

The Cathedral Church of
St. Michael and All Angels
St. Michael's Row, Bridgetown, Barbados



A

Novena

for the Election of the Next

Bishop

of the

Diocese of Barbados

Monday, April 16, 2018

To

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

What is a novena?

"The Scriptures tell us that our Savior Christ spent the whole night in prayer before he chose and sent forth his twelve apostles. Likewise, the apostles prayed before they appointed Matthias to be one of their number. Let us, therefore, follow their examples, and offer our prayers to Almighty God in preparation for the Elective Synod of the Diocese of Barbados, April 25, 2018.

The Consecrating Bishop's Call to Prayer; BCP p. 432

A novena (Latin *novem* means nine) is a nine-day discipline of constant prayer in imitation of the nine days between

the Ascension of Christ and the Day of Pentecost. During that time the disciples of Jesus "all joined together constantly in prayer" (Acts 1:14) In addition to focused prayer, they also

- read and reflected upon Holy Scripture in light of our Lord's Passion (Acts 1:20)
- exhibited the unity of the church (Acts 1:14)
- gathered the believers together in one place, until the total was about 120 (Acts 1:15)
- identified the primary purpose of the apostolic ministry (Acts 1:22) as witnessing to Christ's resurrection
- held the first Episcopal election, replacing Judas Iscariot with Matthias

Since that time, a nine-day discipline of prayer has come to be associated with Episcopal elections and with any specific need for prayer. Among Roman Catholics the discipline is common and often takes other shapes - nine

hours, nine weeks, or nine months (in imitation of the months our Lord spent in the womb). Regardless of the duration, the ancient pattern of gathering believers in unity for prayer, scripture, and the invocation of the Holy Spirit for wise decision-making continues to be a vibrant practice in the Church today.

The Guild of St. Raphael of the Cathedral Church of St. Michael and all Angels of the Diocese of Barbados therefore invites all those who wish to join together in unity for prayer, as did the first disciples of our Lord, to join us in a sacred novena for the election of the next bishop of the Diocese of Barbados. We commit to pray from April 16 through April 25.

The novena prayers should be prayed daily. They are designed for use by the gathered community and may be added to the Daily Office or used in place of the Prayers of the People at the Holy Eucharist; or they may be used as a private, stand-alone devotion at home or work. A discipline of fasting may be added as desired. Priests are asked to celebrate the Mass with special intention for God's grace in the election. Each day's prayer begins with an invocation of the Holy Spirit in the classic hymn "Come Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire" – this may be sung or said. A short reading from scripture follows, then prayers which are adapted from the Examination in the liturgy for the Consecration of a Bishop. Each day's prayers focus on one of nine callings expressed in the Examination; they finish the sentence, "A Bishop is called to..." The novena ends with the Kyrie, the Lord's Prayer, and the grace. All readings from Holy Scripture are

from the New Revised Standard Edition.



Monday, April 16 (Day One)

... to be one with the apostles in proclaiming Christ's resurrection and preaching the Gospel

Tuesday, April 17(Day Two)

...to testify to Christ's sovereignty as Lord of lords and King of kings

Wednesday, April 18 (Day Three)

...to guard the faith, unity, and discipline of the Church

Thursday, April 19 (Day Four)

...to celebrate the sacraments of the New Covenant

Friday, April 20 (Day Five)

... to ordain priests and deacons and to join in ordaining bishops

Saturday, April 21 (Day Six)

...to be in all things a faithful pastor and wholesome example for the entire flock of Christ

Sunday, April 22 (Day Seven)

... to share with fellow bishops in the leadership of the Church throughout the world

Monday, April 23 (Day Eight)

... to the heritage of the faith of patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and those of every generation who have looked to God in hope

Tuesday, April 24 (Day Nine)

... to follow him who came, not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 430

Hymnal 200 (CPWI) ~ "Come, Holy Ghost,"

COME, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
And lighten with celestial fire.
Thou the anointing Spirit art,
Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Thy blessed unction from above,
Is comfort, life, and fire of love.
Enable with perpetual light
The dullness of our blinded sight.

Anoint and cheer our soiled face
With the abundance of thy grace.
Keep far our foes, give peace at home;
Where thou art guide, no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And thee, of both, to be but One;
That, through the ages all along,
This may be our endless song:

‘Praise to thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.’



Monday, April 16 Day One

A bishop in God’s holy Church is called to be one with the apostles in proclaiming Christ’s resurrection and preaching the Gospel.

Hymn: Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire,

Reading: Luke 24:44-48

Then Jesus said to the disciples, “These are my words that I spoke to

you while I was still with you — that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

The Prayers

The prayers are led by an Officiant, and the people respond.

O God our Father, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep; hear our prayers for the next bishop of the Diocese of Barbados.

Grant that in all he does you will make clear that you have sent him to testify to the resurrection of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ; and that in this witness he is one with your Holy Apostles through all history and throughout the world.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Give him a tongue to speak powerfully, graciously, and plainly as he preaches, that we who hear him may rid ourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save our souls.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Since the bishop is an evangelist, give his words a special appeal to those who have not yet come to know and love your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. When he speaks to them, let them hear not his words, but yours; not his voice, but the loving call of the Good Shepherd, who does not desire that any should die, but that all should come to repentance.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

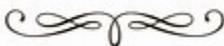
People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, who art in heaven;
Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
For ever and ever. Amen.

Officiant

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. *Amen*



**Tuesday, April 17,
Day Two**

A bishop in God's holy Church is called to testify to Christ's sovereignty as Lord of lords and King of kings.

Hymn: Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire

Reading: Psalm 99:1-5 (BCP)

The LORD is King; let the people tremble;

he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.
The LORD is great in Zion;
he is high above all peoples.
Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome;
he is the Holy One. "O mighty King, lover of justice, you have
established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in
Jacob. "Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God and fall down
before his footstool; he is the Holy One.

The Prayers

The prayers are led by an Officiant, and the people respond.

O God our Father, who puts all things in subjection under your
Christ, to whom every knee bows and every tongue confesses that
Jesus is Lord; hear our prayers for the next bishop of the Diocese of
Barbados.

Grant that the message which our Lord preached – that the Kingdom
of Heaven is at hand, and all must repent and believe the Good
News – may be the unvarying message of our bishop.

Lord, hear our prayer.

As our Lord was anointed to proclaim the year of the
Lord's favor in good news to the poor, release to the captives,
recovery of sight to the blind, and freedom for the oppressed,
so may these works of mercy never depart from our bishop.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Give to our bishop the boldness of John the Baptist and all the
prophets, who were not afraid to speak your word to princes and
governors; that through his joyful witness the trumpet may sound
and the angelic voice be heard saying, "Now have come the salvation
and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his
Messiah!"

Lord, hear our prayer.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, who art in heaven;
Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
For ever and ever. Amen.

Officiant

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. ***Amen***



Wednesday, April 18, Day Three

A bishop in God's holy Church is called to guard the faith, unity, and discipline of the Church.

Hymn: Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire

Reading: John 17:6-8, 20-21

Jesus prayed, "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to

me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me... I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”

The Prayers

The prayers are led by an Officiant, and the people respond.

O God our Father, who through the wonderful miracle of the Church of our Savior Jesus Christ has given us both the means of grace and the hope of glory; hear our prayers for the next bishop of the Diocese of Barbados.

Grant that he may hold to the standard of sound teaching that your Holy Catholic Church has received, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Help him guard this good treasure entrusted to clay vessels with the help of your Holy Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Have mercy upon us, Father, for the deep divisions we have perpetuated in the Body of Christ; let our bishop have divine wisdom to heal schism and fulfill our Lord’s ministry of reconciliation. May Jesus’ prayer that we all may be one be perfectly fulfilled in this diocese through the ministry of our bishop.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let our bishop be not afraid to apply the discipline of the church to clergy and lay people in the love of Christ. Keep us from being fools who despise the discipline of the Lord, for though it is painful for a time, yet it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness when we have been trained by it.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, who art in heaven;
Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
For ever and ever. Amen.

Officiant

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. ***Amen***



Thursday, April 19 Day Four

A bishop in God's holy Church is called to celebrate the sacraments of the New Covenant.

Hymn: Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire

Reading: Psalm 40:5-10 (BCP)

Great things are they that you have done, O LORD my God!
how great your wonders and your plans for us!

There is none who can be compared with you.
Oh, that I could make them known and tell them!
But they are more than I can count.
In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure
(you have given me ears to hear you);
Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required,
and so I said, "Behold, I come.
In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: 'I love to do
your will, O my God;
your law is deep in my heart.'"
I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation;
behold, I did not restrain my lips; and that, O LORD, you know.

The Prayers

The prayers are led by an Officiant, and the people respond.

O God our Father, who did not withhold your own Son but gave him up for all of us; hear our prayers for the next bishop of the Diocese of Barbados.

Because in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body and we were all made to drink of one Spirit, so grant to our bishop the grace to baptize all those who come to you in faith, that your Church may be continually renewed.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord Christ, You commanded us to eat and drink your Body and Blood that we may proclaim your death until you come: grant to our bishop the grace to celebrate faithfully and worthily the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.

Lord, hear our prayer.

In all the sacraments of your grace, Lord Jesus, let our bishop be a faithful interpreter of the church's liturgy, a vibrant preacher of the Gospel, an authentic and passionate worshipper, a vessel prepared for your Spirit's use, and a shepherd who, for love of you, faithfully

feeds your sheep.

Lord, hear our prayer

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, who art in heaven;
Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
For ever and ever. Amen.

Officiant

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. ***Amen***



Friday, April 20
Day Five

A bishop in God's holy Church is called to ordain priests and deacons and to join in ordaining bishops.

Hymn: Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire

Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-4

“Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: “It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings,” says the Lord. “Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their old, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing,” says the Lord.

The Prayers

The prayers are led by an Officiant, and the people respond.

O God, who in your wisdom gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers; hear our prayers for the next bishop of the Diocese of Barbados.

Lord Jesus, you chose twelve disciples out of every walk of life, and you despise none who comes to you: we beg that you will continue to raise up holy men and women to the vocations of the diaconate, the priesthood, and the religious life in the Diocese of Barbados; and to the vocation of the episcopate in your catholic Church; and grant that our bishop may be your faithful servant in this work.

Lord, hear our prayer.

When he prays for the presence of your Spirit and lays his hands upon those to be ordained, O Lord, fulfill your promise and send your fire into their hearts; that they, led by our bishop, may spread the Gospel to every corner of the earth and every human heart.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Grant that our bishop, as a person both wielding authority and

ministering under authority, may so lead and inspire the clergy of our diocese that they may faithfully fulfill their callings. Give him the grace of your Spirit to bring our clergy to greater unity in joyful submission to Christ Jesus.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, who art in heaven;
Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
For ever and ever. Amen.

Officiant

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. ***Amen***



Saturday, April 21

Day Six

A bishop in God's holy Church is called to be in all things a faithful pastor and wholesome example for the entire flock of Christ.

Hymn: Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire

Reading: 1 Timothy 3:2-7

Now a bishop must be above reproach, married only once, temperate, sensible, respectable, hospitable, an apt teacher, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, and not a lover of money. He must manage his own household well, keeping his children submissive and respectful in every way — for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how can he take care of God’s church? He must not be a recent convert, or he may be puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace and the snare of the devil.

The Prayers

The prayers are led by an Officiant, and the people respond.

Lord Jesus Christ, who, on the night of your betrayal, washed your disciples’ feet and said, “I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you;” hear our prayers for the next bishop of the Diocese of Barbados.

Your Apostle Peter exhorted bishops not to lord it over those in their charge, but to be examples to the flock, so that, when the chief shepherd appears, they will win a crown of glory that never fades. Give to our bishop this same spirit of humility and holiness, that he may inspire our diocese as much by his life as by his words.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord, when your people are hurt, grant our bishop the grace to bind up our wounds; when we are afraid, to encourage; when we are confused, patiently to direct us; when we are broken-hearted, to comfort us; that he may rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep.

Lord, hear our prayer.

When we are sick, give his hands your power to heal; when we hunger and thirst after righteousness, your power to direct us aright that we may be filled; when we are strangers and outcasts, the power to welcome; when we are in prison, the visitation of Your presence.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, who art in heaven; Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, And forgive us our trespasses As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory For ever and ever. **Amen.**

Officiant

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. ***Amen***



Sunday, April 22

Day Seven

A bishop in God's holy Church is called to share with fellow bishops in the leadership of the Church throughout the world.

Hymn: Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire

Reading: 2 Corinthians 10:12-16

We do not dare to classify or compare ourselves with some of those who commend themselves. But when they measure themselves by one another, and compare themselves with one another, they do not show good sense. We, however, will not boast beyond limits, but will keep within the field that God has assigned to us, to reach out even as far as you. For we were not overstepping our limits when we reached you; we were the first to come all the way to you with the good news of Christ. We do not boast beyond limits, that is, in the labors of others; but our hope is that, as your faith increases, our sphere of action among you may be greatly enlarged, so that we may proclaim the good news in lands beyond you, without boasting of work already done in someone else's sphere of action.

The Prayers

The prayers are led by an Officiant, and the people respond.

Lord Jesus Christ, whose choice of twelve apostles gave us the pattern of the house of bishops in your Holy Church, hear our prayers for the next bishop of the Diocese of Barbados.

Our bishop will need wisdom and grace among his fellow-bishops to be at the same time a gracious friend and a bold, prophetic voice. Give him your Spirit for these tasks, and companions along his way who will uphold him in prayer and fellowship, leading him always further toward you.

Lord, hear our prayer.

When conflicts arise in your body the Church, grant him wisdom and grace to know not only the right thing to do, but also the loving manner in which he must do it for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Fill him with the gift of your Spirit for leadership in your Holy Church throughout the world, that all those who love you in every

place may find their faith in Christ's resurrection confirmed, may renew their hope in your almighty deliverance, and may be strengthened to walk courageously the way of the cross.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, who art in heaven; Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, And forgive us our trespasses As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory For ever and ever. Amen.

Officiant

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. ***Amen***



Monday, April 23

Day Eight

A bishop in God's holy Church is called to the heritage of the faith of patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and those of every generation who have looked to God in hope.

Hymn: Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire

Reading: Psalm 22:26-30 (BCP)

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,

and all the families of the nations bow before him.
For kingship belongs to the LORD;
he rules over the nations.
To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him;
they shall be known as the LORD'S forever.
They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn the
saving deeds that he has done.

The Prayers

The prayers are led by an Officiant, and the people respond.

Lord Jesus Christ, Your Holy Catholic Church throughout all the ages has borne witness to the Father's love, your saving work, and the promise of eternal life: hear our prayers for the next bishop of the Diocese of Barbados.

Author and Perfecter of our faith, you are seated at the head of the great cloud of witnesses: grant that our bishop may diligently assist us to lay aside the sins that cling so closely and run with perseverance the race set before us.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord God, though we have ten thousand guardians, we have not many fathers. As we consider all the faithful bishops and priests and deacons who have been our spiritual shepherds in this diocese, we pray our next bishop will carry their legacy with grace and power and take his place as our spiritual father.

Lord, hear our prayer.

What more shall we say of patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, of whom the world was not worthy? Grant that our bishop, serving and loving you as these holy women and men did, may help us lay hold of the promise of Christ that we shall be made perfect

together with all the saints.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

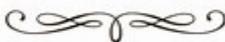
People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Officiant

Our Father, who art in heaven;
Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
For ever and ever. Amen.

Officiant

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. ***Amen***



Tuesday, April 24
Day Nine

A bishop in God's holy Church is called to follow him who came, not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Hymn: Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire

Reading: Matthew 20:24-28

When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

The Prayers

The prayers are led by an Officiant, and the people respond.

O Crucified Lord, who considered equality with God not to be something to be seized, but humbled yourself even to death on a cross: hear our prayers for the next bishop of the Diocese of Barbados.

Give him your Spirit of humility and holiness, for as God always resists the proud, even so He gives ever more grace to the humble.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Strengthen our bishop’s prayers, O God, making him always sensitive to the lead of your Spirit. Give him grace, in a busy schedule, never to forsake his discipline of prayer or his rule of life.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Care closely, O Lord, for our bishop’s wife and family. Surround them with loving care on every side. Protect them from emotional wounds as they do the work to which you call them; and deliver them from all the assaults of the enemy. Empower them to forgive and be forgiven. Faithful in the bonds of holy matrimony, make their love a clear sign of Christ’s love for the church. Grow their faith as they grow up into a perfect likeness of you.

Lord, hear our prayer.

As our bishop spends his life, labor, and energy in upholding our souls, O God, send him powerful renewal and welcome refreshment when he needs it. Keep his body, soul, and mind in health and soundness.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, who art in heaven;
Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
For ever and ever. Amen.

Officiant

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. ***Amen***



Wednesday, April 25
The Day of the election

The people of God's holy Church are called to discern who God is calling to the ministry of bishop.

Hymn: Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire

Reading: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus — for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry ... So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us — one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

The Prayers

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop for this Diocese, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, who art in heaven;
Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
For ever and ever. Amen.

Officiant

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. ***Amen***

