



*Deliver us from
epidemics!*

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Dear brothers and sisters,

In his final moments on the cross, Jesus recommended we take his Mother, Mary, into our homes, into our lives, making her our Mother in Christ. That is why Christians turn to her spontaneously when they feel danger. Many sanctuaries are dedicated to Mary illustrating this timeless trust towards the Mother of our Savior and numerous ex-voto give evidence that prayers have been answered over the centuries.

2020 is marked by a worldwide epidemic of Covid-19 (Coronavirus). Even though Christians follow faithfully Christ's recommendation "not to be scared" because "the hairs on your head are all numbered" (Matthew 10, 30), a number of Sanctuary Rectors offer the faithful to pray and beg Mary together. Large pilgrims cannot be organized in this time of crisis. Social media, on the other hand, can become a wonderful means to form one body and one heart to intercede for the sick and for those at risk of suffering from the pandemic.

We offer you to participate in the Novena so that "Mary may deliver the world from a major epidemic in 2020". And more broadly, that this ordeal brings about new evangelization to the world.

Father Bernard Planche
Notre-Dame du Puy (F)

Father Matthieu Thouvenot
Notre-Dame de Fourvière (F)

Father Ludovic Frère
Notre-Dame du Laus (F)

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With the support of :

+Bishop Jean Scarcella
**Father Abbot of the territory of
Saint-Maurice (CH)**

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**Director of the Pilgrimage
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HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS NOVENA?

How to intercede: below are a few steps to help you find the right internal posture. *You can choose to use all of them or just a few.* You can join this novena any time and we invite you to pray until your prayers are answered.

1. I bring myself in the presence of the Lord with the sign of the cross in a place auspicious for prayer;
2. I put faith in my prayer to Mary against the Covid-19 (please find below);
3. I make silence and read a short daily meditation;
4. I pray the mystery of the daily rosary to eradicate Covid-19;
5. I finish this prayer time by giving glory to the Father and a sign of the cross.

If you pray daily the rosary in full, we invite you to put faith while reading the prayer of the novena between each mystery of the rosary.

You can fast on Wednesdays and Fridays and depending on individual health status. If you fast, make sure you don't weaken physically! We invite you to offer your fast for the sick, their families, the scientific researchers, the authorities and the entire medical community.

PRAYER TO MARY FOR THE NOVENA AGAINST COVID-19



Mary, mother of our Savior and our Mother, we beg you intercede in our favor so the world be delivered without further delay from the Covid-19.

New Eve, may your powerful intercession bring us total and long-lasting deliverance from this virus that paralysis our world and destroys our families.

Arche of the New Alliance, may your prayer push away the scourge of the disease. Comfort, protect and heal the sick for the Glory of God.

Mary, Mother of our Savior and our Mother, you who has always answered the prayers of our ancestors when they were suffering, we beg you watch over us.

Amen.

IMPRIMATUR: +Bishop Jean Scarcella, Father Abbot for the territory of Saint-Maurice (Switzerland) – March 2020

MEDITATIONS TO MARY FOR THE NOVENA AGAINST COVID-19

DAY 1 – “My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior”

In the Magnificat, Mary says who is her Savior: God himself. In all our setbacks, we turn to Him. He is our rock. He reassures us. Let's follow Mary's example and turn our hearts to God, choosing Him daily as our sole Savior and All Mighty. Let us slip under Mary's cloak to join our voices to hers in praise because we already know our prayer is granted.

DAY 2 “Because He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaid; for behold, henceforth all generations shall call me blessed”

Those who suffer can easily believe God has abandoned them... Mary reminds us God cares for all, notably the little ones, the humble, those who are so small they seem to be forgotten by others. She even prophesizes that history will show her as a model, that we will always refer to her as the “Blessed Mary”. History has not forgotten her, we have not forgotten her. Let's ask her not to forget us when she prays her God, our God.

DAY 3 “Because He who is mighty has done great things for me, and Holy is His Name”

He who is qualified as Saint by the Bible and by Mary, the only Saint, the only Lord, He does not despise his own creatures. He can even do wonders and make possible what seems impossible. He did it for Mary and renews his wonders for every generation. Let us ask Mary to strengthen our faith so that our Savior’s marvels may be renewed today, in our lives and in the world.

DAY 4 “And His mercy is from generation to generation on those who fear Him”

Fearing God means recognizing how small we are in front of His greatness. But this greatness does not cut us from him. On the contrary, it serves our salvation. The smaller we are, recognizing His greatness and our smallness, the more our Lord can spread his mercy on us and save us from our miseries. Let us offer to Him, in full faith, all our worries.

DAY 5 “He has shown might with His arm, He has scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart”

Pretentious are those who imagine they can do without God, who think they can save themselves, that they are capable of doing so! Man is capable of many grand things and he should work tirelessly to fight illnesses. But working with intelligence should not stop us from believing that only our Lord can save: He makes us intelligent and He uses us efficiently. He saves us for eternity, beyond death. Let us ask Mary to help us never forget our vocation to eternal beatitude in God.

DAY 6 “He has put down the mighty from their thrones, and has exalted the lowly”

When God acts, our human logic is confused: the small ones are elevated, not through their own hard work, but through God’s grace in them; those who thought themselves invincible discover their own weakness and turn themselves to God who awaits and calls them. It is essential we let ourselves be guided, be pushed around. Our trials can be helpful in that they turn around our human convictions and help grow our faith in God who wishes to rise us all, as He has risen his Son after he went through the Passion and died on the cross.

DAY 7 “He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty”

Nothing human can fulfill us as our Creator does. If we satisfy ourselves with earthly riches, we will always need for more. If we keep our hands open so our Lord may fill them, we give ourselves the opportunity to be eternally fulfilled. May our prayer be generous, far beyond today’s personal needs: may we open it to the needs of others, and our need to be eternally fulfilled.

DAY 8 “He has given help to Israel, His servant, mindful of His mercy”

God has given his love from the first day. His love is eternal. He doesn’t forget, He wishes to elevate us. Jesus has done this everywhere He has been. Today still, God’s love is the source of our faith in Him. Following Mary’s example, may we open our hearts to the love that comes from God’s heart.

DAY 9 “(he remembers) the promise He made to our fathers - to Abraham and to his posterity forever.”

God’s promise is still valid today and forever: He has promised land to Abraham and his posterity. This promised land is in heaven, where Jesus precedes us. Where he has already welcomed Mary. May we ask her to pray for us now and at the hour of our death; may we ask her to pray for those who are dying today, to stand by them and assist them on their passage. Mary, door to heaven, we beg you make a passage towards our Father for all your children, especially those who seem the farthest from Him.



Find the Novena on:
www.allbehindmary.com