

Novena for Surrendering to the Will of God

(adapted from praymorenovenas.com)

In this novena, we pray to be able to align our will with God's. This is something that saints have been praying for centuries, so we use different quotes from saints, asking that they may intercede on our behalf as we strive to grow in greater conformity to the will of God.

With the Preliminary Plan unfolding across the Diocese, it is imperative that we pray in unity for God's will. Therefore, we will be focusing our intentions for this novena on the growth of the church, the destruction of satanic influence over the church, and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood.

Novena for Surrendering to the Will of God - Day 1

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

Amen.

Heavenly Father, all we have is a gift from You. In return, may our lives be an ongoing gift to You. Conform our will to Yours so that our wills may be one. We place this petition in Your hands. Help us to fully entrust it to You.

- *For the building up of God's holy church, that the gates of hell will not prevail against it.*
 - *That any ungodly power that has been sent from the pit of hell to prevent church growth, die, in Jesus' name.*
 - *That the spirit of stagnation and slumber that is working against the growth of God's church be destroyed.*
 - *That every satanic counsel that is propagating a spirit of confusion over the growth of Your church be confused in Jesus' name.*
 - *That every enemy against the body of Christ be scattered.*
- *For an increase in vocations to the priesthood.*
 - *That You will call among us more men to serve in Your mission.*
 - *That our community of faith will not grow weary in filling the hearts and minds of our youth and young adults with Your word; so that our young people can discern their life's work.*
 - *That men who are called to serve in your Son's Kingdom will have the courage to respond according to Your will.*

Mary, who by submitting yourself to God's will became the Mother of God Incarnate, help us grow in faith that we may respond to whatever God asks of us by saying, "May it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38).

Teach us to do your will, for you are our God. May your kind spirit guide us on ground that is level (Ps 143:10).

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Jesus, Son of God, you taught us how to pray to the Father as we ought, saying, "your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10). Teach us to pray these words with great faith and devotion.

Teach us to do your will, for you are our God. May your kind spirit guide us on ground that is level (Ps 143:10).

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Jesus, God who became man, You showed us how to submit ourselves to the will of God the Father, even during difficult trials that we do not wish to endure, when you said before Your Passion, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet, not as I will, but as you will" (Matthew 26:39). Help us in our trials to actively submit ourselves to the will of the Father.

Teach us to do your will, for you are our God. May your kind spirit guide us on ground that is level (Ps 143:10).

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St. Paul, you explain to us that "we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them" (Ephesians 2:10). Intercede on our behalf that we may have the perseverance and grace to commit ourselves to the work that God has prepared for us.

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St. Paul, you told the early Christians: "Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect" (Romans 12:2). Intercede on our behalf that we may have a spirit able to discern and follow the will of God.

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Blessed Charles Eugene de Foucauld, who gave his life for God in being martyred, pray that we may live out the prayer you wrote in life: "Father, I abandon myself into your hands; do with me what you will. Whatever you may do, I thank you. I am ready for all, I accept all. Let only your will be done in me, and in all your creatures. I wish no more than this, O Lord. Into your hands I commend my spirit; I offer it to you with all the love of my heart, for I do love you, Lord, and so need to give myself, without reserve, and with boundless confidence, for you are my Father. Amen."

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St. Ignatius of Loyola, who sought true heroism and found it in serving God, pray that we might live out your prayer: "Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will, all I have and call my own. You have given all to me. To you, Lord, I return it. Everything is yours; do with it what you will. Give me only your love and your grace, that is enough for me."

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St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, pray for us that we may live out God's will in our everyday lives by embodying your words: "The first end I propose in our daily work is to do the will of God; secondly, to do it in the manner he wills it; and thirdly to do it because it is his will."

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St. Faustina, who offered up much physical suffering during life for the salvation of souls, help us to faithfully carry out God's will, for you said, "True love of God consists in carrying out God's will. To show God our love in what we do, all our actions, even the least, must spring from our love of God."

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