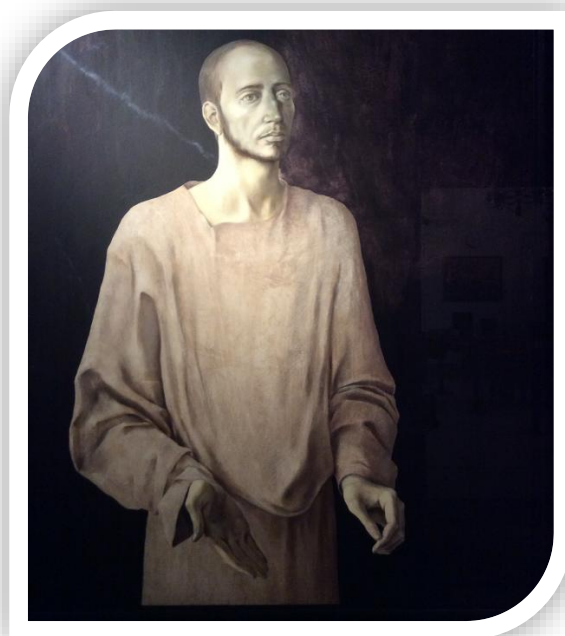


Novena to St. Ignatius of Loyola - 2025



22 July	Day 1	Ignatius the Pilgrim and a Call to Renewed Hope
23 July	Day 2	Change as a Needed Reality
24 July	Day 3	Renewal – Being More than Doing
25 July	Day 4	Intellectual Depth
26 July	Day 5	Living the Polarities
27 July	Day 6	Community as Mission
28 July	Day 7	Collaboration: Being on Synodal Path
29 July	Day 8	Governance to Serve Better
30 July	Day 9	Finding God in All Things

Note: As Jesuits of South Asia we are in the process of Imagination and Restructuring, and this year's novena is prepared keeping in mind this process. Renewal of life-mission is the heart of this RR process where we seek change, primarily in ourselves. And lasting change can happen in prayer and so we approach this novena with the deep desire to change and be renewed.

Every day, the novena could begin with a hymn. The theme for each day is arranged keeping in mind the highlights of the RR process. The opening prayer and concluding prayer are the same throughout the days of the novena. Some intercessory prayers are already included, and more prayers could be added by the members of the community as per the need.

May St Ignatius inspire us all to be pilgrims, ever in search!

The Novena is prepared by Somy Mannoor SJ

22 July 2025: Day 1 – Ignatius the Pilgrim and a Call to Renewed Hope

Opening prayer:

God our Father, we thank you for the gift of St Ignatius, the blessings you lavished on him and the great things you have accomplished through him in the Church. As we reimagine our path ahead, we ask for the grace of openness to see your designs and have the attitude of a pilgrim, just as Ignatius had. We pray through the intercession of St. Ignatius that we may have deep love for you and follow you more closely. We offer this novena through Mary, our mother, that she too may intercede with her son to place us with Jesus, as once she did with Ignatius. May these days bring us abundant grace, for each one of us, for our communities, our friends and well-wishers. We ask this through Jesus, our companion and Lord. Amen.

Moments of Reflection

Inigo of Loyola initially had dreams of the size of a small palace. Fascinated by their promises, he fashioned his life with colours of royalty in his attire, lifestyle, and fervently loved a charming princess. His world was the joys and pleasures he hungered after in the palace.

The grandeur of power and the promise of love lured him even to the battlefield of Pamplona. There, even as he stared at sure defeat and disheartened compatriots, he remained courageous and fought until he was struck by a cannonball. Lying helpless through the boredom of convalescence, he hesitantly read through the books on the life of Christ and saints. Through them and watching his own inner movements and thoughts, he discovered his inner world that he was hitherto oblivious of. God became real and the ultimate King for him. Inigo continued his pilgrim search thereafter.

(moments to recollect one's thoughts and pray along)

Intercessions

Response: St. Ignatius, pray for us.

1. Lord, your ways are mysterious, often beyond our comprehension. You allowed the cannonball moment that shattered the knee of the ambitious Ignatius a blessing in disguise for him, leading to his conversion into an ardent apostle of the Gospel. Help us to see your loving hand in the various happenings of our life, be they joyful or painful. Give us a renewed hope in similar situations. R/
2. Ignatius always had the spirit of pilgrim, ever searching for God in all that he did. Lord, give us this sense of seeking you in all things, especially as we enter into the process of reimagining to respond to your invitation. R/
3. The unwavering determination of Ignatius to fight the enemy in the battle field came in handy in his resolve to work for Christ in the Church. That you give us too, a strong will to be loyal followers of such a leader in this changing world, always keeping in mind our goal of praising you. We pray to you, O Lord. R/
4. That all of us may have the humility to look at the lives of exemplary people and be challenged by their example. Help us to reimagine by learning from others especially from the poor around us who teach us to be hopeful, we pray. R/
5. *Personal intentions...*

Our Father...

Concluding prayer

God, the master of our life, you invite us to renew our vision and commitment to follow in the footsteps of your Son Jesus. Lord Jesus, as sons of Ignatius and members of the Society that bears your name, we turn to you through this novena that we may follow you with greater commitment and generosity.

Lord, in your wisdom, you granted Ignatius the gift of discernment, interior knowledge, deep love for you and great zeal for the mission. You renewed his heart with fire that burnt for your greater glory, and made him an instrument to bring people closer to you. As we pray this novena, we ask you to grant us the grace (*-- each one prays silently for the particular grace needed---*). Through the merits of this novena, give us the grace to work for your kingdom with a renewed heart, in the spirit of Magis. We offer this through the intercession of St Ignatius, all the saints and blessed of the Society. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

23 July: Day 2 – Change as a Needed Reality

Opening Prayer

God our Father, we thank you for the gift of St Ignatius, the blessings you lavished on him and the great things you have accomplished through him in the Church. As we reimagine our path ahead, we ask for the grace of openness to see your designs and have the attitude of a pilgrim, just as Ignatius had. We pray through the intercession of St. Ignatius that we may have deep love for you and follow you more closely. We offer this novena through Mary, our mother, that she too may intercede with her son to place us with Jesus, as once she did with Ignatius. May these days bring us abundant grace, for each one of us, for our communities, our friends and well-wishers. We ask this through Jesus, our companion and Lord. Amen.

Moments of Reflection

De Statu reminds us, ‘the Society has the world as home.’

The Church constituted as the People of God walking in history, fully taking on its identity as both universal and multicultural, leaving behind any sort of nostalgia for the past, will be able to take up creatively its evangelizing mission in secular society throughout the world, deepening ecumenical and interreligious dialogue, nourished by the experience of God.

However, the greatest threat to social transformation is what Naím calls the post-truth era. It is a time when conceptual confusion prevails and, consequently, clarity of thought disappears. Disinformation gains ground with the uncontrollable spread of fake news and conspiracy theories that distort reality. This post-truth phenomenon reaches such a capacity for manipulation that it can systematically block the knowledge and dissemination of the truth about what is happening in the political arena. Post-truth thus turns the invention of reality into an instrument of domination and governance.

Pause

It is said that **“If your mind can not accept changes, then it will not let the body adapt to newer environments.”** When we face the challenges, what is our response? How open are we to change? Some questions to introspect:

- What are the changes needed in me to live my vocation as ‘Companion of Jesus’ in today’s context? As DSS puts it, “Where is the Spirit calling us to walk the next part of our journey together?”
- The many Examen that we have been having, namely, the UAPs, the Ignatian Year, the Examen on Poverty, on *De Statu*, etc. – are we able to see the desire for renewal?
- Of the need for transparency, discernment, and gratitude for the abundance of blessings we have received.
- The sea of information is not helping us to get transformed and get enlightened. There is no personal transformation or community transformation taking place in our society. The relationship in our communities is not at the heart level but at the head level. There is so much gossip and backbiting in our communities which hamper our relationships. Thus, we experience a shallow relationship among ourselves.

(moments to recollect one’s thoughts and pray along)

Intercessions

Response: St. Ignatius, pray for us.

- 1) Let us pray that our constant spiritual renewal and growth in our lives may help us to transcend our secure boundaries and hence desire only the Glory of God. Let us pray. *R/*
- 2) Let us pray that in our testing times, in temptations of our personal life and in our missions, may we never give up, but always trust in God's providence. May we ever remain open to listen to the musing of the Spirit and strive for deeper change in us. Let us pray. *R/*
- 3) God gave Ignatius a fresh perspective and a clear vision during his conversion years. Let us pray that we have the openness to the new perspectives we receive and be passionate to journey with it just as Ignatius did. Let us pray. *R/*
- 4) Let us pray for greater openness towards the ongoing process of Reimagination in order to restructure our life-mission: that we may be ready to listen to the Spirit asking of us in and through our context. May we learn to choose God, keeping aside our own personal interests. Let us pray. *R/*
- 5) *Personal intentions...*

Our Father...

Concluding Prayer

God, the master of our life, you invite us to renew our vision and commitment to follow in the footsteps of your Son Jesus. Lord Jesus, as sons of Ignatius and members of the Society that bears your name, we turn to you through this novena that we may follow you with greater commitment and generosity.

Lord, in your wisdom, you granted Ignatius the gift of discernment, interior knowledge, deep love for you and great zeal for the mission. You renewed his heart with fire that burnt for your greater glory, and made him an instrument to bring people closer to you. As we pray this novena, we ask you to grant us the grace (*-- each one prays silently for the particular grace needed--*). Through the merits of this novena, give us the grace to work for your kingdom with a renewed heart, in the spirit of Magis. We offer this through the intercession of St Ignatius, all the saints and blessed of the Society. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

24 July: Day 3 – Being More Than Doing

Opening Prayer

God our Father, we thank you for the gift of St Ignatius, the blessings you lavished on him and the great things you have accomplished through him in the Church. As we reimagine our path ahead, we ask for the grace of openness to see your designs and have the attitude of a pilgrim, just as Ignatius had. We pray through the intercession of St. Ignatius that we may have deep love for you and follow you more closely. We offer this novena through Mary, our mother, that she too may intercede with her son to place us with Jesus, as once she did with Ignatius. May these days bring us abundant grace, for each one of us, for our communities, our friends and well-wishers. We ask this through Jesus, our companion and Lord. Amen.

Passage

The world we live in is a hurried world of schedules, rushing, and cramming. There's almost too much to do and seldom any time to stop, relish and be. This is the world in which we are called: to be, to see and to love.

Being contemplative in action is an Ignatian gift for us today. We are called to a life of prayer that leads us into actions, which express love and generosity in deeds. Being Contemplatives, we pause every day in silence, reflect, be still and be with God. Ignatian Contemplation in Action is nothing but how our prayer forms and transforms us and helps us discern how we are being invited to share the love of God that we have experienced with people out in the world. Who could be a better example than our Lord Himself, who paused, prayed and acted? Being a Contemplative in Action calls us to be too profound, prophetic and bold witnesses.

Being before doing: What defines the Jesuit, or those who share in the apostolic activity of the Society, is their **IDENTITY**, not their activity. For example, what makes the educational activity of the Society different is not what the educators do but what they **ARE**, **companions of Jesus, constantly giving witness to the Gospel**. Whichever apostolate Jesuits are engaged in, the life-mission to which we are called is centered on Jesus Christ and his mission. Any tension that emerges from our life and ministries ought to be resolved by giving primacy to our identity as companions of Jesus.

(moments to recollect one's thoughts and pray along)

Intercessions

1. That all of us may strive **to be companions** of Jesus, before we do many things for Christ. May we take time to deepen our identity as companions of Jesus before all else, and all that we do flow out of our relationship with Jesus, let us pray. R/
2. Lord, in the spirit of the Exercises, may we desire to discern your will and to accomplish the mission you have entrusted to us. Help us to discern what is truly leading to you and stay away from all that distract us, taking us away from you. Let us pray. R/
3. Lord, tune our ears to listen to your voice, sharpen our intellect to know your will, so that we may know ourselves and our talents better as we pray, study and work. Let us pray. R/
4. We are continually called to go with Christ, looking at the world with His eyes, loving the world with His heart and entering into its depths with His unlimited compassion. Let us pray for strength and courage to become fitting instruments of His love, mercy and compassion. Let us pray. R/
5. At La Storta, St. Ignatius received the grace from the Father of being placed with His son and drawn into the Son's pattern of life, joys and sufferings. Let us pray that we be imbued by the spirit of St.

Ignatius and thereby make the preference of showing the way to God through our ministry become a reality. Let us pray. R/

6. *Personal intentions...*

Our Father...

Concluding prayer

God, the master of our life, you invite us to renew our vision and commitment to follow in the footsteps of your Son Jesus. Lord Jesus, as sons of Ignatius and members of the Society that bears your name, we turn to you through this novena that we may follow you with greater commitment and generosity.

Lord, in your wisdom, you granted Ignatius the gift of discernment, interior knowledge, deep love for you and great zeal for the mission. You renewed his heart with fire that burnt for your greater glory, and made him an instrument to bring people closer to you. As we pray this novena, we ask you to grant us the grace (*-- each one prays silently for the particular grace needed---*). Through the merits of this novena, give us the grace to work for your kingdom with a renewed heart, in the spirit of Magis. We offer this through the intercession of St Ignatius, all the saints and blessed of the Society. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

July 25: Day 4 – Intellectual Depth

Opening Prayer

God our Father, we thank you for the gift of St Ignatius, the blessings you lavished on him and the great things you have accomplished through him in the Church. As we reimagine our path ahead, we ask for the grace of openness to see your designs and have the attitude of a pilgrim, just as Ignatius had. We pray through the intercession of St. Ignatius that we may have deep love for you and follow you more closely. We offer this novena through Mary, our mother, that she too may intercede with her son to place us with Jesus, as once she did with Ignatius. May these days bring us abundant grace, for each one of us, for our communities, our friends and well-wishers. We ask this through Jesus, our companion and Lord. Amen.

Reflective Passage

1. With deep personal experience, intellectual illuminations and decisive insights into spiritual matters and the interior life, Ignatius was enlightened to a new way of seeing things and understanding reality. He realised that everything he had ever learnt or received was a sheer gift of the 'divine majesty'. The principle and foundation [Sp Ex 23] presents to us, God as creator of us and of all that is in this world, determining us to live and use creation as responsible custodians.
2. At first, it had seemed that the best way to learn how to help souls was by studying the things of the spirit. But God had directed him to a very different form of study; how learning the elements of Latin grammar would profit him in his desire to help others grow in the spirit must have seemed quite a mystery to Inigo. He had already learnt the value of listening to the other person, and for him, this became more important than talking. No wonder he was surprised that the Lord was directing him to study Latin rather than spiritual realities!"

At Barcelona, Ignatius grew in his desire for study. He realized that, in order to save souls, he needed to be a man of erudition even more than being a spiritual person. "The eleven years of study which followed would be a real test of his perseverance". Ignatius' commitment to studies was shown by his willingness to sit with young school children even when he was close to thirty years old. Let us ask our Father and Founder, St. Ignatius, to kindle in us the desire to acquire knowledge and use it for the service of God's people.

(moments to recollect one's thoughts and pray along)

Intercessions

Response: St. Ignatius pray for us.

1. For all our apostolate: That in line with the emphasis laid by our Fathers General, we may give due importance to the intellectual and spiritual dimensions of our apostolates, and labour under the banner of the Cross, for the creation of a better society we live in. Let us pray. **R/**
2. For all the Jesuits pursuing studies: That they may deeply invest themselves in acquiring intellectual depth and use the means of imagination, knowledge, analysis, and reflection, to serve the Lord and His people effectively. Let us pray. **R/**
3. For the cause of education: That our education system and the New Education Policy benefit all our brothers and sisters in our country. Our Jesuit education may bring up students who are concerned about their fellow citizens, compassionate and committed to social cause. Let us pray. **R/**
4. For intellectual depth in all our endeavours: Lord, give us the desire to seek depth in all our apostolate that we may be learned and in pursuit of intellectual excellence in all the apostolate that we do. Let us pray.

5. *Personal intentions...*

Our Father...

Concluding prayer

God the master of our life, you invite us to renew our vision and commitment to follow in the footsteps of your Son Jesus. Lord Jesus, as sons of Ignatius and members of the Society that bears your name, we turn to you through this novena that we may follow you with greater commitment and generosity.

Lord, in your wisdom, you granted Ignatius the gift of discernment, interior knowledge, deep love for you and great zeal for the mission. You renewed his heart with fire that burnt for your greater glory, and made him an instrument to bring people closer to you. As we pray this novena, we ask you to grant us the grace (*-- each one prays silently for the particular grace needed---*). Through the merits of this novena, give us the grace to work for your kingdom with a renewed heart, in the spirit of Magis. We offer this through the intercession of St Ignatius, all the saints and blessed of the Society. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

26 July: Day 5- Living the Polarities

Opening Prayer

God, our Father, we thank you for the gift of St Ignatius, the blessings you lavished on him and the great things you have accomplished through him in the Church. As we reimagine our path ahead, we ask for the grace of openness to see your designs and have the attitude of a pilgrim, just as Ignatius had. We pray through the intercession of St. Ignatius that we may have deep love for you and follow you more closely. We offer this novena through Mary, our mother, that she too may intercede with her son to place us with Jesus, as once she did with Ignatius. May these days bring us abundant grace, for each one of us, for our communities, our friends and well-wishers. We ask this through Jesus, our companion and Lord. Amen.

Moment of Reflection:

Tensions are inherent in human life. Tensions constantly arise from the polarities that are innate to human nature. We need to recognize them, identify them, discern them, and deal with them appropriately. Tensions that are unnecessary must be discarded with firmness, while tensions that are necessary must be approached with due respect. The key virtue for this process is discernment - ongoing discernment under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Lack of integration and polarities between contemplation and action, faith and justice, charisma and institutions, community and mission need to be recognised and harmonised to be effective and efficacious in our commitment. “By walking with and moving forward following the Lord, the Society harmonizes the tensions inevitably produced by the diversity of the people it brings together and the missions it receives.” [GC 36].

In the DSS, Fr. General adds a few more in this list: Jesuit vocation and lay vocation; prayer life and apostolic responsibility leading to overwork; local inculturation and universal awareness; community and individual; transparency of the inner life and privacy, and so on.

Cura Apostolica and Cura Personalis: The tension between the *cura apostolica* and the *cura personalis*, proper to the charism of religious life in the Society of Jesus, is one of the greatest challenges for all the members of the Society – those in leadership positions as well as those who consider themselves the ‘hoi polloi’! ... We need to understand that in the Ignatian charism both are dimensions of a single care whose focus is the responsibility for the mission received when electing this way of life.

(moments to recollect one’s thoughts and pray along how we handle this tension)

Intercessions

Response: St. Ignatius pray for us.

1. We pray for the grace of awareness of the existing tensions in our life-mission. May God grant us the awareness of our deeper emotions and a sense of understanding to separate the chaff from grain. Let us pray. **R/**
2. For our Provincial and superiors: that they may be blessed with the grace of balancing the cura personalis – cura apostolica. May they take care to listen to all under their care that they can understand them well before taking decisions. Let us pray. **R/**
3. In line with our charism may we learn to integrate the polarities of our spirituality: contemplation and action, reflection and quick-decision, universality and local context and so on. Let us pray. Lord,

give us the grace to be so close to you that we may be firmly rooted in you where we find true balance. Let us pray. *R/*

4. Lord Jesus, when faced with the polarities of our spirituality, we are often confused and even frustrated. Help us to see that you are the master who guides the individual and the group. Give us eyes of faith to see the wisdom in living out the polarities, let us pray.

5. *Personal intentions...*

Our Father...

Concluding prayer

God, the master of our life, you invite us to renew our vision and commitment to follow in the footsteps of your Son Jesus. Lord Jesus, as sons of Ignatius and members of the Society that bears your name, we turn to you through this novena that we may follow you with greater commitment and generosity.

Lord, in your wisdom, you granted Ignatius the gift of discernment, interior knowledge, deep love for you and great zeal for the mission. You renewed his heart with fire that burnt for your greater glory, and made him an instrument to bring people closer to you. As we pray this novena, we ask you to grant us the grace (*-- each one prays silently for the particular grace needed--*). Through the merits of this novena, give us the grace to work for your kingdom with a renewed heart, in the spirit of Magis. We offer this through the intercession of St Ignatius, all the saints and blessed of the Society. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

27 July: Day 6 – Community as Mission

Opening Prayer

God our Father, we thank you for the gift of St Ignatius, the blessings you lavished on him and the great things you have accomplished through him in the Church. As we reimagine our path ahead, we ask for the grace of openness to see your designs and have the attitude of a pilgrim, just as Ignatius had. We pray through the intercession of St. Ignatius that we may have deep love for you and follow you more closely. We offer this novena through Mary our mother, that she too may intercede with her son to place us with Jesus, as once she did with Ignatius. May these days bring us abundant grace, for each one of us, for our communities, our friends and well-wishers. We ask this through Jesus, our companion and Lord. Amen.

Reflective Passage From the G.C. 35

- Our founding fathers, in their deliberations, unanimously decided after prayerful discernment to become a body in which each would care for the others, strengthening their bond of union through mutual knowledge and sharing in each other's lives (GC 35 D 4,4)
- Jesuit identity and mission are linked by community; indeed, identity, community, and mission are a kind of triptych shedding light on how our companionship is best understood. This companionship shows how people, different in background and diverse in talent, can live together as true "friends in the Lord" (GC 35 D 2,19).
- Our mission is not limited only to our works. Our personal and community relationship with the Lord, our relationship to one another as friends in the Lord, our solidarity with the poor and marginalized, and a lifestyle responsible to creation are all important aspects of our lives as Jesuits. They give witness to and authenticate what we proclaim and what we do in fulfilling our mission. The privileged place of this collective witness is our life in community. Thus, the Jesuit community is not just for mission, it is itself a mission (GC35 D 3,41)

In our Jesuit tradition, we often say that "Jesuit community life is for mission." This means that the purpose of Jesuit communities is to serve God and work for the greater good of all. Our communities exist to support and facilitate the mission of the Society of Jesus. Living in communities, building strong relationships, and collaborating together are vital for effectively carrying out our mission.

Seeing 'Jesuit community as mission' has profound implications. It means community life is not just a supportive framework for the mission but an intrinsic part of it. So, we strive to foster vibrant and purposeful communities where we build deep bonds of companionship, empathy, and collaboration. This strong emphasis on community strengthens the foundation for our mission, providing the necessary support for growth, both individually and collectively.

'Jesuit community as mission' also encourages a shared discernment process, where we collectively reflect on our actions, priorities, and impact. This ensures that our work aligns with the values of the Gospel and the Jesuit tradition.

(moments to recollect one's thoughts and pray along)

Intercessions

Response: St. Ignatius, pray for us.

1. Loving Lord, as you have called us to be your companions in carrying the cross, we humbly implore you for the grace of love, union and unwavering faith in you, when we face trials and hardships, particularly in our life as a community. Let us pray. **R/**
2. Lord our God, we are in need of your power and strength. Often in our communities, we struggle to find your presence as we allow pessimism and desolate spirit to control us. We ask your grace to nurture your consoling presence by choosing life-giving conversations. Let us pray. **R/**
3. God our Father, you have called us to live our life in communities and not in isolation. Give us greater understanding as community as mission that our communities may own up the mission. May all the apostolate we carry out come from collective ownership and not as though it is a private affair. Let us pray. **R/**
4. Lord, as friends in the Lord, help us to develop a deeper bond with you, so that we may “love you more intensely and follow you more closely” (Sp. Ex. 104), and thus our friendship with others in the community may truly flow from our friendship with you. Let us pray. **R/**
5. We bring the entire Society of Jesus in our humble supplication: Fr. General, his counsellor and all those in governance, that may all experience that we be open, generous, united, and zealous to cater to the needs of the people as our first fathers did. Let us pray. **R/**
6. *Personal intentions...*

Our Father...

Concluding prayer

God, the master of our life, you invite us to renew our vision and commitment to follow in the footsteps of your Son Jesus. Lord Jesus, as sons of Ignatius and members of the Society that bears your name, we turn to you through this novena that we may follow you with greater commitment and generosity.

Lord, in your wisdom, you granted Ignatius the gift of discernment, interior knowledge, deep love for you and great zeal for the mission. You renewed his heart with fire that burnt for your greater glory, and made him an instrument to bring people closer to you. As we pray this novena, we ask you to grant us the grace (*-- each one prays silently for the particular grace needed---*). Through the merits of this novena, give us the grace to work for your kingdom with a renewed heart, in the spirit of Magis. We offer this through the intercession of St Ignatius, all the saints and blessed of the Society. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

28 July: Day 7 – Collaboration: Being on Synodal Path

Opening Prayer

God, our Father, we thank you for the gift of St Ignatius, the blessings you lavished on him and the great things you have accomplished through him in the Church. As we reimagine our path ahead, we ask for the grace of openness to see your designs and have the attitude of a pilgrim, just as Ignatius had. We pray through the intercession of St. Ignatius that we may have deep love for you and follow you more closely. We offer this novena through Mary, our mother, that she too may intercede with her son to place us with Jesus, as once she did with Ignatius. May these days bring us abundant grace, for each one of us, for our communities, our friends and well-wishers. We ask this through Jesus, our companion and Lord. Amen.

Passage

Jesuits share the enthusiasm for collaboration in mission, recognizing how much the apostolate has been enriched by the participation of other men and women religious, laypersons, and people of other religions or non-believers, especially in more secularized societies or where Catholics are one minority among others. Understanding how we collaborate better to help souls requires a clearer vision of the apostolic body and the role that each one is called to play in the apostolates inspired by the Ignatian charism that are carried out under the institutional responsibility of the Society of Jesus. Safeguarding universal apostolic preferences invites us to deepen our reflections on abuses of all kinds, which, being a very serious social problem, also affect the Church and the apostolic body of the Society of Jesus.

Becoming a collaborator in Christ's mission is a journey, not a destination. Start with small steps, explore your strengths and interests, and connect with others who share our desire to serve. Every action, big or small, can contribute to building a more just and compassionate world, reflecting the love and message of Christ. There are many ways we can become collaborators in Christ's mission today, regardless of our specific role or position within the Catholic Church. Here are some ways we can follow:

- Integrate our faith into everyday actions by demonstrating love, compassion, and service to others.
- Seek guidance for our role in His Mission. Share our faith journey with others through open conversations, participation in faith-based activities, or living out our values authentically.
- Look for opportunities to support Catholic charitable and social justice organizations, or community projects that resonate with us.

(moments to recollect one's thoughts and pray along)

Intercessions

Response: St. Ignatius, pray for us.

1. St Ignatius envisioned the whole world as his mission field. That we may transcend narrow parochialism, and think and feel globally, though we may have to labour locally, let us pray the Lord.
R/
2. That as companions of Jesus we may vigorously carry out our mission "to engage, under the standard of the Cross, in the crucial struggle of our time: the struggle for faith and that struggle for justice which it includes", let us pray the Lord. **R/**

3. That in our service of Christ and His Church we aim at a “sincere collaboration with the bishops, with other religious, with the diocesan clergy, and with other Christians and with people of other religious faiths”, let us pray the Lord. **R/**
4. That all Jesuits, and we in particular, accept the fundamental principle of inculturation, which is the incarnation of the Christian message and life in the cultural context of each one’s apostolate, in order to transform it into a new creation, let us pray the Lord. **R/**
5. Following the spirit of Synodality, of walking together, may we learn to work with others. Through the intercession of St Ignatius we pray for sense of collaboration, that we are not owners of mission but we are collaborating with God in His mission. Let us pray. **R/**
6. *Personal intentions...*

Our Father...

Concluding prayer

God, the master of our life, you invite us to renew our vision and commitment to follow in the footsteps of your Son Jesus. Lord Jesus, as sons of Ignatius and members of the Society that bears your name, we turn to you through this novena that we may follow you with greater commitment and generosity.

Lord, in your wisdom, you granted Ignatius the gift of discernment, interior knowledge, deep love for you and great zeal for the mission. You renewed his heart with fire that burnt for your greater glory, and made him an instrument to bring people closer to you. As we pray this novena, we ask you to grant us the grace (*-- each one prays silently for the particular grace needed---*). Through the merits of this novena, give us the grace to work for your kingdom with a renewed heart, in the spirit of Magis. We offer this through the intercession of St Ignatius, all the saints and blessed of the Society. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

29 July: Day 8 - Governance to Serve Better

Opening Prayer

God our Father, we thank you for the gift of St Ignatius, the blessings you lavished on him and the great things you have accomplished through him in the Church. As we reimagine our path ahead, we ask for the grace of openness to see your designs and have the attitude of a pilgrim, just as Ignatius had. We pray through the intercession of St. Ignatius that we may have deep love for you and follow you more closely. We offer this novena through Mary, our mother, that she too may intercede with her son to place us with Jesus, as once she did with Ignatius. May these days bring us abundant grace, for each one of us, for our communities, our friends and well-wishers. We ask this through Jesus, our companion and Lord. Amen.

Passage

Governance ensures that all decisions and actions within the Society align with its mission of serving Christ and His Church. It provides the structure and guidance necessary for Jesuits to live out their commitment to faith, service, and social justice. Governance in the Jesuits is deeply spiritual, not merely administrative. Leaders within the Society embody Ignatian values of discernment, prayer, and service, guiding the community in spiritual growth and apostolic mission. Discernment is key in decision-making processes, seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit in all matters. Governance structures facilitate discernment at various levels, ensuring that choices are made in accordance with God's will and the Society's mission.

Governance involves the responsible stewardship of resources, including financial, human, and material assets. Jesuits are called to use these resources wisely and in service of their mission, ensuring that they are directed towards the greatest possible impact for the greater glory of God.

Questions for personal reflection:

- Am I open to the promptings of the Spirit through the governance of the Society?
- How do I envision the Society adapting its governance structures to remain relevant and effective in today's context?
- In what ways can I ensure the responsible stewardship of resources in my own life and within my community?

(moments to recollect one's thoughts and pray along)

Intercessions

Response: St. Ignatius, pray for us.

1. We pray for inspiration from God that we may truly find God in our superiors and in the governance structure. Lord Jesus, give us new ways of seeing that we can see you active in all our administrative structure. Let us pray. **R/**
2. We pray for all those who hold power over us, may they be filled with the Spirit and consciously carry out their task to bring people closer to God. Let us pray. **R/**
3. We pray that the ongoing process of reimaging our life-mission may bring about change in our governance structures, so that there is greater effectiveness in our life mission. Let us pray.

4. All knowing God, we ask you to bless all those who have power over others, that they may exercise their power for the betterment of life-mission in the Society. And that all of us may see the governance structures as your ways of leading us in greater effectiveness. Let us pray. **R/**

5. *Personal intentions...*

Our Father...

Concluding prayer

God, the master of our life, you invite us to renew our vision and commitment to follow in the footsteps of your Son Jesus. Lord Jesus, as sons of Ignatius and members of the Society that bears your name, we turn to you through this novena that we may follow you with greater commitment and generosity.

Lord, in your wisdom, you granted Ignatius the gift of discernment, interior knowledge, deep love for you and great zeal for the mission. You renewed his heart with fire that burnt for your greater glory, and made him an instrument to bring people closer to you. As we pray this novena, we ask you to grant us the grace (*-- each one prays silently for the particular grace needed---*). Through the merits of this novena, give us the grace to work for your kingdom with a renewed heart, in the spirit of Magis. We offer this through the intercession of St Ignatius, all the saints and blessed of the Society. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

30 July: Day 9 – Finding God in All Things

Opening Prayer

God, our Father, we thank you for the gift of St Ignatius, the blessings you lavished on him and the great things you have accomplished through him in the Church. As we reimagine our path ahead, we ask for the grace of openness to see your designs and have the attitude of a pilgrim, just as Ignatius had. We pray through the intercession of St. Ignatius that we may have deep love for you and follow you more closely. We offer this novena through Mary, our mother, that she too may intercede with her son to place us with Jesus, as once she did with Ignatius. May these days bring us abundant grace, for each one of us, for our communities, our friends and well-wishers. We ask this through Jesus, our companion and Lord. Amen.

Passage

Finding God in All Things: In the hustle and bustle of daily life, it is easy to overlook the divine presence that surrounds us. Yet, the spirituality of the Society of Jesus invites us to open our hearts and minds to the profound truth that God is present in every moment, every experience, and every aspect of creation. To find God in all things is to embrace a vision of the world that is rich with meaning and purpose. It is to see the face of God in the kindness of a stranger, the beauty of nature, the challenges we face, and the joy we experience. It is to understand that every encounter, every situation, is an opportunity to deepen our relationship with the Creator. This spiritual practice requires us to cultivate a habit of reflection. By taking time each day to pause and consider how God is working in our lives, we become more attuned to His presence. The Examen, a daily prayer recommended by Ignatius, is a powerful tool for this purpose. Through it, we review our day, recognizing moments of grace and areas where we need to grow. Moreover, finding God in all things transforms the way we interact with the world. It instils in us a sense of reverence and gratitude, prompting us to care for creation and serve others with love and compassion. It encourages us to seek justice and peace, to be instruments of God's love in a world that so desperately needs it. As we journey through life, let us seek the divine in the details, the sacred in the everyday, and the holy in the here and now. For in doing so, we draw closer to God and discover the profound truth that His love and presence are indeed all-encompassing. (Ref. DSS P 128-131)

(moments to recollect one's thoughts and pray along)

Intercessions

Response: St. Ignatius, pray for us.

1. That through a growing consciousness of God's presence and involvement in our lives, we strive to make better choices at every juncture of our lives, let us pray. **R/**
2. That we may remain constantly alert to God's presence and whispers amidst our busy surroundings and overloaded intellects, especially in our exercises of piety; and allow the Divine Master to teach us His ways like a schoolmaster, let us pray. **R/**
3. That the Lord enlighten our minds too, as He enlightened the mind of Ignatius, so that we can fulfil our ministry with right discernment that would allow us to see everything from God's perspective, let us pray. **R/**
4. We pray for all the religious and priests: that we create a rhythm of life which ensures sound human and spiritual values founded on inner freedom and Ignatian indifference, let us pray. **R**

5. For each of us who have prayed the novena, that we may imbibe the spirit of Ignatius to 'grow in devotion – to find God at all times,' and this may help us to be mystics in this world. Let us pray. *R/*

6. *Personal intentions...*

Our Father...

Concluding prayer

God, the master of our life, you invite us to renew our vision and commitment to follow in the footsteps of your Son Jesus. Lord Jesus, as sons of Ignatius and members of the Society that bears your name, we turn to you through this novena that we may follow you with greater commitment and generosity.

Lord, in your wisdom, you granted Ignatius the gift of discernment, interior knowledge, deep love for you and great zeal for the mission. You renewed his heart with fire that burnt for your greater glory, and made him an instrument to bring people closer to you. As we pray this novena, we ask you to grant us the grace (*-- each one prays silently for the particular grace needed---*). Through the merits of this novena, give us the grace to work for your kingdom with a renewed heart, in the spirit of Magis. We offer this through the intercession of St Ignatius, all the saints and blessed of the Society. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Novena prepared by Somy Mannoor SJ