



Christ Church

St Leonards on Sea

**A Novena to
St Michael, Archangel**

Prince of the Heavenly Host

& Defender of the Church

What is a Novena?

A novena is a Christian tradition of nine consecutive days of prayer, used to petition God for specific requests, seek a saint's intercession, or prepare for a feast day.

Originating from the Latin word *novem* (nine), it mirrors the nine days of prayer by the Apostles and Mary between Ascension and Pentecost

Who is St Michael?

He is one of the most powerful and revered saints in the Church. When we think of saints, we usually think of *human* ones, particularly those formally canonized by the Church. But St. Michael is a non-bodily being, a pure spirit or angel whom God created, and one who belongs to the angelic choir or division known as archangels. Michael holds a special place in salvation history and in catholic devotion, as he is often invoked for protection against evil spirits, including during exorcisms.

Scripture and tradition identify his four principal roles:

1. **Defender of the Church** – Protector of the faithful and warrior against evil.
2. **Leader of the Heavenly Army** – Goes ahead of all the angels in leading the war against evil, especially Satan and his demonic minions.
3. **Weigher of Souls** – Present at and assisting the Lord during our particular judgment, and the Final
4. **Angel of Death** – Specifically at the hour of our death, serving to protect and, as needed, offering to reconcile people to God before they die.

These roles illustrate his power under God's command and his place as a guardian of the Church and her members.

How do I pray the Novena?

Simply set aside some time each day, over a period of nine days, to offer up the prayers on the next page.

St. Michael the Archangel Novena Prayers

BEGIN WITH THE SIGN OF THE CROSS & INVOCATION OF THE HOLY TRINITY:

In the name of the Father ✠, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. **Amen.**

CONTINUE BY ADDRESSING ST MICHAEL:

St. Michael the Archangel, we honour you as a powerful protector of the Church and guardian of our souls. Inspire us with your humility, courage and strength that we may reject sin and perfect our love for our Heavenly Father. In your strength and humility, slay the evil and pride in our hearts so that nothing will keep us from God.

St. Michael the Archangel, pray that we may be blessed by God with the zeal to live our lives in accordance with Christ's teachings.

St. Michael the Archangel, you are the prince of angels but in your humility you recognized that God is God and you are but His servant. Unlike Satan, you were not overcome with pride but were steadfast in humility. Pray that we will have this same humility. It is in the spirit of that humility that we ask for your intercession for our petitions...

STATE YOUR PETITIONS:

(Suggested petitions for Christ Church are on the back of this booklet, to add to your own)

THEN PRAY THE 'PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL':

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

(Pope Leo XIII, 1886)

CONCLUDE WITH THE SIGN OF THE CROSS & INVOCATION OF THE HOLY TRINITY:

In the name of the Father ✠, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*St Michael, Prince of the Heavenly Host & Defender of the Church –
pray for us!*

**SUGGESTED PETITIONS FOR CHRIST CHURCH,
TO ADD TO YOUR OWN, DURING THE NOVENA**

DAY ONE

For the people of Christ Church

DAY TWO

For the clergy of Christ Church

DAY THREE

For those undergoing spiritual attack

DAY FOUR

For a greater spirit of humility in our church

DAY FIVE

For the mission & ministry of our church

DAY SIX

For spiritual growth in our church

DAY SEVEN

For the unity of our church

DAY EIGHT

For courage & strength to stand firm in the Truth

DAY NINE

For open hearts to God's transformative grace & love