



The Catholic Church has a long tradition of making novenas inspired by the early Christian community's experiences. Our Blessed Mother and the disciples of Jesus spent time in continuous prayer after the ascension of Jesus until the Pentecost event. It seems that they prayed for nine days at a time, hence the term 'novena' from the Latin word for 'nine'. The novena tradition highlights the community dimension of prayer where a group prays for a special grace through the intercession of one of the communion of saints, such as Jean-Claude Colin.

The novena can be prayed in a group or as individuals united with the community through their common prayer over nine days. Intentions may be for healing, for guidance, for a troubled family member, for solution of a problem, or indeed for any good grace.

## THE NOVENA TRADITION

English

## NOVENA



THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF  
**JEAN-CLAUDE COLIN**  
 FOUNDER OF THE SOCIETY OF MARY

for . . . . .

starting on: . . . . .

ending on: . . . . .

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If you receive any grace through the intercession of Venerable Jean-Claude Colin please advise:

This we ask through Christ Our Lord.

*(mention request)*

sion.

God our Father, in your servant Jean-Claude Colin you gave your people a zealous priest and religious founder dedicated to serving the Church in the spirit of Mary. We ask you for the glorification of your faithful servant in the midst of your Church and grant us the favour which we ask through his intercession.

## NOVENA PRAYER

## FOUNDER AND FATHER

Jean-Claude Colin was born and baptised near St Bonnet le Troncy, central France, on Aug 07, 1790, as the French Revolution began its reign of terror. His quiet ambition to be a priest amongst the oppressed Catholic people of his nation was realised with ordination on Jul 22, 1816, in the city of Lyons.

The next day he was one of twelve who promised to found a new religious family bearing the name of Mary. There would be branches of sisters, brothers, laity and priests.

The young priest became the founder of the Marist Fathers and worked tirelessly towards to promote all branches of the Marist Family.

In 1836 the priests' branch won the approval of the Holy See as Fr Colin offered to send missionaries "to whatever distant shore", including the remote missions of the south-west Pacific.

As the father of the blossoming group of missionaries Fr Colin won the affection and respect of the pioneer Marists as the infant Society of Mary under his leadership as superior general expanded in numbers, ministries and extraordinary missionary influence.

Spending the latter years of his life perfecting the rule and constitutions of the Marist Fathers, he died at La Neylière on Nov 15, 1875.