

Parish Novena to St Clare

3rd – 11th August 2018



St Clare's
Roman Catholic
Church

Daily format of the novena:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

St Clare, patroness of our parish,
we come before you, trusting in your powerful intercession.
You answered God's call to follow Him in a wonderful way;
with the help of your prayers, may we too listen always to His voice,
and follow Him in humility of heart.

Intercede for all those who are in need, especially those most dear to us
and those who have no one to pray for them.

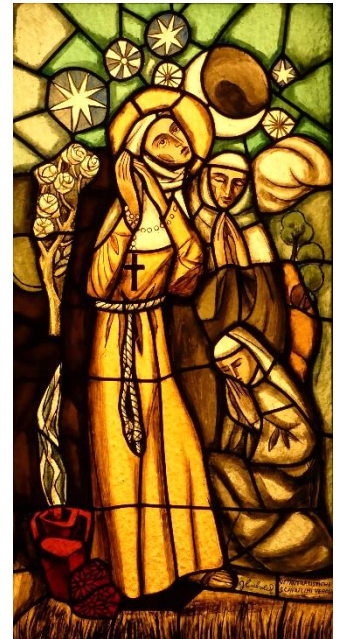
Bless our parish community and the whole Church,
that God's light, reflected so beautifully in your life,
may shine ever more brightly in our world. Amen.

St Clare, pray for us.

Our Father...

Hail Mary...

Glory be...



Then read the short scripture verse and say the prayer for each day's intention, as given below:

Finish with the sign of the cross.

Scripture verses and prayers for each day's intention:

3rd August: Praying for the poor

"Blessed are you who are poor." (Luke 6:20)

St Clare, who left behind riches to follow Francis, the Poor Man of Assisi:

watch over all those who lack food, water, shelter or clothing. Help us to be generous to others, and to give of ourselves in service of those in need. By your prayers, preserve us from indifference to the needs of others, and bless our efforts to help our brothers and sisters. Amen.

4th August: Praying for the sick

"As Jesus stepped ashore He saw a large crowd; and He took pity on them and healed their sick." (Matthew 14:14)

St Clare, who suffered illness, cared for the sick and worked miracles of healing:

intercede for all who are suffering through ill health, that they may receive healing and consolation from the God of love. Watch over the sick and housebound of our parish, all those in hospital and those who care for them. Help us always to be mindful of those who are ill, and to always value human life at every stage. Amen.

5th August: Praying for vocations

"The harvest is rich, but the labourers are few; ask the Lord of the harvest to send workers into His harvest." (Matthew 9:37-38)

St Clare, who heard a call from God through the preaching of St Francis:

assist all those whom God is calling to a particular vocation in the Church. Help them to have courage and faith in answering God's call. We pray for vocations to religious life, to the priesthood, to marriage and consecrated life; and we ask you to help each of us to more fully live our baptismal vocation to follow Jesus our Lord. Amen.

6th August: Praying for detachment from worldly things

“Store up treasure for yourselves in heaven... for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

(Matthew 6:20-21)

St Clare, who left behind worldly riches to live a life of simplicity and poverty:

help us to be freed from undue attachment to material things, passing pleasures or anything which distracts us from our love of Christ. We pray especially for those who suffer from any form of addiction. By your prayers and example, help us to break away from all unhealthy attachments, that we may be free to love God and others. Amen.

7th August: Praying for peace and for those threatened by conflict

“Peace I leave you; my own peace I give you; a peace the world cannot give: this is my gift to you.” (John 14:27)

St Clare, whose convent and town were attacked by raiders:

intercede for all those who are suffering through war, conflict or the threat of violence. By your powerful intercession protect them, as once you protected Assisi. We pray especially for those affected by the war in Syria, and for all who are persecuted for their faith. Pray for us to Jesus, the Prince of Peace, who reigns over all. Amen.

8th August: Praying for humility

“For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled; but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

(Luke 14:11)

St Clare, who undertook the most lowly tasks at San Damiano, preferring to take the lowest place:

pray for us, that we too may grow in humility. By your intercession, free us from all pride, that we may make space for God to show His power in our lives, and may never consider ourselves above others. Pray that we may humble ourselves, so as to be exalted by God. Amen.

9th August: Praying for greater love of the Eucharist

“This is the Bread come down from heaven.” (John 6:58)

St Clare, who spent long periods in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, especially in times of great need:

grant that we too may grow in love for the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Pray that our faith in this wonderful sacrament may be deepened, that we may come to an ever deeper communion with Jesus, who gives Himself for our salvation. Amen.

10th August: Praying for families

“Where two or three are gathered in my name, I will be there with them.” (Matthew 18:20)

St Clare, who experienced conflict, division and also great joy in family life:

intercede for our families, that we may grow in faith, love and unity. Help all those families in which relationships are strained or have broken down; by your example and intercession, help them to find reconciliation, peace and joy. Watch over the families of our parish and school, that Christ may be found at the centre of each family and each home, and that all of us may safely advance towards the heavenly kingdom. Amen.

11th August: Praying for our parish

“Jesus made a tour through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness.” (Matthew 9:35)

St Clare, patroness of our parish:

watch over us and pray for us, as once you cared for the communities of Poor Ladies you founded. Bless us now, as you blessed them during your life on this earth. Call back to God and to the Church all those who no longer practise their faith. May each member of our parish come closer to God, drawn by His unconditional love; and may our whole parish grow in faith, hope and love. Amen.