

Novena to St. Therese of Lisieux, patroness of the Missions

The Novena is led in English by His Eminence Cardinal Tagle, and will be available, for free, in the Hallow App.

Contents

English	2
Opening Meditation	2
Day 1	3
Day 2	3
Day 3	4
Day 4	4
Day 5	4
Day 6	5
Day 7	5
Day 8	6
Day 9	6

English

Novena to St. Thérèse of Lisieux, Patroness of the Missions

Opening Meditation

St. Thérèse of Lisieux, born in France in 1873, was the youngest of nine children of Saints Louis and Zélie Martin. Her childhood was marked by both suffering and grace: she lost her mother to illness when she was only four, and described herself as a sensitive and difficult child. Yet, through prayer and perseverance, her heart was formed by God's love.

At the age of 15, after boldly appealing to the Pope for permission, Thérèse entered the Carmelite convent of Lisieux. There, she lived a hidden life of prayer and sacrifice, dedicating herself entirely to Christ under the name Sister Thérèse of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face. She never traveled to mission territories, yet she longed to share in their labor by offering her prayers and sufferings for those who carried the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

In her autobiography, *Story of a Soul*, she described her "little way" — doing ordinary things with extraordinary love, trusting completely in God's mercy. It was this spirituality that led the Church to name her both a doctor of the Church and the patroness of the missions.

Thérèse died at only 24 from tuberculosis, with her final words on her lips: "My God, I love you." Before her death, she promised, "I will spend my heaven doing good on earth."

As we pray this novena, we ask for her intercession especially for the people who live in the Pope's missions — in Asia, Africa, Oceania, the Pacific Islands, and Latin America. We join the universal Church in preparing for World Mission Sunday, praying that every person may come to know the banquet of life offered in Christ and the hope that never fails.

We do so with hearts full of joy and hope, under the leadership of our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV — who is the first since St. Peter to have lived much of his priesthood as a missionary. Pope Leo knows personally what it means to bring the Gospel to the peripheries. In this novena, we join him in praying that everyone may hear and receive the invitation to the banquet of life — the Eucharist, the heart of our faith and of our mission.

Take a moment to bring your personal intentions before her. Then let us pray together.

Day 1

We pray for the people in the Pope's missions, and in preparation for World Mission Sunday.

Daily Prayer

Dearest St. Thérèse of Lisieux, you said that you would spend your time in heaven doing good on earth.

Your trust in God was complete. Pray that He may increase my trust in His goodness and mercy as I ask for the following petitions...

Pray for me that I, like you, may have great and innocent confidence in the loving promises of our God. Pray that I may live my life in union with God's plan for me, and one day see the Face of God whom you loved so deeply.

St. Thérèse, you were faithful to God even unto the moment of your death. Pray for me that I may be faithful to our loving God. May my life bring peace and love to the world through faithful endurance in love for God our Savior.

Loving God, you blessed St. Thérèse with a capacity for great love. Help me to believe in your unconditional love for each of your children, especially for me.

Day 1 Petition

I love you, Lord. Help me and those in the Pope's missions to love you more!

Closing Prayer

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

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

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

Day 2

We pray for the people in the Pope's missions, and in preparation for World Mission Sunday.

Daily Prayer

[repeat as above]

Day 2 Petition

I trust you, Lord. Help me and those in the Pope's missions to trust you more!

Closing Prayer

[repeat as above]

Day 3

We pray for the people in the Pope's missions, and in preparation for World Mission Sunday.

Daily Prayer

[repeat as above]

Day 3 Petition

I see you, Lord. Help me and those in the Pope's missions to see you more!

Closing Prayer

[repeat as above]

Day 4

We pray for the people in the Pope's missions, and in preparation for World Mission Sunday.

Daily Prayer

[repeat as above]

Day 4 Petition

I am humble, Lord. Give me and those in the Pope's missions more humility!

Closing Prayer

[repeat as above]

Day 5

We pray for the people in the Pope's missions, and in preparation for World Mission Sunday.

Daily Prayer

[repeat as above]

Day 5 Petition

I try to forgive, Lord. Help me and those in the Pope's missions to forgive seventy times seven times!

Closing Prayer

[repeat as above]

Day 6

We pray for the people in the Pope's missions, and in preparation for World Mission Sunday.

Daily Prayer

[repeat as above]

Day 6 Petition

I accept your will, Lord. Help me and those in the Pope's missions to accept your will every day!

Closing Prayer

[repeat as above]

Day 7

We pray for the people in the Pope's missions, and in preparation for World Mission Sunday.

Daily Prayer

[repeat as above]

Day 7 Petition

I rely on you, Lord. Help me and those in the Pope's missions to rely on you more!

Closing Prayer

[repeat as above]

Day 8

We pray for the people in the Pope's missions, and in preparation for World Mission Sunday.

Daily Prayer

[repeat as above]

Day 8 Petition

I reflect you to the world, Lord. Help me and those in the Pope's missions to reflect you more clearly!

Closing Prayer

[repeat as above]

Day 9

We pray for the people in the Pope's missions, and in preparation for World Mission Sunday.

Daily Prayer

[repeat as above]

Day 9 Petition

I love your people, Lord. Help me to love those in the missions more!

Closing Prayer

[repeat as above]