

Nine Week

Novena prayer awaiting our new priest

Week 1 - Dec 2-8: Holy Spirit, we bring to you all families, especially those of our parishes. May each family be a genuine domestic church imaging You and forming a culture of holiness within their sphere of influence. We thank you for the families of all the priests who have served at our parishes and those who are raising sons into a priestly vocation to serve in our parishes. Thank you for the gift of family life.

Week 2 – Dec 9-15: Holy Spirit, we bring to you all children, especially those who are or will eventually be formed as priests in our parishes. May all children live in homes of peaceful security with all the graces necessary to know, love, and serve You in this life and be happy with You in eternal life. Give all children the graces they need to receive Your gift of love and respond with love. Thank you for the gift of children.

Week 3 – Dec 16-22: Holy Spirit, we bring to You all young men discerning a vocation to the priesthood, especially those who will eventually serve in our parishes. May they hear Your call and give consent to a life of generous service to You and Your people. Give them the graces necessary to commit to the path you have put on their heart to travel. We thank you for the vocational call of all the priests who have served or will serve in our parishes.

Week 4 – Dec 23-29: Holy Spirit, we bring to you all Seminarians, especially those who will eventually serve in our parishes. May they learn their academic lessons well and, even more importantly, may they learn the art and science of authentic love, which empties out all selfishness. Give them the graces they need to be patient with themselves and others as they learn how to be servant leaders. We thank you for holy mentors who accompany others to spiritual maturity.

Week 5 – Dec 30-Jan 5: Holy Spirit, we bring to you all those on the cusp of ordination, especially those who will eventually serve in our parishes. May they whole-heartedly commit to their vocational path and be determined in their journey to a transforming union with You. Give them the graces they need to look to their future vocation with faith, hope, and love. Thank you for calling forward new priests.

Week 6 – Jan 6-12: Holy Spirit, we bring to you all ordained priests and deacons, especially those who served, are serving, or will serve in our parishes. May they be renewed daily in their loving service and fidelity to You. Give them the graces they need to be good shepherds and the skills they need to form all souls under their care to full spiritual maturity. May Our Lady protect them under her mantle of care and lead them ever closer into the Eucharistic heart of her Son, Jesus. Thank you for the gift of holy priests.

Week 7 – Jan 13-19: Holy Spirit, we bring to you those who assist the bishop in choosing where each diocesan priest will serve. May they receive the graces necessary to appoint pastors where they are most needed. Give these assistants the resolve to learn each parish and priest within their diocese so as to make fruitful matches and recognize the moments when they should allow Your will to manifest before acting. Thank you for our diocesan leadership.

Week 8 – Jan 20-26: Holy Spirit, we bring to you all elderly priests, especially those who have served in our parishes. May they find and radiate peace and joy in their sufferings as they unite most intimately with Christ crucified. Give them the graces they need to finish the race to the end and win the victor's crown in eternal life. Thank you for the fond memories we have of our past priests.

Week 9 – Jan 27-Feb 2: Holy Spirit, we bring to you the souls of all priests in eternal life, especially all those who have served in our parishes. May those in heaven continue their faithful service by praying for us. May those in purgatory find relief from our prayers. Thank you for the communion found in the Body of Christ.