

Thy Kingdom Come!

# Novena for the Solemnity of Christ the King on the Occasion of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Legionaries of Christ and Regnum Christi

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Texts prepared by Fr. John Bartunek LC

## **Opening Prayer:**

*[Prayer leader alone:]*

Lord Jesus Christ, King of Regnum Christi and the Legion, we thank you for giving life to our spiritual family. We thank you for calling each one of us to love and serve you and your Holy Catholic Church through this Movement. We thank you for giving us so many graces throughout the first seventy-five years of our existence, and we thank you for sending so many graces through our Movement into the world and the Church. We humbly ask you, through the intercession of Our Lady of Sorrows, St. Paul the Apostle, St. John the Evangelist, St. Michael the Archangel, and St. Joseph, to help us renew our love for you, for the Church, for our Movement, and for all people as we prepare to celebrate the Solemnity of the Kingship of your Sacred Heart over the whole Universe.

*[For each day of the Novena, the prayer leader announces the passage by reading out the title (e.g. "Jesus Calls Us by Name"). Then all present read aloud, together, the passage for the day.]*

## **Friday, 13 November 2015**

### **V/ Jesus Calls Us by Name (Mark 1:16-20)**

**R/** As he passed by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." Then they abandoned their nets and followed him. He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him.

## **Saturday, 14 November 2015**

### **V/ Jesus Reveals to Us the Merciful, Personal, and Passionate Love of His Sacred Heart (John 15:13,15, Matthew 11:28-30)**

**R/** "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete... I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father... Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for your selves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

## **Sunday, 15 November 2015**

### **V/ Jesus Teaches Us to Build Communion and to Love as He Loves (John 13:34-35; Matthew 5:43-48)**

**R/** “I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another... You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father, for he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what recompense will you have? Do not the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet your brothers only, what is unusual about that? Do not the pagans do the same? So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect...”

## **Monday, 16 November 2015**

### **V/ Jesus Calls and Equips Us to Be His Witness in the World (Matthew 5:13-16)**

**R/** “You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.”

## **Tuesday, 17 November 2015**

### **V/ Jesus Equips and Sends Us Out to Spread the Good News of His Kingdom (John 15:16; Matthew 28:18-20)**

**R/** “It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain”... Then Jesus approached and said to them, “All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

## **Wednesday, 18 November 2015**

### **V/ Jesus Teaches Us to Refrain from Rash Judgment and Destructive Criticism (Matthew 7:1-5, 12)**

**R/** “Stop judging, that you may not be judged. For as you judge, so will you be judged, and the measure with which you measure will be measured out to you. Why do you notice the splinter in your brother’s eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me remove that splinter from your eye,’ while the wooden beam is in your eye? You hypocrite, remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter from your brother’s eye... Do to others whatever you would have them do to you. This is the law and the prophets.”

## **Thursday, 19 November 2015**

### **V/ Jesus Desires Us to Stay Close to Him (John 15:4-10)**

**R/** “Remain in me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and remain in his love.”

## **Friday, 20 November 2015**

### **V/ Through St. Paul, Jesus Reminds Us That His Grace Is Enough for Us (Philippians 3:7-11; 2 Corinthians 12:9-10)**

**R/** “But because of Christ, I have come to consider all these advantages that I had as disadvantages. Not only that, but I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, and the perfection that comes from the law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death... The Lord said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect

in weakness' ... Therefore, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and constraints, for the sake of Christ; for when I am weak, then I am strong."

## **Saturday, 21 November 2015**

### **V/ Jesus Invites Us to Reign with Him from Glorious Throne of His Cross (Luke 9:23-26)**

**R/** Then he said to all, "If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. What profit is there for one to gain the whole world yet lose or forfeit himself? Whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels."

### **Concluding Prayer:**

*[Prayer Leader alone:]*

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus,

Pour forth your Holy Spirit to inspire us with these words from Holy Scripture.  
Stir up in our souls a deep, burning desire to seek your face always and everywhere, to believe without limits in your Gospel, and to live to the full the abundant life that you came to give us.

Open our hearts every day and in every situation to welcome your mercy and truth.  
Increase in us the influence of the gifts of your Holy Spirit, so that we can trust you more and more fully, and be your courageous witnesses and apostles in this fallen world, so needful of your redeeming grace.

Continue to bless our Movement as we joyfully serve the Church and the world, and walk with us along the path of faithfulness to your most holy name.

In our weakness and our need, remind us:

If not us, then who will proclaim the Gospel?

If not now, then when will the Gospel be proclaimed?

If not the truth of your Gospel, then what shall we proclaim?<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Some phrases from this prayer are adapted from the United States Council of Catholic Bishops' prayer for the New Evangelization: <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/prayers/new-evangelization-prayer.cfm>

V/: O Sacred Heart of Jesus, burning with love for us,  
V/: inflame our hearts with love for you.

V/: Christ Our King!  
R/: Thy Kingdom come!

Per Regnum Christi ad Gloriam Dei