



Easter Novena 2023



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Dear Friends of St. Jude,

This letter is to bring you hope and to invite you to enroll your loved ones in our Easter Novena!

As our Lenten observances draw to a close, we eagerly look forward to the most important Feast of the year: Easter! **The Resurrection of Jesus Christ after his death, crucifixion, and burial, is the greatest celebration of our Church!** The signs of Jesus' resurrection testify to the victory of life over death, love over hatred, mercy over vengeance, and hope over the darkness that can surround us.

In and through this coming Novena of Masses in the Eastern Season we seek the intercession of St. Jude as our special patron whom we honor, we petition, we cry, we hope, and we are grateful.

In maintaining our active devotion to St. Jude as we celebrate the Easter Mystery of our faith, we cultivate a spiritual advantage that helps us regularly grow closer to God's powerful love. Through our Easter Novena we are energized by the hope of St. Jude, being part of a particularly strong channel of trust and hope that leads us to appreciate more deeply God's graces to us through St. Jude's powerful intercession.

To our most holy Apostle, St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, we place ourselves into his hands at difficult times when there are so many trials being suffered by people who need help knowing that they are not alone. As our prayers to St. Jude can transform our lives, they can also bring God's graces to the people we love who are in need.

As Catholics, we are bathed in the light of Christ's resurrection, which illumines our lives to the very core of our being, in all our trials and tribulations, joys and sorrows – to the degree that we live in Christ. Frequently, however, we forget that “living in Christ” means setting aside our own personal challenges or looking beyond the situation in the world today – the poverty, wars, and hatreds – to see more clearly the bright Easter promise behind the gloom.

Let us embrace that light this Easter Season. **I invite you to offer your Easter intentions by returning the attached slip to be placed on our altar during the Easter Novena of Masses, April 9-17, and so proclaim with the other Friends of St. Jude, *Christ is risen! He is truly risen!***

Sincerely in Christ and St. Jude,

Fr. Emmerich Vogt, O.P.
Director

Enroll your loved ones online at:
www.stjude-shrine.org/enroll-in-current-novena

