

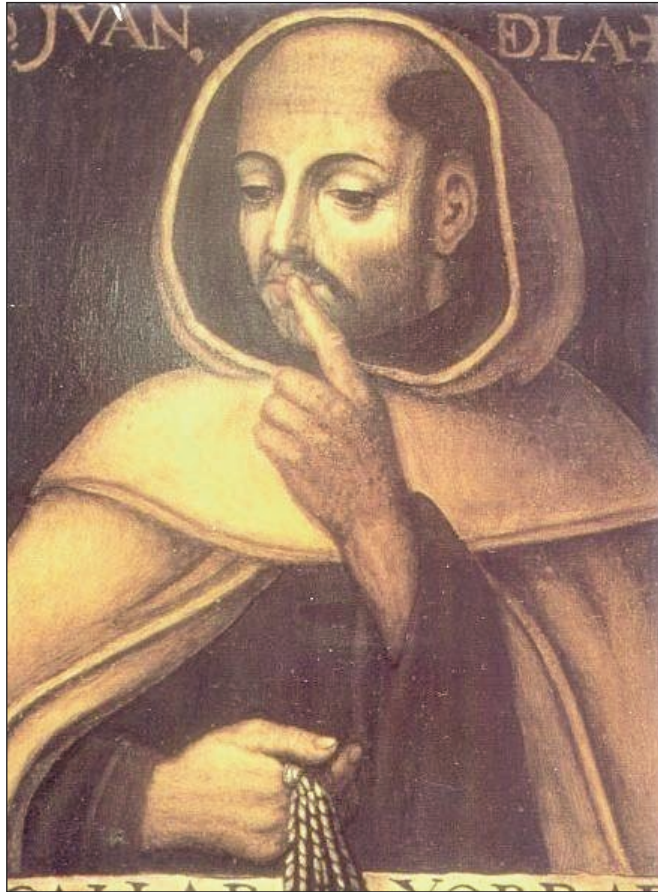
# Novena to Saint John of the Cross (December 5–13)



## ► **OPENING NOVENA PRAYER** (to be said each day)

**LEADER:** In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**LEADER** O glorious St. John of the Cross, through a pure desire of being like Jesus crucified, you longed for nothing so eagerly as to suffer, to be despised, and to be made little of by all; and your thirst after sufferings was so burning that your noble heart rejoiced in the midst of the cruelest torments and afflictions. Grant, I beseech you, O dear Saint, by the glory which your many sufferings have gained for you, to intercede for me and obtain from God for me a love of suffering, together with strength and grace to bear with firmness of mind all the trials and adversities which are the sure means to the happy attainment of all that awaits me in heaven. Dear Saint, from your most happy place in glory, hear, I beseech you, my prayers, so that after your example, full of love for the cross I may deserve to be your companion in glory. **Amen.**



*St. John of the Cross, pray for us.*

## **Feast of St. John of the Cross, December 14**



Sponsored by Our Lady of Mercy Lay Carmelite Community, Holy Spirit Church.

## ► **Day 1: Unwavering Faith**

• *Opening Prayer — see above*

### • **DAILY PRAYER (LEADER):**

My glorious father St. John of the Cross; overflowing with love for Mary and for the cross of her divine Son by which you merited to become the protector of afflicted souls, obtain for me from Jesus and Mary, I beseech you, an unwavering faith and a love of the cross so deep and so valiant that no possible misfortune will ever be able to separate me from the love of my God. Obtain for me also the special grace I ask through your intercession during this novena if it be for the glory of God and for my salvation.

• *Mention your petitions*

### **CLOSING PRAYERS:**

**3 Our Fathers and 3 Hail Marys.**

## ► **Day 2: Spirit of Penitence**

• *Opening Prayer — see above*

### • **DAILY PRAYER (LEADER):**

Glorious St. John of the Cross, you preserved to death in unspotted brilliancy the radiant whiteness of your baptismal innocence, while nevertheless practicing the most cruel and persevering penance. In honor and imitation of this crucifying love, I entreat you that I may share your mortified and penitential life so that, even in this world, I may receive the grace to atone for my many sins, purify my soul, and acquire merit, that I may also enjoy heaven's glory with you. Obtain for me also the special grace I ask through your intercession during this novena, if it be for the glory of God and for my salvation.

• *Mention your petitions*

### **CLOSING PRAYERS:**

**3 Our Fathers and 3 Hail Marys.**

### ► **Day 3: Holy Enlightenment**

• *Opening Prayer — see page 1*

• **DAILY PRAYER [LEADER]:**

O my beloved father St. John of the Cross, your continual prayer merited for you the name of Ecstatic Doctor, favored with special graces in the guidance and direction of souls. I humbly beg you to enlighten my soul and to give me a relish for holy meditation that, detached from earthly things, I may love God alone and desire heaven only. Obtain for me also the special grace I ask through your intercession during this novena, if it be for the glory of God and for my salvation.

• *Mention your petitions*

**CLOSING PRAYERS:**

**3 Our Fathers and 3 Hail Marys.**

### ► **Day 4: Holy Patience**

• *Opening Prayer — see page 1*

• **DAILY PRAYER [LEADER]:**

Great St. John of the Cross, model of patience and generosity, for the glory of God and for the propagation of the holy reform of Carmel, you endured grievous trials and undertook heavy labors, finding, as did St. Paul, joy in opprobrium. Obtain from our Lord for me the grace of unalterable patience in adversity that I may thereby glorify God, have cleansed my souls of every stain, advance in the practice of solid virtue, and obtain at last the crown promised to those who suffer for the love of God. Obtain for me also the special grace I ask through your intercession during this novena, if it be for the glory of God and for my salvation.

• *Mention your petitions*

**ALL:**

**3 Our Fathers and 3 Hail Marys.**

### ► **Day 5: Protection from Temptation**

• *Opening Prayer — see page 1*

• **DAILY PRAYER [LEADER]:**

Dear St. John of the Cross, you exercised dominion over the powers of hell, often obliging them to relinquish the souls, as well as the bodies of their victims. Have compassion on me; ask God to preserve me from the temptations and deceits of these wicked spirits, not only throughout my life, but above all at the hour of my death, that persevering to the end in the grace and love of God, I may possess Him with you forever. Obtain for me also the special grace I ask through your intercession during this novena, if it be for the glory of God and for my salvation.

• *Mention your petitions*

**CLOSING PRAYERS:**

**3 Our Fathers and 3 Hail Marys.**

### ► **Day 6: Purity of Soul and Body**

• *Opening Prayer — see page 1*

• **DAILY PRAYER [LEADER]:**

Great St. John of the Cross, favored by our Lord and the glorious Virgin, His mother, in reward for your angelic life and with the precious gift of chastity, you converted many souls held captive by the most shameful passions. Obtain for me some share in so priceless a gift that, pure and

chaste in soul and body, I may reach heaven where nothing stained may enter and where choirs of virgins follow the Lamb wherever He goes. Obtain for me also the special grace I ask through your intercession during this novena, if it be for the glory of God and for my salvation.

• *Mention your petitions*

**CLOSING PRAYERS:**

**3 Our Fathers and 3 Hail Marys.**

### ► **Day 7: Humility**

• *Opening Prayer — see page 1*

• **DAILY PRAYER [LEADER]:**

Blessed father St. John of the Cross, in you was joined the most profound humility to the most sublime knowledge of the ways of God. Obtain for me real humility of heart, making me love humiliation and contempt that, despairing worldly vanity, I may learn from you to esteem only God and heavenly things. Obtain for me also the special grace I ask through your intercession during this novena, if it be for the glory of God and for my salvation.

• *Mention your petitions*

**CLOSING PRAYERS:**

**3 Our Fathers and 3 Hail Marys.**

### ► **Day 8: Comfort in Affliction**

• *Opening Prayer — see page 1*

• **DAILY PRAYER [LEADER]:**

St. John of the Cross, my glorious protector, in your lifetime you were the father of the poor, the consoler of the afflicted and the assured refuge of the suffering; you worked miracles of

charity for all, miracles which you repeat even now by means of your holy images and relics. Deign also to be my consoler and my father; comfort me in my sorrows and aid me to see in every cross a pledge of divine mercy that, through the cross, I may gain heaven. Obtain for me, too, the special grace I ask through your intercession during the novena, if it be for the glory of God and for my salvation.

• *Mention your petitions*

**CLOSING PRAYERS:**

**3 Our Fathers and 3 Hail Marys.**

### ► **Day 9: Holy Abandonment**

• *Opening Prayer — see page 1*

• **DAILY PRAYER [LEADER]:**

O my loving father St. John of the Cross, to imitate more perfectly our Lord, you generously renounced every consolation, even the spiritual; prayed to suffer and to be despised for God's sake; and finally died suffering, happy to be condemned by men. Obtain for me the grace of abandonment to the Will of God that, placing all my joy and my hope in the passion of my Savior, I may at last rest eternally with you in His glory. Obtain for me also the special grace I ask through your intercession during this novena, if it be for the glory of God and for my salvation.

• *Mention your petitions*

**CLOSING PRAYERS:**

Three Our Fathers and three Hail Marys

*Source: Meditations of Carmel, <http://www.meditationsfromcarmel.com/>*