



Novena to St. Michael the Archangel

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

Heavenly and Almighty Father, God of mercy and compassion, we give you thanks and praise for all your kindness and blessings which you bestow upon us, your beloved children, and for the opportunities of spiritual renewal which you provide out of the abundance of your unfailing love and graciousness. As we honour the glorious Archangel St. Michael, whose zeal for your almighty power obtains for us your own loving protection, in the name of Christ our Saviour and Brother and through your Holy Spirit, guide our steps along the path of holiness of life, and guard our thoughts as we journey through this life to our heavenly homeland. Confident of the powerful intercession of our patron saint St. Michael, we now ask for this grace (*say your intention*).

Inspire in us the same humility and thirst for justice and holiness which animated your great servant and angelic messenger. May our lives give glory to you, our families bear witness to your love and our communities of faith be filled with the grace and joys of your Kingdom. Amen.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory Be...

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.
Amen.

St. Michael, filled with the wisdom of God, pray for us.
St. Michael, perfect adorer of the Incarnate Word, pray for us.
St. Michael, crowned with honour and glory, pray for us.
St. Michael, our help in all adversities, pray for us.

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



ST. MICHAEL'S CATHEDRAL BASILICA

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF HIS GRACE FRANCIS LEO
ARCHBISHOP OF TORONTO

Description of and Instructions for praying a Novena 20-28 September 2024

A *novena*, meaning nine, is an ancient style of prayer that is carried out consistently over a nine-day period for a particular intention and is usually directed to the intercession of a Divine Person of the Blessed Trinity, Our Lady, an Angel or a specific Saint. The nine days, or *novena*, has its Scriptural origin in the number of days in between Jesus' Ascension and Pentecost, during which the Blessed Mother and the Apostles were together in constant prayer until the descent of the Holy Spirit (see Acts 1: 6-14).

Praying a novena may be a new experience for some and a familiar spiritual exercise for others. There is a spirituality to praying any novena that is worth noting. The word "novena" comes from the Latin "*novem*" meaning "nine," recalling the number of days The Blessed Mother and the Apostles waited and prayed from the Ascension of Our Lord to the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. In the Acts of the Apostles, we read that Mary and the Apostles devoted themselves to constant prayer (Acts 1:12-14). Just as they prepared for the coming of the Holy Spirit, we emulate the same constancy in prayer looking forward to the coming feast of Saint Michael.

To pray a novena, a few things should be kept in mind. First, we approach the Lord with faith, trust and in a humble, loving manner. Second, we choose a particular intention to be mentioned throughout the novena. Three, we decide to whom we address this prayer, the intercession of Our Lady or a Saint or Angel in particular. To determine the novena's starting date, count backwards nine days from the Saint's feast day; the last day of the novena is the day *before* the Saint's feast day. In the Archdiocese of Toronto, the Solemnity of Saint Michael the Archangel is celebrated on 29 September, the Feast of the Archangels, which means this novena begins on 20 September 2024.

The pattern of prayer is the same for each day: the opening prayer, which includes your specific intention, followed by one Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be, and ending with the Prayer to Saint Michael and a short litany. If you miss a day, just keep going: the main focus of any prayer is always about deepening our relationship with God and dwelling in his loving embrace.

For further information on popular piety addressed to [Holy Angels](#), see the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments **Directory in Popular Piety and the Liturgy Principles and Guidelines**, published by the Holy See, December 2001, specifically #213-217.

Schedule for the Archdiocesan Novena to Saint Michael the Archangel patron of the Archdiocese of Toronto Solemnity celebrated 29 September 2024

Day 1: September 20
Day 2: September 21
Day 3: September 22
Day 4: September 23
Day 5: September 24
Day 6: September 25
Day 7: September 26
Day 8: September 27
Day 9: September 28