



Prayers for a Novena to St. Therese of Lisieux

A novena is a devotional prayer originating in the nine (*novem*) days between the Ascension and Pentecost, during which Mary, the Apostles, and the disciples prayed for the gift of the Holy Spirit. A novena is nine days of prayer invoking the intercession of Mary or a saint for blessings, guidance, or a special intention. To make a novena to St. Therese pray one of these prayers (or one in your own words) on each of the nine days prior to the Feast of St. Therese on October 1st.

“Pray to our saintly friend St. Therese with the honesty and love of a friend and the simplicity of a child. This is what she taught us.” (Society of the Little Flower)

I. The most loved and repeated novena to St. Therese is:

"The Miraculous Invocation to St. Therese"

O Glorious St. Therese, whom Almighty God has raised up to aid and inspire the human family, I implore your Miraculous Intercession. You are so powerful in obtaining every need of body and spirit from the Heart of God. Holy Mother Church proclaims you 'Prodigy of Miracles... the Greatest Saint of Modern Times.'

Now I fervently beseech you to answer my petition (mention here) and to carry out your promises of spending Heaven doing good on earth... of letting fall from Heaven a Shower of Roses.

Little Flower, give me your childlike faith, to see the Face of God in the people and experiences of my life, and to love God with full confidence.

St. Therese, my Carmelite Sister,
I will fulfill your plea 'to be made known everywhere'
and I will continue to lead others to Jesus through you.
Amen.

II.

Gracious and loving God,
You have promised your kingdom
to those who are willing to become like little children.
Help us to follow the way of St Therese with confidence
so that by her prayers we may come to know your eternal glory.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, you Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
One God, for ever and ever.

Intercessions:

Recognizing the gift of the simple life of St. Therese
for the church and for the world, we offer our simple prayers:

O God, in her message, your daughter Therese revealed to us anew
the good news that you are truly a God of gentleness and compassion;
may all recognize you as our God, ever close to us.

Therese's life was marked by a beautiful childlike simplicity;
bless the children of this world, have mercy on all the abused and neglected.

She manifested a heroic trust in your loving providence;
give us the grace to be faithful to you and to trust in your constant care.

With childlike confidence she kept alive an ardent desire
to love as she was loved;
we thank you for having loved us so much; give us the grace
to love one another.

Therese was proclaimed patroness of the missions and of gardens;
help us to proclaim by our lives your boundless love and to rejoice in your
beauty and your truth.

Merciful God, in the simple message of St. Therese is revealed anew the gospel
message of love, childlike trust and simplicity. Have mercy on all who are
burdened. Give us the grace to follow Jesus, through the "Little Way" of your
beloved Theresa of Lisieux, our parish patron and your "Little Flower."

Amen.

(Carmelites of Indianapolis)