

Novena Electoral Process Oct 2016

Novena for abundant Grace, Courage and Discernment in our Electoral Process

DAY 1

(To begin)

Dear Lord, grant us an abundance of Grace, Courage and Discernment in our electoral process. Amen.

Opening Prayer:

Heavenly God, we pray for all candidates and for the millions of women and men who participate in our electoral process. Turn our hearts from fear to hope, from hatred to love, from indifference to compassion. Lead us to act 'true to our conscience' without holding in contempt those with whom we disagree.

Humbly we pray in your name. Amen

Reading Isaiah 32:15-18

(Read three times, slowly. Take time to savor the words; let the Lord speak to you.)

In those days:

The Spirit from on high

Will be poured out on us.

Then will the desert become an orchard

And the orchard be regarded as a forest.

Right will dwell in the desert

and justice abide in the orchard.

Justice will bring out peace;

right will produce calm and security.

My people will live in peaceful country,

In secure dwellings and quiet resting places.

The word of the Lord.

Our Father...

(Closing)

Dear Lord, guide us; may thy kingdom come, thy will be done. Amen

DAY 2

(To begin)

Dear Lord, grant us an abundance of Grace, Courage and Discernment in our electoral process. Amen.

Opening Prayer:

Heavenly God, we pray for all candidates and for the millions of women and men who participate in our electoral process. Turn our hearts from fear to hope, from hatred to love, from indifference to compassion. Lead us to act 'true to our conscience' without holding in contempt those with whom we disagree.

Humbly we pray in your name. Amen

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians

(Read three times, slowly. Take time to savor the words; let the Lord speak to you.)

Brothers and sisters:

Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,
heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience,
bearing with one another and forgiving one another,
if one has a grievance against another
as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do.

And over all these put on love,

That is, the bond of perfection.

And let the peace of Christ control your hearts,

The peace into which you were also called in one Body.

And be thankful.

The word of the Lord.

Our Father...

(Closing)

Dear Lord, guide us; may thy kingdom come, thy will be done. Amen

DAY 3

(To begin)

Dear Lord, grant us an abundance of Grace, Courage and Discernment in our electoral process. Amen.

Opening Prayer:

Heavenly God, we pray for all candidates and for the millions of women and men who participate in our electoral process. Turn our hearts from fear to hope, from hatred to love, from indifference to compassion. Lead us to act 'true to our conscience' without holding in contempt those with whom we disagree.

Humbly we pray in your name. Amen

Reading Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

(Read three times, slowly. Take time to savor the words; let the Lord speak to you.)

Brothers and sisters:

Have no anxiety at all, but in everything,
by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving,
make your request known to God.

Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding

will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters,

whatever is true, whatever is honorable,
whatever is just, whatever is pure,
whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious,
if there is any excellence
and if there is anything worthy of praise,

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think about these things.
Keep on doing what you have learned and received
and heard and seen in me.
Then the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

Our Father...

(Closing)

Dear Lord, guide us; may thy kingdom come, thy will be done. Amen.

DAY 4

(To begin)

Dear Lord, grant us an abundance of Grace, Courage and Discernment in our electoral process. Amen.

Opening Prayer:

Heavenly God, we pray for all candidates and for the millions of women and men who participate in our electoral process. Turn our hearts from fear to hope, from hatred to love, from indifference to compassion. Lead us to act 'true to our conscience' without holding in contempt those with whom we disagree.

Humbly we pray in your name. Amen

Reading James 3: 13-18

(Read three times, slowly. Take time to savor the words; let the Lord speak to you.)

Beloved:

...the wisdom from above is first of all pure,
then peaceable, gentle, compliant,
full of mercy and good fruits,
without inconstancy or insincerity.
And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace
For those who cultivate peace.

The word of the Lord.

Our Father...

(Closing)

Dear Lord, guide us; may thy kingdom come, thy will be done. Amen

DAY 5

(To begin)

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Dear Lord, grant us an abundance of Grace, Courage and Discernment in our electoral process. Amen.

Opening Prayer:

Heavenly God, we pray for all candidates and for the millions of women and men who participate in our electoral process. Turn our hearts from fear to hope, from hatred to love, from indifference to compassion. Lead us to act 'true to our conscience' without holding in contempt those with whom we disagree.

Humbly we pray in your name. Amen

Reading Galatians 5:17-26

(Read three times, slowly. Take time to savor the words; let the Lord speak to you.)

Brothers and sisters:

The flesh has desires against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh;
these are opposed to each other,
so that you may not do what you want.

But if you are guided by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

Against such there is no law.

Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified their flesh
with its passions and desires.

If we live in the Spirit, let us also follow the Spirit.

Let us not be conceited, provoking one another, envious of one another.

The word of the Lord.

Our Father...

(Closing)

Dear Lord, guide us; may thy kingdom come, thy will be done. Amen

DAY 6

(To begin)

Dear Lord, grant us an abundance of Grace, Courage and Discernment in our electoral process. Amen.

Opening Prayer:

Heavenly God, we pray for all candidates and for the millions of women and men who participate in our electoral process. Turn our hearts from fear to hope, from hatred to love, from indifference to compassion. Lead us to act 'true to our conscience' without holding in contempt those with whom we disagree.

Humbly we pray in your name. Amen

Reading Isaiah 58:6-11

(Read slowly. Take time to savor the words; let the Lord speak to you.)

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Thus says the Lord:

This is the fasting that I wish:

releasing those bound unjustly,
untying the thongs of the yoke;

Setting free the oppressed,
breaking every yoke;

Sharing your bread with the hungry,
sheltering the oppressed and the homeless;

Clothing the naked when you see them,
and not turning your back on your own.

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your wound shall quickly be healed;

Your vindication shall go before you,
and the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer,
you shall cry for help, and the Lord will say: Here I am!

If you remove from your midst oppression,
false accusation and malicious speech;

If you bestow your bread on the hungry
and satisfy the afflicted;

Then light shall rise for you in the darkness,
and the gloom shall become for you like midday;

Then the LORD will guide you always
and give you plenty even on the parched land.

God will renew your strength,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring whose water never fails.

The word of the Lord.

Our Father...

(Closing)

Dear Lord, guide us; may thy kingdom come, thy will be done. Amen

DAY 7

(To begin)

Dear Lord, grant us an abundance of Grace, Courage and Discernment in our electoral process. Amen.

Opening Prayer:

Heavenly God, we pray for all candidates and for the millions of women and men who participate in our electoral process. Turn our hearts from fear to hope, from hatred to love, from indifference to compassion. Lead us to act 'true to our conscience' without holding in contempt those with whom we disagree.

Humbly we pray in your name. Amen

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Reading 1 Kings 3: 11- 14

(Read three times, slowly. Take time to savor the words; let the Lord speak to you.)

The LORD said to Solomon:

"Because you have not asked for a long life for yourself,
nor for riches, nor for the life of your enemies,
but for understanding so that you may know what is right-
I do as you requested.

I give you a heart so wise and understanding
that there has never been anyone like you up to now,
and after you there will come no one to equal you.

In addition, I give you what you have not asked for,
such riches and glory that among kings there is not your like.
And if you follow me by keeping my statutes and commandments,
as your father David did,
I will give you a long life."

The word of the Lord.

Our Father...

(Closing)

Dear Lord, guide us; may thy kingdom come, thy will be done. Amen

DAY 8

(To begin)

Dear Lord, grant us an abundance of Grace, Courage and Discernment in our electoral process. Amen.

Opening Prayer:

Heavenly God, we pray for all candidates and for the millions of women and men who participate in our electoral process. Turn our hearts from fear to hope, from hatred to love, from indifference to compassion. Lead us to act 'true to our conscience' without holding in contempt those with whom we disagree.

Humbly we pray in your name. Amen

Reading 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

(Read three times, slowly. Take time to savor the words; let the Lord speak to you.)

Brothers and sisters:

Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,
and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

Each must do as already determined, without sadness or compulsion
for God loves a cheerful giver.

Moreover, God is able to make every grace abundant for you,
so that in all things, always having all you need,
you may have an abundance for every good work.

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The word of the Lord.

Our Father...

(Closing)

Dear Lord, guide us; may thy kingdom come, thy will be done. Amen

DAY 9

(To begin)

Dear Lord, grant us an abundance of Grace, Courage and Discernment in our electoral process. Amen.

Opening Prayer:

Heavenly God, we pray for all candidates and for the millions of women and men who participate in our electoral process. Turn our hearts from fear to hope, from hatred to love, from indifference to compassion. Lead us to act 'true to our conscience' without holding in contempt those with whom we disagree.

Humbly we pray in your name. Amen

Reading 1 Timothy 6:6-11, 17-19

(Read three times, slowly. Take time to savor the words; let the Lord speak to you.)

Beloved: -

Religion with contentment is a great gain. For we brought nothing into the world,
just as we shall not be able to take anything out of it.

If we have food and clothing, we shall be content with that.

Those who want to be rich are falling into temptation and into a trap
which plunge them into ruin and destruction.

For the love of money is the root of all evils,
and some people in their desire for it have strayed from the faith
and have pierced themselves with many pains.

But you, people of God, avoid all this.

Instead, pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness.

The word of the Lord.

Our Father...

(Closing)

Dear Lord, guide us; may thy kingdom come, thy will be done. Amen