



As Catholics, we most certainly believe in the power of prayer! As we approach August 8, the day of the installation and ordination of Bishop-elect Douglas J. Lucia, we invite all Catholics in the Diocese of Syracuse to join in praying a novena.

When does the novena start? July 31, 2019, concluding on the day of ordination/installation, August 8, 2019.

What is a novena? A Novena is a prayer and meditation that is said for a specific intention for nine days. This prayer intention will be prayed with Catholics across our diocese and beyond for Bishop-Elect Lucia.

Why pray a novena? Novenas are an ancient tradition that goes back to the days of the Apostles. Jesus told His disciples to pray together after His ascension into heaven, so they went to an upper room along with the Blessed Virgin Mary, (Acts 1:14) and joined constantly in prayer for nine days. These nine days of constant prayer by the Apostles at the direction of Jesus led up to Pentecost. This is when the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples as “tongues of fire” (Acts 2:1-4). This pattern of 9 days of prayer is the basis the novenas we pray today. Thus, the novena is an imitation of the Lord’s command to the Apostles when they prayed for 9 days in anticipation of the coming of the Holy Spirit.

How do I pray a novena? Begin by quieting yourself. After a moment of silence, begin your prayer with the sign of the cross. Pray the words of the Novena with reverence and intention. Follow the prayer with the Lord’s Prayer, a Hail Mary and a Glory Be.

What happens if I miss a day?

If you miss a day, you can do one of a few things... You can either: 1) skip the day you missed altogether, 2) say two of the daily prayers in one day to catch up, or 3) say the prayer of the day you missed and just be one day behind everybody else. It’s up to you, and whatever you choose to do is okay. There are no “rules” and there are no “consequences.” God is forgiving and merciful!

NOVENA PRAYER
for
Bishop-Elect Douglas J. Lucia

Praise to you merciful and loving GOD.
We rejoice in the gift to our diocese of
Bishop-Elect Douglas J. Lucia.

May he lead us with a shepherd's care
and call us to go beyond ourselves
to serve a world in need.
May his example remind us of what it means to be
Christ's heart of mercy,
voice of hope to the hopeless,
and hands of justice.

May he fill our minds and hearts
with the truth of the Gospel,
the power of the sacraments,
and the desire to build up your holy Church.

In your faithfulness and love
bless us all in this time of transition and change.
We pray for renewed zeal for the Church of Syracuse
to be a light to the world.

May the Spirit of the Lord be upon
Bishop-Elect Douglas J. Lucia
and give him courage and strength
as he is ordained the 11th Bishop
of the Diocese of Syracuse.
We pray, in the name of Jesus!
Amen!

Say 1: Our Father...
Say 1: Hail Mary...
Say 1: Glory Be...



Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse

ORDINATION/INSTALLATION AUGUST 8, 2019