly? It's very simple! You email me with convenient times for you and once it is scheduled, I will send you a link to Zoom for the appointed time. You may choose to show your face or, if you'd prefer, I can show slides for each mystery while we pray. If this is something you would like to participate in, please contact me. You can email me with a time that works for you and we can schedule it. Please email me at vparzyck@vermontcatholic.org"

SAVE THE DATE

St. Francis will be hosting a craft fair this year on Friday, November 20 and Saturday November 21 from 9am to 3pm. It will look a little different this year as we work to ensure this event is done safely. Stay tuned for more info in the coming weeks.

CHRIST OUR HOPE CAMPAIGN

Hebrews 10:34: "For you showed sympathy to the prisoners and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and a lasting one."

We wish to thank everyone who has made a commitment to the *Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church* campaign. Your support will help us to purchase the new furnace so desperately needed. Addressing this critical improvements will help strengthen St. Francis parish in preparation for the next challenge that comes our way.

Once you determine your gift, please complete your pledge card and return to St. Francis or mail it to the Diocese. You may also take advantage of online giving by visiting the campaign website: <https://www.christourhopevt.org/donate>.

Please don't forget you can join Bishop Coyne on **Wednesday, Oct. 14 from 3-4 p.m.** for a virtual chat to learn more about the campaign and its importance. To register for the Zoom event please visit <https://www.christourhopevt.org/events>.

Be sure to watch a very moving message from Bishop Coyne from a few weeks ago here:

<https://vimeo.com/437684366>

A Prayer for Protection in Time of Pandemic

O Mary, you always brighten our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain while remaining steadfast in faith.

O loving Mother, you know what we need, and we are confident you will provide for us as at Cana in Galilee. Intercede for us with your Son Jesus, the Divine Physician, for those who have fallen ill, for those who are vulnerable, and for those who have died. Intercede also for those charged with protecting the health and safety of others and for those who are tending to the sick and seeking a cure.

Help us, O Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who took upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows, so as to lead us, through the Cross, to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

Under thy protection we seek refuge, O Holy Mother of God. In our needs, despise not our petitions, but deliver us always from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

Adapted from the prayer of Pope Francis