

Novena of Grace Day 9



O most kind and loving Saint Francis Xavier, in union with you I adore the most divine majesty. The memory of the favors with which God blessed you during life, and of your glory after death, fills me with joy. And I unite with you in offering to him my humble tribute of thanksgiving and praise. I implore of you to secure for me, through your powerful intercession, the all-important blessing of living and dying in a state of grace. I also ask you to obtain the favor I ask in this novena. (*Mention your petitions.*) But if what I ask is not for the greater glory of God, or the good of my soul, obtain for me what is most conducive to both. Amen.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory Be.

V. Pray for us, Saint Francis Xavier **R.** That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ

O God, who was pleased to gather to your Church the peoples of the East by the preaching and miracles of Saint Francis Xavier, mercifully grant that we, who honour his glorious merits, may also imitate the example of his virtues, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Reflections from Jesuits who share the name Francis

Reflect on the title of this ages-old novena: The Novena of Grace.

I wonder if any of us ever consider that last word of its title: Grace!

Grace: Simply the communicating of God's own love-gift in a human life, in our human lives! Perhaps all of theology could be reduced or uttered in this one word: Grace. And we are its objects! We pray that by His Grace we may cooperate in removing the obstacles to His working so lovingly within us!

Fr. Francis Canfield, SJ