### Day 7

Glorious St. Francis, you were untiring in your service to the poor. Obtain for us the same capacity for mercy and desire to give of ourselves that we may one day be considered worthy of the promises of Christ. St. Francis, help us in praying for the grace to truly repent for our sins and actively seek reconciliation with God. May the blessings we obtain through your intercession deepen our faith, and inspire us to store treasures in Heaven, where we hope to spend eternity with the Almighty Father. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and forever shall be, world without end. Amen. St. Francis of Assisi, Pray for us!



### Day 8

Holy St. Francis, you spent your life evangelizing and won over many people to God. We beseech you to have pity on us poor sinners, that through your intercession, God may grant that our doubts be replaced with the certainty that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide us through life's many trials towards His eternal kingdom. St. Francis, help us in praying for the grace to truly repent for our sins and actively seek reconciliation with God. May the blessings we obtain through your intercession deepen our faith, and inspire us to store treasures in Heaven, where we hope to spend eternity with the Almighty Father. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and forever shall be, world without end. Amen. St. Francis of Assisi, Pray for us!

### Day 9

Almighty Father, through the kind intercession of St. Francis, we humbly ask for the grace to be free of the fears and anxieties that beset us, especially (repeat your special intentions and requests here). May we be relieved of the causes of our distress, that we may be able to better serve as the instruments of your Divine Purpose on earth. St. Francis, help us in praying for the grace to truly repent for our sins and actively seek reconciliation with God. May the blessings we obtain through your intercession deepen our faith, and inspire us to store treasures in Heaven, where we hope to spend eternity with the Almighty Father. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and forever shall be, world without end. Amen. St. Francis of Assisi, Pray for us!

### ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI Birth: 1181 (or 1182)

Death: 1226

Feast day: October 4 Patron: of Animals, Merchants

& Ecology

Founder: The Franciscan Order

### **SOURCES**

- Novena prayer: https://ascensionpress.com/pages/ novena-to-st-francis-of-assisi
- Young St. Francis: https://upload.wikimedia.org/ wikipedia/commons/d/da/StFrancis\_part.jpg
- San Damiano Cross: https://commons.wikimedia.org/ wiki/File:Cristo\_de\_san\_Damian.jpg
- Tau: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/ commons/7/73/0\_tau\_cross\_02.jpg
- St. Francis & wolf Alf van Beem, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons
- https://aleteia.org/2019/03/06/the-symbolism-of-theiconic-san-damiano-cross/



The San Damiano Cross is the icon cross before which St. Francis of Assisi was praying when he is said to have heard the words: "Francis, go rebuild My house; as you see, it is all being destroyed." In addition to the main figure of the Christ, the San Damiano cross contains images of other saints and people related to the incident of Christ's crucifixion.



St. Francis of Assisi Church St. Brendan the Navigator Parish 81 Court St., Belfast, ME 04915

## NOVENA TO St. Francis of Assisi



PORTRAIT OF YOUNG ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SAN BENEDETTO SUBIACO, ITALY

A hilltop monastery in Subiaco enshrines the sacred cave in which St. Benedict lived as a hermit before he organized his first monastic community. Its church is covered in beautiful Gothic frescoes. A magnificent full-length fresco portrait of St. Francis of Assisi, protected under glass in St. Gregory's Chapel, is labeled "Fr. Franciscus," and the saint is shown without the stigmata or a halo, indicating it was painted during his lifetime, before 1224. The Byzantine influence of the chapel's Roman painters can especially be seen in this portrait; Francis is shown facing front and with one eye larger than the other, recalling the famous icon of Christ at St. Catherine's Monastery, Syria.

### NOVENA TO St. Francis of Assisi



# EACH DAY, BEGIN THE NOVENA PRAYER WITH:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen. Holy Saint Francis, through your kind intercession we seek holiness above all things. We seek the faith, hope and love that allowed you to joyfully renounce the pleasures of earthly life and to radically follow our Lord Jesus Christ.

our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pray for us that we enjoy the privilege of suffering with and for the poor in the example of Jesus.

Help us to be always grateful for the all blessings we have received and the strength to overcome our most pressing concerns, especially...

(Mention your intentions here, followed by the daily prayer.

At the end of the daily prayer,

conclude with the sign of the cross.)

### Day 1

St. Francis, as you left a comfortable life to lead a life of poverty and service to our Lord Jesus Christ, we ask you to pray that we also realize the folly of seeking to amass material gains and experience worldly pleasures. This day I humbly forego ( ) as an offering to God our Father, hoping this act signals a start of my conversion. St. Francis, help us in praying for the grace to truly repent for our sins and actively seek reconciliation with God. May the blessings we obtain through your intercession deepen our faith, and inspire us to store treasures in Heaven, where we hope to spend eternity with the Almighty Father. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and forever shall be, world without end. Amen. St. Francis of Assisi, Pray for us!



### Day 2

Holy St. Francis, when you decided to serve in the manner of our Lord Jesus Christ you entrusted your whole life to his Divine Providence. Emboldened by your example, I resolve to entrust the favorable resolution of my situation to God our Father, through your most kind intercession. St. Francis, help us in praying for the grace to truly repent for our sins and actively seek reconciliation with God. May the blessings we obtain through your intercession deepen our faith, and inspire us to store treasures in Heaven, where we hope to spend eternity with the Almighty Father. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and forever shall be, world without end. Amen. St. Francis of Assisi, Pray for us!

### Day 3

Glorious St. Francis, you have acted as a peacemaker even in the face of extreme physical danger. Through your prayers, may we also be imbued with a desire to find peaceful resolutions to the problems that plague us, even in the most trying of times. As an offering to our Almighty Father, I resolve to forgive all the wrongs I have suffered from my fellow men. St. Francis, help us in praying for the grace to truly repent for our sins and actively seek reconciliation with God. May the blessings we obtain through your intercession deepen our faith, and inspire us to store treasures in Heaven, where we hope to spend eternity with the Almighty Father. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and forever shall be, world without end. Amen. St. Francis of Assisi, Pray for us!



### Day 4

Holy St. Francis, your concern for God's creation has caused you to be named patron of ecology. May we, through your prayers, follow your footsteps in being good stewards of all of creation which God our Almighty Father has provided. May we also be faithful stewards of the skills and abilities we have been given. St. Francis, help us in praying for the grace to truly repent for our sins and actively seek reconciliation with God. May the blessings we obtain through your intercession deepen our faith, and inspire us to store treasures in Heaven, where we hope to spend eternity with the Almighty Father. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and forever shall be, world without end. Amen. St. Francis of Assisi, Pray for us!

### Day 5

Blessed St. Francis, when you were blessed with the decision to serve our Lord, you abandoned everything and surrendered yourself totally to God's will. Obtain for us the same trust in God, that the Holy Spirit may guide our every thought, word and deed. St. Francis, help us in praying for the grace to truly repent for our sins and actively seek reconciliation with God. May the blessings we obtain through your intercession deepen our faith, and inspire us to store treasures in Heaven, where we hope to spend eternity with the Almighty Father. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and forever shall be, world without end. Amen. St. Francis of Assisi, Pray for us!



### Day 6

Holy St. Francis, through your prayers, may we be blessed with the desire to give all of our strength, and abilities towards serving God's purpose in our lives. May our lives be filled with complete faith and the hope of spending eternity with our Heavenly Father. St. Francis, help us in praying for the grace to truly repent for our sins and actively seek reconciliation with God. May the blessings we obtain through your intercession deepen our faith, and inspire us to store treasures in Heaven, where we hope to spend eternity with the Almighty Father. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and forever shall be, world without end. Amen. St. Francis of Assisi, Pray for us!