



## Mother's and Father's Day Novenas 2023



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*Dear Friends of St. Jude,*

Our Year of Healing continues with our annual **Mother's Day Novena (May 6-14)** and **Father's Day Novena (June 10-18)**. These Novenas provide us the opportunity to offer special prayers and Masses at the Shrine of St. Jude, enabling us to express our gratitude and love for our parents, both living and deceased.

**If you wish, please find enclosed the Novena intention slips for you to complete them and return both to us in the envelope provided.**

We are especially mindful of those parents who may be suffering illness due to advanced years or other challenges. As we care for them and share the burden of their illness, we no doubt find ourselves experiencing a deeper, more intensive love for them that is itself a kind of solace. This helps carry us, and them, through difficult times.

But whether ill or healthy, living or deceased, biological or spiritual parents (e.g., Godparents or Priests) our parents play a unique role in our lives, forming us in ways spiritual, emotional, and educational. Each of us has special remembrances of them, and those remembrances are like treasures that can comfort us when the world grows cold.

In our Mother's and Father's Day Novenas we honor, too, the Holy Family, Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, whose example of sanctity is so clear in the Scriptures. We think of St. Joseph, protecting Mary and the baby Jesus from harm, and raising the young boy with gentle instruction. We think of the Blessed Mother nurturing her son and preparing him for his divine destiny. Both discharged their duties with absolute trust in God. As we live our lives by the light of their example, we increase in faith, hope and charity.

Be assured of my prayers and the prayers of all the staff members and volunteers of the St. Jude Shrine each day of the year.

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](http://www.stjude-shrine.org/enroll-in-current-novena)