

WHAT IS A NOVENA?

A novena is a traditional Catholic prayer. Usually beginning nine days before a special feast day, the prayer petitions God daily, often through the intercession of a specific saint.

Novenas date back to the time of the Apostles after Jesus' ascension. The Apostles, along with the Blessed Virgin Mary, gathered in an upper room and prayed for the nine days leading up to Pentecost.



**“He must
increase; I
must decrease.
The one who
comes from
above is
above all.”**

*-St. John the Baptist,
John 3:30-31*



**St. John the Baptist
Novena**

June 16th – June 24th

OPENING PRAYER

O God, you raised up St. John the Baptist to prepare a perfect people for Christ. Fill Your people with the joy of possessing His grace, and direct the minds of all faithful in the way of peace and salvation. Grant that St. John was martyred for truth and justice, so we may energetically profess our Faith in You, and lead others to the Way, the Truth, and Eternal Life. **Amen.**

LITANY FOR ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

*Please speak the **bolded** words.*

Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ, have mercy on us.

Christ, hear us.

Christ, graciously hear us.

God the Father of Heaven,

Have mercy on us.

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

Have mercy on us.

God the Holy Ghost,

Have mercy on us.

Holy Trinity, One God,

Have mercy on us.

Holy Mary, **pray for us.**

Queen of Prophets, **pray for us.**

Queen of Martyrs, **pray for us.**

St. John the Baptist, **pray for us.**

St. John the Baptist, precursor of Christ, **pray for us.**

St. John the Baptist, glorious forerunner of the Sun of Justice, **pray for us.**

St. John the Baptist, minister of baptism to Jesus, **pray for us.**

St. John the Baptist, burning and shining lamp of the world, **pray for us.**

St. John the Baptist, angel of purity before thy birth, **pray for us.**

St. John the Baptist, special friend and favorite of Christ, **pray for us.**

St. John the Baptist, heavenly contemplative, whose element was prayer, **pray for us.**

St. John the Baptist, intrepid preacher of truth, **pray for us.**

St. John the Baptist, voice crying in the wilderness, **pray for us.**

St. John the Baptist, miracle of mortification and penance, **pray for us.**

St. John the Baptist, example of profound humility, **pray for us.**

St. John the Baptist, glorious martyr of zeal for God's holy law, **pray for us.**

St. John the Baptist, gloriously fulfilling thy mission, **pray for us.**

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, **Spare us, O Lord.**

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, **Hear us, O Lord.**

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, **Have mercy on us.**

Christ, hear us.

Christ, graciously hear us.

V. Pray for us, O glorious St. John the Baptist,

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

Let us Pray:

O God, Who hast honored this world by the birth of Saint John the Baptist, grant that Thy faithful people may rejoice in the way of eternal salvation, through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

R. Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray that we, like John the Baptist, prepare for the coming of Christ.

pause

God our strength and our hope, grant us the courage of John the Baptist, constantly to speak the truth, boldly to rebuke vice and patiently to suffer for the truth's sake; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God now and forever. **Amen.**