

Our Lady of Fatima
Novena

October 6-14

*in preparation for
the Consecration of
the Diocese of Allentown
on October 15, 2017*



CONSECRATION OF OUR DIOCESE AND OUR PARISHES TO
OUR LADY OF FATIMA

October 14/15

*In honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Apparition of
Our Lady in Fatima, Portugal, Our Diocese and all the Parishes of
Our Diocese will be consecrated to Our Lady of Fatima.*

Bishop Alfred A. Schlert will consecrate

Our Diocese to Our Lady of Fatima on

**Sunday, October 15, at the 12:00 Noon Mass at
the Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena, Allentown.**

Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus will consecrate

Our Parish at the beginning of all the

Sunday Masses on the weekend of **October 14/15.**

SPECIAL CELEBRATION OF THE FIVE FIRST SATURDAYS DEVOTION

During the third apparition on July 13, 1917, Our Lady revealed the "Communion of Reparation" through the Five First Saturdays Devotion. This Devotion is offered in reparation for the sins of blasphemy and ingratitude committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The Devotion, observed on the First Saturday of five consecutive months, consists of:

1. Going to Confession*,
2. Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion,
3. Saying five decades of the Rosary,
4. Meditating for 15 minutes on some of the Mysteries of the Rosary.

*The Confession may be done on days other than the First Saturdays so long as one receives Our Lord worthily in Holy Communion and has the intention of making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

One can participate in the Five First Saturdays Devotion through the 7:30 AM Rosary and 8:00 AM Mass on First Saturdays here at Saint Theresa. **In honor of the 100th Anniversary of the apparitions**, and to further enrich the consecration of our Diocese and Parish to Our Lady of Fatima, on Saturdays **November 4, December 2, January 6, and February 3** a *Votive Mass to Our Lady of Fatima* will be celebrated. On **March 3**, a *Mass for Saturday of the Second Week of Lent with a Commemoration for Our Lady of Fatima* will be celebrated.

Our Lady of Fatima Novena

Sign of the Cross

Introductory Prayer

ALL: O Most Holy Virgin Mary, you came to Fatima to reveal the graces that come from praying the Holy Rosary to three little shepherd children. Inspire us with a sincere love of this devotion so that, like for the shepherd children, it is not a burdensome task but a life-giving prayer. May our prayers and meditations on the mysteries of our redemption bring us closer to your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, who is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

Daily Invocation

Proclaimed by the Leader

DAY ONE (Friday, October 6)

Like the children of Fatima, we want to bring God's word to others. Give us the strength, O Lord, to overcome our doubts so that we may be messengers of the Gospel. We know that Jesus lives in our hearts and we receive Him in the Eucharist.

DAY TWO (Saturday, October 7)

Our Lady of Fatima, we pray that we may be like you and follow your example. We pray for all those who face oppression, that they will find peace. We pray and give thanks for all the blessings we enjoy.

DAY THREE (Sunday, October 8)

Our Lady of Fatima, today, we pray for an end to the suffering and injustice that plague so many parts of the world. Through the power of the Lord, you performed a miracle at Fatima and made the sun dance for thousands of people to see. Please intercede for those who are suffering.

DAY FOUR (Monday, October 9)

Our Lady of Fatima, let us pray today for humility to seek forgiveness for our sins and make amends for our misdeeds.

DAY FIVE (Tuesday, October 10)

Our Lady of Fatima, may we offer everything we do today to our Lord. As we make this offering, we think of people who are affected by our actions each day. We ask God to help us be motivated by love and compassion.

DAY SIX (Wednesday, October 11)

Our Lady of Fatima, sometimes we live in fear and we are too afraid to let go of our anxieties. We want to be God's instruments to achieve His will and to bring Him glory. Today we ask through your intercession, that Jesus help us to trust in Him like the children at Fatima.

DAY SEVEN (Thursday, October 12)

Our Lady of Fatima, show us how to pray always. Teach us how to speak to God as a friend. Help us to make time for silence in our hectic days so that we may listen to what God has to tell us. Throughout

the business of our days, help us remember God and have our hearts centered on Him.

DAY EIGHT (Friday, October 13)

Our Lady of Fatima, today we pray for your Son to come to our aid and end the suffering and wars throughout the world. Help us to be like the children at Fatima: loving, trusting and faithful. May we pray to bring peace to our own world in our own small way by choosing to love and trust in the Lord.

DAY NINE (Saturday, October 14)

Our Lady of Fatima, thank you for appearing to the children at Fatima and delivering messages that are still relevant to us today. We pray again and again for peace in the world and for an end to war. May we continue to pray and sacrifice as you requested.

Novena Prayers

ALL: Lord Jesus, the miracles, prophecies and prayers that Your Mother brought to us at Fatima amazed the whole world. We are certain of her closeness to You. We ask through the intercession of Our Lady of Fatima that You graciously hear and answer our prayers.

pause to express your intentions in silence

Litany

Our Lady of Fatima, *Pray for us!*
Our Lady of the Rosary, *Pray for us!*
Immaculate Heart of Mary, *Pray for us!*

O my Jesus, ...

From famine and war, *deliver us.*

From nuclear war, from incalculable self-destruction,
from every kind of war, *deliver us.*

From sins against the life of man from its
very beginning, *deliver us.*

From hatred and from the demeaning of the
dignity of the children of God, *deliver us.*

From every kind of injustice in the life of society,
both national and international, *deliver us.*

From readiness to trample on the commandments of God,
deliver us.

From attempts to stifle in human hearts the
very truth of God, *deliver us.*

From the loss of awareness of good and evil, *deliver us.*

From sins against the Holy Spirit, *deliver us.*

ALL: O my Jesus, forgive us our sins,
save us from the fires of hell,
lead all souls to heaven,
especially those most in need of Your mercy.
Amen.

Mother Mary, here we stand before you
to entrust to your maternal care ourselves,
the Church, the entire world.

Plead for us with your beloved Son
that He may give us in abundance the Holy Spirit,
the Spirit of Truth which is the Fountain of Life.
Amen.

Sign of the Cross

Homily by His Holiness Pope Francis

Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima

13 May 2017

“[There] appeared in heaven a woman clothed with the sun” (Revelation 12:1). So the seer of Patmos tells us in the Book of Revelation, adding that she was about to give birth to a son. Then, in the Gospel, we hear Jesus say to his disciple, “Here is your mother” (John 19:27). *We have a Mother!* “So beautiful a Lady”, as the seers of Fatima said to one another as they returned home on that blessed day of 13 March a hundred years ago. That evening, Jacinta could not restrain herself and told the secret to her mother: “Today I saw Our Lady”. They had seen the Mother of Heaven. Many others sought to share that vision, but ... they did not see her. The Virgin Mother did not come here so that we could see her. We will have all eternity for that, provided, of course, that we go to heaven.

Our Lady foretold, and warned us about, a way of life that is godless and indeed profanes God in his creatures. Such a life – frequently proposed and imposed – risks leading to hell. Mary came to remind us that God’s light dwells within us and protects us, for, as we [hear in the Book of Revelation], “the child [of the woman] was snatched away and taken to God” (Revelation 12:5). In Lucia’s account, the three chosen children found themselves surrounded by God’s light as it radiated from Our Lady. She enveloped them in the mantle of Light that God had given her. According to the belief and experience of many pilgrims, if not of all, Fatima is more than anything this mantle of Light that protects us, here as in almost no other place on earth. We need but take refuge under the protection of the Virgin Mary and to ask her, as the *Salve Regina* teaches: “show unto us the fruit of your womb, Jesus”.

We have a Mother! Clinging to her like children, we live in the hope that rests on Jesus. As we [hear in Saint Paul’s Letter to the Romans], “those who receive the abundance of the grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ” (Romans 5:17). When Jesus ascended to heaven, he brought to the Heavenly Father our humanity, which he assumed in the womb of the Virgin Mary and will never forsake. Like an anchor, let us fix our hope on that humanity, seated in heaven at the right hand of the Father. May this hope guide our lives! It is a hope that sustains us always, to our dying breath. ...

Mary, Mother of the Church

Principal Patroness of the Diocese of Allentown

Diocesan Feast Day: Second Sunday of October

This Year: October 7/8

Prayer to Mary, Mother of the Church

O Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church,
to you we recommend ourselves and the entire Church,
to you we entrust the Diocese of Allentown.
Guide and assist our Holy Father and all Bishops,
especially our Bishop Alfred, in their apostolic mission.
Aid all who help them in their work.

Mary, Mother of the Church, enlighten the People of God
along the paths of faith, hope and love.
You were given to us as our Mother, by your Divine Son,
at the moment of His redeeming death.
Remember us your children, support our prayers to God.
Preserve our Faith, strengthen our Hope, increase our Charity.
Help us to conquer the menace of sin and evil,
which so easily takes root in our hearts.

O Mary, conceived without sin,
we place ourselves and our Diocese
under your special protection.
We resolve to walk in your footsteps
and to imitate your virtues.
Obtain for us, O tender Mother,
the grace of being faithful to this promise.

Amen.