

Novena for Vocations for Our Lasallian Family

For the Brothers of the New Orleans – Santa Fe District

Day One: The 17th of the Month ~ For our own vocations

Most Holy Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, hear our prayer as we begin our monthly novena for vocations for our Lasallian Family. We thank you for calling John Baptist de La Salle to found a new religious family in the Church for the human and Christian education of young people throughout the world, especially those who are poor and marginalized. We thank you for the example and the work of our Founding Brothers of the Institute and of this District, for our Brother Saints, and for all of our Brothers and Colleagues who have inspired our own vocations and who have accompanied us to this moment. We ask You, through the intercession of St. La Salle, to strengthen us in our vocations and to bless our work, especially in these changing and challenging times. May we continue to be open to Your call.

Day Two: The 18th of the Month ~ For our students and their families

Most Holy Family – Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, we call on you today on behalf of our students and their families. We ask you to bless their homes with the love and grace which characterized and nurtured your holy family. Many of the young people entrusted to our care have experienced loneliness and fear, the divorce or death of parents, and so many dangerous attractions for immediate and transitory happiness. Inspire us to care for them with the vigilance of guardian angels and the affection of parents so that we may touch their hearts, as You expect us to do. Move us to hear and respond to our young disciples, whenever they call.

Day Three: The 19th of the Month ~ For our students, that they may hear the call

Dear Jesus – Holy Child and Master Teacher, we pray today for all those to whom we minister, that they may hear and answer Your call to service. Inspire our high school students to join Lasallian Youth and our college students to join Lasallian Collegians. Inspire our graduates to become Lasallian Volunteers and join us in our ministry. Lead them gently, from one commitment to another; and show us how to nurture their youthful vocations. Show us how to support our Lasallian Youth and how to invite young people to do the same. Use us, Lord, to awaken in youth the ability to listen to and respond to Your call.

Day Four: The 20th of the Month ~ For our Colleagues

Beloved De La Salle – our Founder and our Brother, from the beginning of our Institute, you and our Founding Brothers vowed to remain in this Society, together and by association, to conduct schools for the Christian education of youth. Today, more than ever, the words of your heroic vow speak to us of the future of

our ministry. Dear God, through the intercession of our beloved Founder, we beg you to call dedicated men and women to join us in the work of Christian education. Fill our Colleagues with the spirit of faith and zeal, so that they may be willing and cheerful partners with us. Raise up administrators and teachers, coaches and staff members who realize that they are ministers of grace. And move us to share our charism with them and to accompany them in answering Your call.

Day Five: The 21st of the Month ~ For our Affiliated Brothers and Sisters

Jesus – our Brother and Friend, You have graced us with many extraordinary Colleagues whom we have recognized as Affiliated Members of our Institute. Bless our Brothers and Sisters with renewed faith and zeal. Use them to inspire more Colleagues to grow into a closer association with us. Help our Affiliated Members to serve as role models for young people, calling them to service in the Church and in the Institute, now and in their future careers, so that they too may join us one day in the necessary ranks of dedicated Colleagues and Affiliated Members. Use our Affiliated Brothers and Sisters to help our students and co-workers hear Your call.

Day Six: The 22nd of the Month ~ For Colleagues in Auxiliary Roles

Dear God, You know we cannot do this work alone; we have neither the human nor the financial resources to conduct Christian schools by ourselves. In Your wisdom and love, You give us men and women who happily share their time, talents, and treasures with us. We are grateful for the dedicated Board Members and generous Benefactors who work with us and support us. We ask You to bless them. And we ask You to call many generous men and women to associate themselves with us for the Christian education of youth, so that this work may continue. We ask You to touch the hearts of parents and alumni, that they may be faithful and zealous partners with us in supporting the work of our schools, in response to Your call.

Day Seven: The 23rd of the Month ~ For Vocations to the Vowed Life

St. La Salle – our Founder and Brother, we call on you to come to the aid of your Institute. Our numbers are decreasing, we are aging, and our hearts are yearning for signs of hope and life. Renew our communities with a love of prayer and a love of one another. Give us renewed vitality and increased viability in witnessing to the values of brotherhood and deep spiritual life. Dear Jesus, this work is yours. We beg you to call healthy and generous men to join us in this consecrated life and educational mission. Enable us to envision our future, and strengthen us to achieve it. Show us how to welcome and accompany men who are willing to live and work with us in answer to Your call.

Day Eight: The 24th of the Month ~ For Leadership in the District

Loving God, You led John Baptist de La Salle from one commitment to another so that he might establish Christian schools and form our Society to conduct them. We ask you to lead our Brothers to assume roles of greater initiative and leadership. Our members are fewer; our needs are greater. Raise up Brothers to serve You and one another as Directors and care-givers in our communities, as administrators in our schools and members of Boards of Directors. Bless us with Chapter delegates and Council members who are wise and gentle, prudent and vigilant. Sustain our District leadership with health of mind and body, nourish them with hope and joy, and endow them with vision and grace. Breathe life into our Communities and our District, so that we may feel the vitality and experience the viability to continue to respond to Your call.

Day Nine: The 25th of the Month ~ For Our Re-consecration

Most Holy Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we re-consecrate ourselves to You today as we conclude our novena. You called us into religious life years ago, and we realize that You continue to call us again and again. Our vocation is a lifelong conversation with You; help us to continue to listen to You, even when You are silent. Increase our faith, our hope, and our love –so that we may see more clearly and appreciate more deeply the ways in which You communicate Your will for us, and the gentle manner in which You conduct Your intimate relationship with us. May we continue to find fulfillment and delight in daily answering Your call.