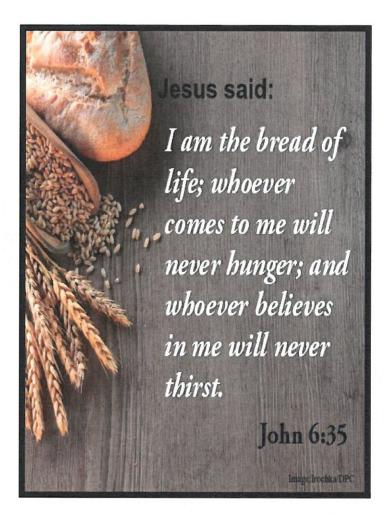
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

189 Church Street, P.O. Box 296, Ottoville, OH 45876 Telephone: (419) 453-3513 • Fax (419) 453-2513

Email: immac@bright.net

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM: First time parents need to attend baptism Instruction. Baptisms are normally celebrated during or after the Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass or anytime agreeable with Father Jerry. To arrange Baptism or instruction, call the Parish Office at (419) 453-3513.

MATRIMONY: The Diocese of Toledo requests that all marriage dates be scheduled through the Parish Office at least six months prior to wedding date. Engaged couples must meet with Father Jerry before a wedding can be scheduled. Joy Filled Marriage workshop information can be found at the website www.jfmtoledo.eventbrite.com.

RECONCILIATION: Saturdays from 3:15 to 3:45 p.m. or by appointment.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Contact the Parish Office at (419) 453-3513. In case of an emergency, call Father Jerry's cell phone.

PASTOR: Very Reverend Jerry Schetter Cell Phone: (419) 305-5149

Rectory (Emergencies Only): (419) 453-2510

Email: frjschetter@bright.net

DEACON SENIOR STATUS: Deacon Jose' Flores

COORDINATOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: OPEN

Office Phone: (419) 453-3513 Email: religed@bright.net YOUTH MINISTER: Renee Kelch

Cell Phone: (419) 236-4006
Email: icyministry@bright.net

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Irene Miller Home Phone: (419) 453-3275

FLOWERS: Sue Beining

Home Phone: (419) 453-3826 **MAINTENANCE**: Todd Knippen

Cell Phone: (419) 236-5068

MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT: Chris Burgei

Cell Phone: (419) 796-9559

PARISH CENTER RESERVATIONS/RENTALS:

Call the Parish Office (419) 453-3513

BUSINESS MANAGER/SECRETARY: Tina Weber

Office Phone: (419) 453-3513

Cell Phone (Emergencies Only): (419) 796-0189

Email: immac@bright.net

NOTARY Services are available free of charge

during regular office hours.

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Matt Cross
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Adam Schnipke

Connie Schnipke

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Brian Beining Chris Ricker Dave Burgei Cheryl Siefker Theresa Von Sossan

MASS SCHEDULE

TUESDAY: 7:00 p.m. 2nd, 4th, and 5th weeks WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY: 8:10 a.m.

FRIDAY: 8:00 a.m. SATURDAY: 4:00 p.m. SUNDAY: 10:30 a.m.

6:00 p.m. Youth and Family Mass

(3rd week only September through April)



-		
8/4 (Saturday)	4:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Jean Byrne At. St. Barbara/Cloverdale
8/5 (Sunday)	8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	At St. Barbara/Cloverdale Leonard & Joan Eickholt
8/6 (Monday)	8:10 a.m.	Transfiguration of the Lord Julie Schmersal
8/7 (Tuesday)	7:00 p.m.	At St. Barbara/Cloverdale
8/8 (Wednesday)	8:10 a.m.	Alfred and Elizabeth Ricker
8/9 (Thursday)	8:10 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Jerome Landwehr At St. Barbara/Cloverdale
8/10 (Friday)	8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m.	Living and Deceased Members of the Andrew & Barbara Hohlbein Family At St. Barbara/Cloverdale
8/11 (Saturday)	1:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Wedding: Aaron Wehri and Ashley Steffan Norbert and Angie Miller At. St. Barbara/Cloverdale
8/12 (Sunday)	8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	At. St. Barbara/Cloverdale The Martin Bendele Family

ALTAR/SANCTUARY CLEANING

For the Week Beginning 8/5/2018: The Dale and Lisa Bendele Family

Next weekend's readings (8/11 - 8/12/2018): I Kings 19:4-8; Ephesians 4:30-5:2; John 6:41-51

LADIES TO PRAY THE ROSARY							
August 5	(Sunday)	Anne Hemker					
August 6	(Monday)	Marge Hicks					
August 7	(Tuesday)	Alice Hilvers					
August 8	(Wednesday)	Annette Hilvers					
August 9	(Thursday)	Jean Herman					
August 10	(Friday)	Jane Hilvers					
August 11	(Saturday)	Janet Hemker					



WEDDING BANNS: Please pray for these couples as they prepare for their upcoming marriages:

- (II) Kyle Arn and Morgan Fischbach
- (III) Jordan Schimmoeller and Margaret von der Embse—St. Michael in Kalida
- (III) Aaron Wehri and Ashley Steffan

The **August Retreat** with Father Herman Scherger at Domus Angelorum Retreat House (21706 State Route 114, Cloverdale) will be on Saturday, August 11th. Mass begins at 8:30 a.m. followed by registration and Adoration. The day concludes with Confession and Benedictions at 3:00 p.m. This month's topic will be "The Mystical Body." All are welcome.



Dear Padre' Question: I struggle with my family life, any suggestions?

The family existence is at the heart of all societies. It is the first and most basic community to which every person belongs. There is nothing more

fundamental to our society...and our Church. As St. Pope John Paul II said, "The future of humanity passes by way of the family." Families are a sign, first and foremost, of God's presence. Even though families are often challenged by change and complexity, we know that even in the face of obstacles we must still maintain strong family ties and to follow our calling as a church of the home.

In the family, one is not a sole keeper of the flame of hope and love. It's really about sharing and exercising responsibility for a purpose that is larger than what it seems. Building of a family is sharing our individual skills and interests to a common life. All families must be based on this. One alone is not the keeper of the flame. Sharing feelings and a willingness to be open can, at times, be difficult particularly for those of us raised in the "strong and silent" tradition. "Love one another as I have loved you" (John 13:34). Love and respect are the two secret words. In the light of Christ's love we see our family's divine potential. We love them with all our heart, soul, and mind. And as we do, our ordinary family is transformed into an extraordinary one. St. John Henry Newman once said: We love because it is our nature to love and it is our nature because God the Holy Spirit has made it our nature. In creating family, God's very nature is instilled in our very nature.

Many programs are offered in parishes and communities that assist one in growing in their families. One such program that will be starting here this Fall is "Strong Catholic Families – Strong Catholic Youth." To build a strong Catholic family is a process, not a program of faith growth. We grow within.

The kick-off of this program will be coming this September. I pray that this program will be a stepping stone to relieve the struggles in our families and an opportunity to grow spiritually and whole heartily. A Christian family is a church of the home. In the everyday moments of our family lives, we proclaim and share God's word and serve the needs of others. Follow the way of love! ~ Padre' Jerry

JOIN FLOCKNOTE!!

Sign up to receive text and/or email messages for groups you are interested in such as general church and Diocesan information and events, religious education—for both students and parents, Ministers of Mass reminders, Youth Ministry information, Knights of Columbus members, reminders about other service groups such as prayer line members, ladies to pray the rosary, collection counters, etc.

TEXT: immac TO 84576 OR
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Call or stop by the Parish Office for
Assistance. It is FREE to join!!!

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REMINDER: A special Mass celebrating the **Transfiguration of the Lord** will be at 8:10 a.m. on Monday, August 6th.

UPCOMING FESTIVALS

August 5th—**St. Anthony of Padua Parish Festival** (Columbus Grove) For more information, call the parish office at (419) 659-226

August 12th—**St. Joseph Parish Festival** (Fort Jennings) August 12th—**St. Michael's Ridge Catholic Church** (State Route 66 North of Defiance 4 miles, East on Banner School Road, 3 Miles to Moser Road)

LOOK GOOD, FEEL BETTER—Attend a FREE program on August 20th from 3 to 4 p.m. at Putnam County Ambulatory Care in Ottawa. A woman undergoing cancer treatment may lose her hair or suffer other appearance-related side effects making difficult times even harder. Specially trained volunteer beauty consultants work with women to learn about makeup, skin and nail care, and ways to deal with hair loss. Each woman receives a free makeup kit and shares laughter with others going through the cancer journey. Registration is required by calling (800) 395-5665.



OTTOVILLE SCHOOL BOOK BILLS can be paid on the following dates:

Tuesday, August 14th from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Wednesday, August 15th from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m.

Join Carol & Kristen Kurivial, co-founders of Luminous Ministries for an epic adventure entitled *Random Catholic Treasures!* This exploration contains a musical highlighting the life of Servant of God, Queen Isabella the Catholic, as she sent explorer Christopher Columbus to uncover the new world. The event continues by voyaging into often uncharted territory, that of amazing random Catholic treasures that are simply waiting to be discovered. This will be presented on Sunday, August 19th from 2-3:30 p.m. at St. Barbara Catholic Church (160 Main Street, Cloverdale). An ice cream social will follow in the Parish Center. Everyone is welcome!!!

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR PARK CARNIVAL RAFFLE BOOTH-Plans are currently underway for the upcoming 2018 Ottoville Park Carnival to be held on Labor Day Weekend, Saturday, September 1st/ and September 2nd. Donations are needed for the Adult and Kids Raffle Booths. If you would like to donate an item, please contact Michelle Kortokrax at (419)234-7600 or Marilyn Calvelage at (419)605.7897. If you would like to make a monetary donation to go towards purchasing items for the booth, please make your check payable to the "Ottoville Park Playground Equipment Fund" (this is a 501 C (3) organization) and mail to Michelle Kortokrax at P.O. Box 577, Ottoville, Ohio 45876. The deadline for turning in donations is Sunday, August 26th. Thanks for working together as a community to make our park great!



Included with this weekend's bulletin is a **Novena in Honor of Mary, our Patron**. The 9 day Novena will start August 6th with the Feast of the Transfiguration and end on August 14th at the Eucharistic Adoration Vigil of the Assumption. These prayers will be prayed during scheduled masses but you are asked to privately pray the prayers daily as well.

MINISTERS OF MASS

If unable to serve at your scheduled time, please be sure find a replacement. Thank you.

WEEKDAY MASS SERVERS

Wednesday/Thursday—August 8th and 9th at 8:10 a.m. Friday—August 10th at 8:00 a.m.

Kamryn Miller, Carly Thorbahn, Erica Thorbahn

SATURDAY - August 11th at 4:00 p.m.

Mass Servers: Kambrie and Caden Edelbrock, Addison Geise

Lector: Mary Kay Schroeder

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion:

HOST: Marie Grote, Linda Knippen, Michelle Leach

HOST (Side/Back): Bernice Schnipke CUP: Peggy Pohlman, Janice Warnecke

CHOIR: Kim Wannemacher

Ushers: Rodney Beining, Joel Edelbrock, Kirt Martz,

Darrell Von Sossan

OFFERTORY GIFTS: The Family of Norb & Angie Miller

SUNDAY - August 12th at 10:30 a.m.

Mass Servers: Dru Hilvers, Heaven Ross, Josh Thorbahn

Lector: Rhonda Hilvers

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion:

HOST: Erica Brickner, Carol Hoersten, Jim Hoersten

HOST (Side/Back): Nancy Vetter **CUP:** Sharon Brickner, Cherie Kemper

CHOIR: Sheila Miller

Ushers: Steve Beining, Steve Hoersten, Gene Miller,

Jim Wannemacher

OFFERTORY GIFTS: VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Fort Fest-A Salute to Our Military will be held in Fort Jennings August 17, 18, and 19th. In addition to many military displays and tributes, the event will feature the 9/11 "Never Forget" Mobile Exhibit out of New York. This exhibit offers a unique opportunity to get up close with historic artifacts from the 9/11



Disaster and some of the First Responders who were there that day. Come help celebrate our Veterans as well as our First Responders at this year's Fort Fest! Details at FJFortFest.com or see the Fort Jennings Park page on Facebook.



The K of C is selling church ornaments/ sun catchers made by Window Creations. The cost is \$25.00 each. Proceeds benefit the church window restoration project. Order forms are available in the Parish Office. Deadline to order is August 26, 2018. An actual ornament/ sun catcher can be seen in the Parish Office or K of C members will be

available after both masses on August 11th and 12th to show the ornament/sun catcher and to take orders. Payment is needed at the time of order.



ROSARY RECITINGS

MEETING DATES: First Monday evening in the months of October November, December, March, April, and May.

WHERE: Immaculate Conception Parish Center

TIME: Rosary begins at 6:40 p.m. followed by

Mass at 7:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: October, 2018

"Putnam annual County Back-to-School Giveaway" will take place on Monday, August 13 at the Putnam County Educational Services Center. To receive free school supplies, qualifying families may acquire a referral form from their schools or from Putnam County Job and Family Services. Groups and individuals interested in helping to provide school supplies should contact the United Way at (419)523-4505. Cash donations are welcomed and will be used toward purchasing school supplies. Make checks payable to United Way/Back-to-School and sent to: P.O. Box 472, Ottawa, OH 45875.

The Putnam County Health Department Nursing Staff would like to remind you that Back-to-School vaccines are required for students entering Kindergarten, 7th, and 12th grades. The health department offers extra clinics in August. Please call (419) 523-5608 for an appointment.



KNIGHTS NEWS

Knights of Columbus Council 2238 Ottoville, Ohio

MEETING DATES: 2nd Sunday of each month 9:00 a.m. 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. (No Wednesday meetings during summer) New Members are always welcome!

The newly formed Divorced Catholic Recovering from Divorce program is specifically designed to help divorced/ separated Catholics. This 13 week program offers support and addresses the most pressing challenges of divorce. Participants focus on hope and faith in God's plan for recovery and receiving the blessings of our Catholic faith. An introductory session will be held on Thursday, September 6, 2018, 7:00 pm, in the lower level of St. Charles Church, Room 1. For more information and to register for the introductory session please contact Rosalyn Liston at (419) 999-4210 or send an email to auntroro@wcoil.com.



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BREAKFAST IS COMING STARTING MAY 27TH

OPENING AT 6:00 A.M. ON FRIDAY, SATURDAY, & SUNDAY SUNDAY BREAKFAST BUFFET (DINE-IN)

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

COUNCIL 2238 OTTOVILLE, OHIO

Playing Rough with Family Members By: Jack Devitt

Most of you can probably remember plying rough with some of your siblings while growing up. I can remember doing that with my sister who was six years older than I was. Therefore, she won almost all of the fights. However, there was a tree in our yard that I would run to when she got mad at me because I could climb it and she couldn't. I would then wait until she left, come down and then go tell Mom my side of the story. I finally got big enough and strong enough to hold my own or beat her so she then goes off and gets married.

I can also remember playfully roughhousing with our son Brent in the lower level of our house. It finally got to the point that he was strong enough to win most of our battles, so I had to tell him that we would have to stop or we might break some of the furniture in the room.

On August 15 we celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It's a celebration of the ending of her life on earth, not death, and her assumption by God, both body and soul, into heaven. Her life on earth was divine in every way, and the Assumption gives us hope that we too will follow Mary when our life is over. But how can we be more like Mary while we are living our lives on earth?

Think back to some of the holidays we have celebrated in the not-so-distant past and vows or promises we have made. During the Christmas season it is so easy to focus on being better Christians because we are constantly reminded of the importance of the season. At the New Year, most of us make a resolution. If you remember, I made a challenge to try resolve to change how you involve God in your every day lives. How's that going? And, of course, at Easter we are fully aware of what Jesus sacrificed for us.

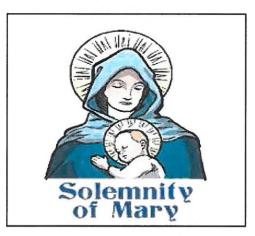
During this "Ordinary Time" in the church, it is very easy for us to take our faith for granted. But the Assumption should be another great reminder to all of us that we should live every day trying to be more like Mary.

By: Darren Schimmoeller

Monthly Bible Verse

I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

John 6:51



Important Dates

August 15 Assumption

Upcoming K of C Meetings

July 8 9am Sep. 9 9am

4th Wednesday meetings are suspended for the summer.
They will resume on

They will resume on September 26 at 7pm with a meeting and social night.

OFFICERS

GRAND KNIGHT, Dave Fischbach; DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT, Steve Beining; CHAPLAIN, Fr. Jerry Schetter; CHANCELLOR, Larry Kroeger; RECORDER, Gary Turnwald; FINANCIAL SECRETARY, Ron Hemker; TREASURER, Dan Gerker; ADVOCATE, Larry Miller; WARDEN, Art Tumblin; INSIDE GUARD, Ron Niemeyer; OUTSIDE GUARD, Bob Warnecke; 1st. YEAR TRUSTEE, Jerry Hohlbein; 2nd. YEAR TRUSTEE, Bob Brinkman; 3rd. YEAR TRUSTEE, Brian Eickholt

August Birthdates

4th	Gene Schimmoeller
6th	Joe Hohlbein
8th	Larry Kroeger
9th	Greg Gable
13th	Tom Markward
15th	Jim Rhodes
18th	Phil Hilvers
18th	Don Warnecke
26th	Ralph Burgei
28th	Dave Burgei
28th	Tim Miller
	HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

Announcements & Reminders

- We need some help to answer questions, pass out literature and serve light refreshments for our membership drive at St Barbara's parish in Cloverdale. Please help membership chair Jerry Hohlbein with this on August 4 after the 5 p.m. mass or Sunday morning, August 5 after the 8 a.m. mass. To help out please call Jerry at 419-890-5194.
- ♦ Scioto Downs Race Track & Casino bus trip: August 8 Contact Bob Warnecke for details.
- We are in need of a volunteer to chair the committee for visiting homebound members of our parish. Please contact an officer to volunteer for this position.
- Volunteer K of C members are needed to pray the rosary prior funeral masses for any male member of our parish. Please contact Grand Knight Dave Fischbach to volunteer.
- September 29 is a "5th Saturday of the month". K of C members will lead the rosary at 4pm mass. Please consider assisting with this!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR VOLUNTEERISM!!!

Be willing to serve even when there is no reward. Be willing to serve even when there is no one to join you.

Be a servant even when there will be no applause in the end. Be willing to serve even when your service doesn't seem prestigious.

Remember, your service does not subtract from your greatness; it only makes you greater

	SSSSSS	RECENT "PICK 3" WINNER	<i>RS</i> \$\$\$\$\$\$\$	
2017			1907-1909-1904-1907-1904-1905	
08/16 Leroy Ellerbrock	11/08 Adam Schnipke	01/24 Joe Wenzlick	04/18 Jarrod & Amy Wehri	07/11 Elizabeth Miller
08/23 Jon & Bekah Buck	11/15 Tony Schmersal	01/31 Sue Beining	04/25 Madison Burgei	07/18 Mike Lauth
08/30 Mark & Sue Wehri	11/22 Chad Landin	02/07 Carol Verhoff	05/02 Tim Rieger	07/25 Joe Wueller
09/06 Paul Ruen	11/29 Terri Wagoner	02/14 Dorothy Landwehr	05/09 Patty Schneider	08/01
09/13 Art & Joan Turnwald	12/06 Randy Gerten	02/21 Jean Hohlbein	05/16 Carl Herman	08/08
09/20 Cheryl Miller	12/13 Pat Recker	02/28 Mike Fortman	05/23 Mart Fischbach	08/15
09/27 Bob Klima	12/20 Craig & Karri Miller	03/07 Marilyn Wannemacher	05/30 Marcy Hoehn	08/22
10/04 Kevin Landin	12/27 Otto Wenzlick	03/14 Joe W. Horstman	06/06 Todd Gerdeman	08/29
10/11 Shaunna Honigford	2018	03/21 Fr. John Stites	06/13 Scott Markward	09/05
10/18 Tony Kahle	01/03 Josh Kahle	03/28 Cheryl Hemker	06/20 Jarrod & Amy Wehri	09/12
10/25 Connie Schnipke	01/10 Bonnie Merschman	04/04 Yvonne Wenzlick	06/27 Ralph Koester	09/19
11/01 Dorothy Landwehr	01/17 Mary Ann Miller	04/11 Carol Wurst	07/04 Mary Lou Miller	09/26
55%				

To have articles in this newsletter please submit them to Darren Schimmoeller at: shimmy@bright.net
Or mail to: Darren Schimmoeller, 15449 Road 22, Cloverdale, OH 45827

A 9 Day Novena starting August 6 Feast of the Transfiguration ending August 14th. At the Eucharistic Adoration Vigil of the Assumption

Novena in Honor of Mary, our Patron

Day One For the Holy Father, the Pope

God, Father of all, we give you praise and thank you for all of your many gifts to us. As we begin this Novena in honor of Our Lady of Consolation, we your children come to you with the same trust Mary had at Nazareth when she said, "Let it be done unto me as you have said." Help us to keep this trust always.

God our Father, we ask you to bless and keep our Holy Father, Pope Francis. Keep him strong in faith, holiness and compassion. Give him many years to lead your Church after the example of St. Peter. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Mary, Consoler of the Afflicted, on this the first day of our Novena, we ask you pray with for our Holy Father, Pope Francis. May God give him the grace to lead the Church with courage and humility and in the peace of Jesus Christ. May he love you, the Mother of the Church, as did St. Peter.

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

Day Two: For Bishops, Priests and Deacons

Jesus Christ, our great High Priest, you gave Bishop Thomas and all our bishops, priests and deacons a share in your ministry. Grant them the grace to carry out their ministries with love, devotion, charity and apostolic zeal. Stir up in your ordained ministers, a great care for souls. Make them signs of your compassion, mercy, and reconciliation in the world today. Amen.

Mary, Consoler of the Afflicted, you comforted and exhorted the Church in its infancy, we ask you to pray with us for our bishops, priests and deacons. Console and strengthen Jesus' clergy by your prayers. May they be given your gifts of humility and trust in your Son. Pray that they would come to love and honor you as their mother and consoler.

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

Day Three: For Religious

Holy Spirit of God, you call men and women to follow Jesus in roles of service to His Church. Strengthen them in their commitment to Holy Church and to God's people that their lives may always bear witness to this joy and peace of living out the Gospel of Christ. May they daily conform their hearts to Jesus in all things. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Consoler of the Afflicted, we ask you to pray with us for our beloved sisters and brothers who have consecrated their lives to Christ Jesus as religious sisters, brothers and priests. May they be granted the grace of perseverance to their vowed commitment and a deepening of their love for Jesus. May they love you and imitate your humility.

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

Day Four: For Families

God our Father, source of family life, we lift up our families here at Immaculate Conception to you. Keep them in your fatherly care: heal the sick, soothe hearts that are broken, comfort the dying, give encouragement to those who have no hope, and bring back all those who have left the practice of their faith. May our families love you with all of their hearts and truly become holy families. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Mary, Consoler of the Afflicted, Mother of the Holy Family of Nazareth, pray for our families. Please pray that God would bless and protect our families and make them one in His love. Pray that He would heal divisions and broken relationships in our families and give us the courage both to forgive and accept forgiveness. May we come to love and respect each other after the example of you, Jesus and Joseph in your home in Nazareth.

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

Day Five: For World Peace

Lord Jesus, you are the Prince of Peace. We ask you to bring your peace to our lives, our families, our homes and those places in our world where peace does not reign. Make us "instruments of your peace" in our daily lives, that we might change the world by our lives. As your ambassadors of peace, help us to build your kingdom. Amen.

Mary, Consoler of the Afflicted, we ask you to pray with us to your Son for peace in the world. May all of humanity come to honor your as the Queen of Peace and accept your Son's call to bring peace to our troubled world.

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

Day Six: For the Return of Loved Ones to the Practice of the Faith

Holy Spirit, we come to you praying for our loved ones who have left our faith or who have stopped practicing any faith at all. We ask you to touch their hearts and minds with the joy and beauty of our faith. Fill them with the peace of knowing Jesus in His word, in prayer and in His Church. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Consoler of the Afflicted, we ask you to pray with us for our loved ones who have left the practice of their faith or who practice no faith at all. We ask you to pray with us to Jesus, your Son, that these our loved ones, would return to the active practice of their faith. May they come to know and love Jesus as their greatest treasure. Amen.

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

Day Seven: For the Sick, Suffering and Dying

Father of love, you comfort those who are sick or suffering and you call home to yourself those who die in your grace. Lay your healing hands on our sick brothers and sisters, give them peace and courage in their illnesses and grant them trust in your care for them. Give to those who are preparing for death the grace of final repentance and perseverance in your love until they see you face to face. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Mary, Consoler of the Afflicted, we ask you to pray with us for our sick and suffering brothers and sisters. Comfort them as a mother comforts her children in their sicknesses. Bring peace to our brothers and sisters who are dying and strength to those who care for them. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

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

Day Eight: For the Conversions of Sinners and Repentance of Those Already Converted

Jesus, Shepherd of Souls, we ask you to look to all of the people of the world and move their hearts to contrition. Lord Jesus, we pray also for those who already profess your Name, that we might fully repent of our sinfulness. Give us the grace and courage to seek out the Sacrament of Reconciliation, to forgive others and to live in peace with your people. Amen.

Mary, Consoler of the Afflicted, as our mother, you pray unceasingly for all people to repent and accept the gift of salvation given to us by Jesus. We ask you to pray with us that we will repent by asking God's forgiveness and then live our lives in holiness and goodness, pleasing to God.

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

Day Nine: For the end of Religious Persecution Throughout the World and for Christian Unity

Holy Spirit of God, we end this Novena by asking you to touch the hearts and minds of all people. Please bring an end to religious persecution throughout the world, so that never again would people be harmed in the name of God. Holy Spirit, we ask you to bring unity to all Christians. At the Last Supper, Jesus prayed that his followers might be one. Spirit of God, through your power, make those who follow Christ Jesus one, in mind and heart. Bring healing to those who have been harmed in any way through the name of God or religion.

Mary, Consoler of the Afflicted, we ask you to pray with us for the end to all religious persecution throughout the entire world. Please pray for the unity of all Christians, that we might be one as Jesus prayed we would be. Amen.

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