



United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

3211 FOURTH STREET NE • WASHINGTON DC 20017-1194 • 202-541-3100 • FAX 202-541-3166

September 29, 2020

Your Eminence/Excellency:

Bearing in mind our nation’s challenges and the need for wise, moral, civic leadership, four years ago our Conference offered an electronic *Election Novena* to help Catholics prepare for the 2016 election. Shared through social media and various email lists, the prayer effort was widely popular with the laity and very much appreciated by clergy, who are often asked to promote more partisan or issue-specific prayer campaigns.

Utilizing the previous prayers, which were intentionally broad-focused, we are pleased to share the dates and intentions for the *2020 Election Novena*. For nine consecutive days, Monday, October 26 through Tuesday, November 3, participants will be encouraged to pray one *Our Father*, *Hail Mary*, and *Glory Be* for the day’s intention. A closing prayer for elected leaders will be offered on day 10, Wednesday, November 4. The daily intentions are attached.

In case your diocesan and/or parish staff would like to share or expand upon this effort, a list of these specific intentions and accompanying, shareable images will be accessible from the bulleted list at the top of <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/prayers/prayers-for-the-church-and-the-world>. Resources for Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship are accessible at <https://www.usccb.org/offices/justice-peace-human-development/forming-consciences-faithful-citizenship>.

Thank you for your continued, prayerful leadership in facing the many challenges present in our nation.

Fraternally in Christ,

+ Nelson J. Pérez

Cultural Diversity in the Church

+ Joseph A. DiPietro

Migration

+ David J. Malloy

International Justice and Peace

+ Joseph A. DiPietro

Pro-Life Activities

+ Paul A. Coakley

Domestic Justice and Human Development

+ Milton J. Moore

Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism

+ Robert Brennan

Evangelization and Catechesis

+ Edward J. Coakley

Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth

+ Michael Barber S.J.

Catholic Education

Bishop David Foraker

Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage

+ Thomas J. Winters

Religious Liberty



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Election Novena Prayer Intentions

Monday, October 26 through Wednesday, November 4

Each day's intention followed by one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and one Glory Be.

Day One: Monday, October 26

As we prepare for the national & local elections, in the midst of a global pandemic, may our political engagement be guided by our Catholic Faith.

Day Two: Tuesday, October 27

In this month of the Holy Rosary, may Our Blessed Mother guide us in confronting racial inequalities and restoring peace in our communities.

Day Three: Wednesday, October 28

May all Americans recall the necessity of dialogue, civility, and humility in this election season.

Day Four: Thursday, October 29

May all people understand the moral and ethical dimensions of political decisions and decide accordingly.

Day Five: Friday, October 30

May voters & elected leaders uphold the dignity of every human life in their political engagement.

Day Six: Saturday, October 31

May Catholics recall all aspects of Catholic Social Teaching as they consider their votes.

Day Seven: Sunday, November 1

May there be a transformation of politics to focus on the dignity of the human person and the common good.

Day Eight: Monday, November 2

May we keep in mind the gift of religious freedom and our duty to defend and exercise it as faithful citizens.

Day Nine: Tuesday, November 3

Today, as we approach the polls, may we understand & embrace the principles of our Faith that should guide our political engagement.

Closing: Wednesday, November 4

May the leaders elected this week be guided by the Holy Spirit as they fulfill their positions.

Related daily social media graphics will be posted at:

<https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/prayers/prayers-for-the-church-and-the-world>