

# Novena of Grace 2024 I AM THE BELOVED!



Image credit: Jan Richardson

**THURSDAY, MARCH 7 - FRIDAY, MARCH 15**

**MALCOLM NELSON, SARAH PERICICH-LOPEZ, &  
FR. MATTHEW PYRC, SJ, PRESENTERS**



Weekdays 12:30 pm | Weekends at 11:00 am

Chapel of St. Ignatius, Seattle University

Attend any or all of the masses in-person,

or pray with us via livestream at [[ignatiancenter.org/novena-of-grace-2024](https://www.ignatiancenter.org/novena-of-grace-2024)].

## WELCOME TO THE NOVENA OF GRACE!

Francis Xavier was sent forth by Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Jesuits, to “set all afire” over 475 years ago. The Novena began in 1633 when St. Francis Xavier appeared to the priest Marcellus Mastrilli in a healing vision and promised that all who would earnestly ask his intercession with God for nine days would experience profound grace.

This nine-day Lenten retreat, open to persons of any faith tradition or spiritual background, affords time for prayer, reflection, intercession, opening oneself to God’s Spirit, and experiencing the grace that rejuvenates and transforms our lives. We are invited to remember that God meets each of us just where we are, and we can ask God for what we need.

People coming to the Novena of Grace often pray for spiritual and physical healing, for reconciliation in their relationships, as well as for a deeper sense of discerning one’s call in life. At its essence, these nine days are about deepening our relationship with God and opening to the healing love and mercy that God offers.

At the end of the mass, you will have the opportunity to offer your prayer intention(s) in communion with prayer ministers who are present with various relics of the saints. For more information on this practice, refer to page 7.

This year’s theme, **“I Am the Beloved!”**, is a proclamation that names and claims our identity as the Beloved of God, which challenged so many aspects of life, including institutions and systems that attempt to denigrate our human dignity and creation in the Image of God. Through the Novena, we desire to share the many faces and identities of the Beloved, to inspire hope for a Church that honors God’s creation, and to model examples of courage and belonging in and for our communities. To be so Beloved is more than a sentiment – it is a deep truth, a taproot of our creation that shapes our understanding of everything.

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DAILY READINGS AND DAILY GRACES

Day 1 // Thursday, March 7

*We pray for the grace to claim our identity  
as the Beloved people of God.*

Jeremiah 7:23-28 // Psalm 95:1-2,  
6-9 // Luke 11:14-23

Day 2 // Friday, March 8

*We pray for the grace to embody  
a deep intimacy of knowing and  
loving God  
with all our hearts.*

Hosea 14:2-10 // Psalm 81:  
6-11, 14, 17 // Mark 12:28-34

Day 3 // Saturday, March 9

*We pray for the grace to be rooted  
in humility and the  
love of a righteous God.*

Hosea 6:1-6 // Psalm 51:3-4,  
18-21 // Luke 18:9-14

Day 4 // Sunday, March 10

*We pray for the grace to see  
with the eyes of our hearts  
in order to encounter others  
as Beloved.*

1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13 //  
Psalm 23:1-6 //  
Ephesians 5:8-14 //  
John 9:1-41

Day 5 // Monday, March 11

*We pray for the grace to trust  
in the goodness God has created  
and that is still being created today.*

Isaiah 65:17-21 // Psalm 30:2, 4-6,  
11-13 // John 4:43-54

Day 6 // Tuesday, March 12

*We pray for the grace to go beyond our  
comfort zone and embrace  
others through interdependence.*

Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12 // Psalm 46:2-3,  
5-6, 8-9 // John 5:1-16

Day 7 // Wednesday, March 13

*We pray for the grace to accept ourselves  
with compassion as Beloved.*

Isaiah 49:8-15 // Psalm 145:8-9, 13-14, 17-  
18 // John 5:17-30

Day 8 // Thursday, March 14

*We pray for the grace to know that  
God calls us each by name.*

Exodus 32:7-14 // Psalm 106:19-23  
// John 5:31-47

Day 9 // Friday, March 15

*We pray for the grace of courage  
to find and use our prophetic voices  
as truth-tellers.*

Wisdom 2:1, 12-22 // Psalm 34:17-21,  
23 // John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

To best enter into a reflective and prayerful posture, please silence your cell phones and other noisemaking devices. For the health and safety of yourself and your fellow worshippers, we encourage you to wear a face mask; N95 masks are available at the front doors of the Chapel.

To help you follow along with the spoken and sung responses, please refer to the white pamphlets in the pews and the purple Chant Mass guide you received at the door.

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

† Prayer for Daily Grace and Inspiration from St. Francis Xavier

† Gathering Song Be Still and Know I'm Here – Ricky Manalo, CSP

*Please stand as you are able. Each day, the cantor will sing two verses from this song; after each verse, please join in singing the refrain.*

The image shows a musical score for the song "Be Still and Know I'm Here" by Ricky Manalo, CSP. The score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff is labeled "Refrain" and contains the lyrics: "Oh, in this en-coun-ter we be - gin. Oh,". The second staff contains the lyrics: "be still and breathe me in. Oh, you must sur-". The third staff contains the lyrics: "ren-der to draw near. Oh, be still and know I'm". The fourth staff contains the lyrics: "here. Be still and know I'm here." and ends with a double bar line. There is a fermata over the first measure of the fourth staff and a "2" above the second measure, indicating a second ending.

† Greeting

† Penitential Act

*The Assembly responds: "Lord, have mercy.";  
then "Christ, have mercy.";  
then again with "Lord, have mercy."*

† Collect/Opening Prayer

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

† First Reading

† Responsorial Psalm ----- see Page 8 for the sung responses

† Second Reading (Sunday 3/10 only)

† Gospel Acclamation ----- refer to the purple supplement for the sung response

† Gospel Reading

A reading from the Gospel according to (Luke, Mark, or John).

*The Assembly responds: "Glory to you, O Lord."*

† Presenter's Reflection

† Profession of Faith (Sunday 3/10 only) ----- refer to the white pamphlet for this prayer

† Universal Prayer            O Lord, Hear My Prayer – Jacques Berthier, Taizé community

*You may submit your written petitions into the baskets at the entrance to the Chapel, or online. Please stand as you are able, and join in singing the refrain:*

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:  
when I call an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O  
Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. O

† Novena Prayer with St. Francis Xavier

*Please kneel as you are able.*

Presider: *Francis, you offer to be our companion as we bring our needs to God,  
and so we pray:*

All: **Gracious and loving God, we join with our brother Francis  
to give you thanks and praise.  
We ask that we might live as he did,  
loving so completely those who are sick,  
forgotten, foreign or who feel alone.  
We pray that our hearts be united with you through all our days.  
And because you have told us to ask, to seek, and to knock,  
once again with Francis we come to you  
with our hopes and longings.**

*(pause for silent personal prayer)*

**Loving God, hear our prayers and answer us  
according to your wisdom and compassion,  
for you make all things work together for good.**

**Amen.**

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Francis Xavier traveled thousands of miles under the most harrowing conditions to India, Malaysia, Indonesia and finally Japan. He sought out the poor and sick, ministering to their needs, teaching the faith, and spending much of each night in prayer. His life of service, preaching the word of God's love, as well as personally helping those in need, made an enduring impact. He experienced the great disillusionment and discouragement of having to work alone, experiencing many of the same challenges we do in trying to live a faithful life.

St. Francis Xavier is the Patron of Foreign Missions.



Image: *St. Francis Xavier* by Fr. Tom Lucas, SJ

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

### † Preparation of the Table and the Gifts

*The musician(s) will present a reflective song while the altar server sets the table.*

### † Eucharistic Prayer

† Holy ----- *refer to the purple supplement for the sung response of Holy, Mystery of Faith (When We Eat this Bread), the Great Amen, and the Agnus Dei.*

### † Mystery of Faith

### † The Great Amen

† The Lord's Prayer ----- *refer to the white pamphlet for the text of the Lord's Prayer, which begins "Our Father, who art in heaven..."*

† Sign of Peace ----- *at this time, greet your neighbors with the phrase "Peace be with you."*

### † Agnus Dei

### † Communion

All gathered here are invited to come forward during the procession today to receive Eucharist, which Catholics revere as the Body and Blood of Christ. If you choose not to receive, you are invited to instead come forward to receive a blessing—simply indicate your desire for a blessing by placing your hand over your heart.

Low-gluten hosts are available. If you would like to receive one, please approach one of the Eucharistic Ministers at the credence table, near the musicians' area to the left of the altar platform, to receive the Eucharist at the end of the procession.

### † Post-Communion Prayer

## CONCLUDING RITES

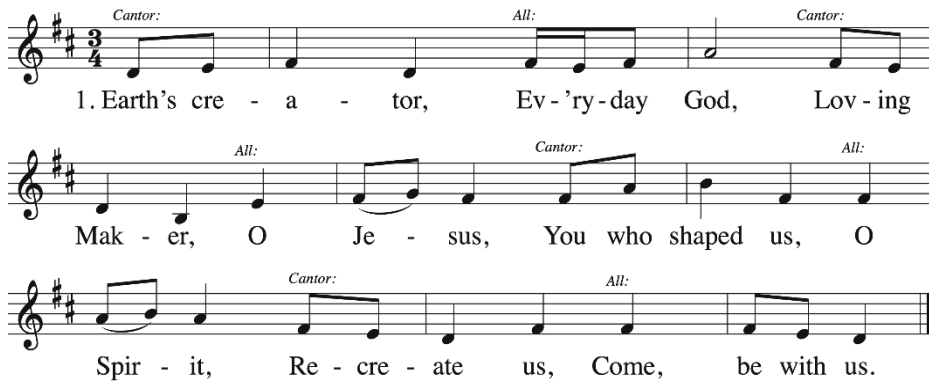
† Announcements

† Final Blessing and Dismissal

† Closing Song

Everyday God – Bernadette Farrell

*This song is presented as a call-and-response. Each day, the musician(s) will lead three verses; within each verse, please respond to the litany as indicated whenever the text above the staff says "All". Verse 1 is presented here as an example.*



Cantor: All: Cantor: All: Cantor: All: Cantor: All:

1. Earth's cre - a - tor, Ev - 'ry-day God, Lov - ing  
Mak - er, O Je - sus, You who shaped us, O  
Spir - it, Re - cre - ate us, Come, be with us.

† Individual Prayer

This conclusion of the mass is an optional and special aspect of the Novena prayer experience, a unique component that is not present at other Catholic masses. The use of relics to bless participants at the end of our liturgy can be understood as a visible means of connecting us to the saints who continue to be present to us. When we have lost a loved one, going to their places or touching their favorite things evokes reverence, affection and connection to them; in a similar way, we pray with the physical remains as a tangible reminder of the Communion of Saints.

If you would like to offer a personal prayer intention, you are invited to come forward to one of the prayer ministers at the end of the service. They will be located on the sides of the altar, spaced apart with the relics on display.

Share clearly with the minister your prayer intention(s). The minister will say a short prayer or blessing with the relic nearby as a sign of joining with the Communion of Saints to lift up your intention(s) to God. We kindly ask that you respect the privacy and health of your fellow worshippers with social distancing.



RESPONSORIAL PSALMS for this year's Novena

Day 1 (3/7) – Ps. 95 / If Today You Hear His Voice (Haugen)



If to - day\_ you hear his voice,  
hard - en not your hearts. If to - day\_ you  
hear his voice, hard - en not your hearts.

Day 2 (3/8) – Ps. 81 / Hear My Voice (Seymour)



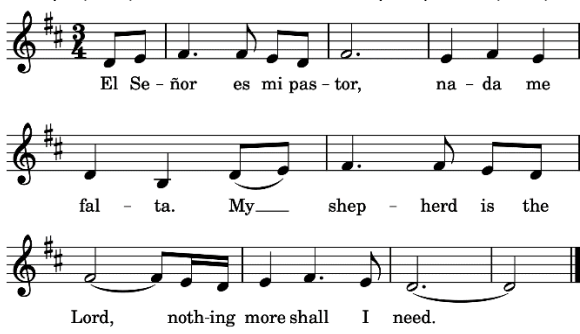
I am the Lord your God:  
hear my voice.

Day 3 (3/9) – Ps. 51 / Mercy, Not Sacrifice (Seymour)



It is mer - cy I de - sire,  
and not sac - ri - fice.

Day 4 (3/10) – Ps. 23 / Nada Me Falta/My Shepherd... (Peña)



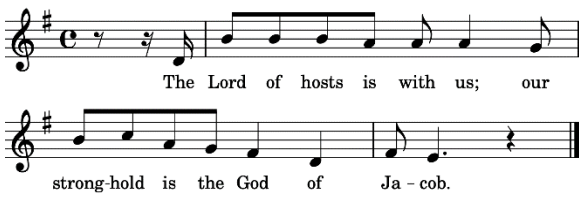
El Se - ñor es mi pas - tor, na - da me  
fal - ta. My\_ shep - herd is the  
Lord, noth - ing more shall I need.

Day 5 (3/11) – Ps. 30 / I Will Praise You, Lord (Louis)



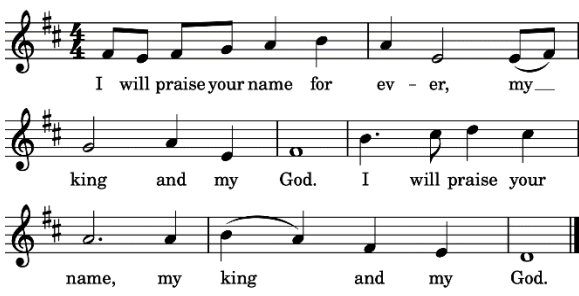
I will praise you, Lord. I will praise you, Lord.  
I will praise you, Lord, for you have res - cued me.

Day 6 (3/12) – Ps. 46 / Our Stronghold (Seymour)




The Lord of hosts is with us; our  
strong - hold is the God of Ja - cob.

Day 7 (3/13) – Ps. 145 / I Will Praise Your Name... (Alonso)



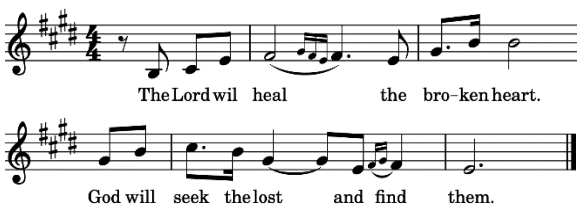
I will praise your name for ev - er, my\_  
king and my God. I will praise your  
name, my king and my God.

Day 8 (3/14) – Ps. 106/Hos. 6 / Remember, Favor (Seymour)



Re - mem - ber us, O Lord,  
as you fa - vor your peo - ple.

Day 9 (3/15) – Ps. 34 / The Lord Will Heal... (Lawton)



The Lord wil heal the bro - ken heart.  
God will seek the lost and find them.

## PRAYING THE NOVENA OF GRACE AT HOME

Wherever you are, you are invited to pray intentionally as part of our Novena community. You can find daily recordings along with reflections online at our webpage for this year's Novena: [ignatiancenter.org/novena-of-grace-2024](http://ignatiancenter.org/novena-of-grace-2024).

When joining us from afar, you may find the following suggestions helpful:

- Be aware of God's presence. Acknowledge your personal journey with God.
- Pray for the grace of the day. Pray to receive what you most truly need and desire. Expect a response to prayer. Be open to God's surprise!
- Sing the Opening Song.
- Reflectively read the daily scripture. Listen to or read the presenters' daily reflection online. Savor what stirs in your heart.
- Offer your own prayer intentions (and you may also submit them online, so they may be compiled into our Universal Prayer). Pray for others, for friends and relatives, the community, and for yourself. Pray for a right relationship with all of God's creation.
- Pray the Novena Prayer with St. Francis Xavier (p. 4, or the Novena prayer card.)
- Take quiet time, reflect in a journal, or pray a simple Examen; consider the following reflective questions — What moment today was most life-giving? What moment today was the most life-draining?

## GOODWILL OFFERING



We rely on the generosity of all those who have been touched by this Novena of Grace to ensure its continuation from year to year. Please consider making a donation that reflects your ability to give and your gratitude for this special experience. Some of you may be able to give a few dollars each day, while others may be able to give \$50 or more for each day. Every gift is appreciated and supports this retreat, and the important work of the Ignatian Spirituality Center.

Donations may be placed in the envelopes and baskets provided. You may also send your donation via mail or by scanning the QR code. Thank you for prayerfully considering a gift to the ISC!