

**Jesuit diaconal ordination
Paris, Saturday 13 May 2023**



**Preparatory novena from 4 to 12 May 2023
Prayer booklet**



Jesuit diaconal ordination 2023

Pray for 9 days for each Jesuit ordained as a deacon on 13 May 2023 in Paris: Pradeep Alwyn, John Vinay, Carlos, Olivier, Émile, Cédric, Brook and Maréus.

What do we do?

The Jesuit Vocation Service proposes a novena to bring together in prayer the Jesuits ordained as deacons on 13 May 2023 in Paris by His Excellency M^{gr} Theodoros Kodidis, member of the Jesuit Province of French-speaking Western Europe and Archbishop of Athens: Pradeep Alwyn, John Vinay, Carlos, Olivier, Emile, Cedric, Brook and Maréus

Throughout the novena, we propose that you pray to the Lord to grant the Society of Jesus, and especially its ordinands, the grace to faithfully carry out the mission received from Him and from His Church.

In addition, each day we will pray especially for one of the ordinands, in the company of the Jesuit saint to whom he has recommended himself.

How do we do it?

Every day for 9 days :

1. Alone or in a group, I choose a place and a time that is conducive to meditation and prayer. I can light a candle.
2. I make the sign of the cross to place myself in the presence of the Lord.
3. I recite the *preparatory prayer* and take time to welcome the Lord's presence (in silence or with an appropriate song of my choice).
4. I pray with the *prayer of the day* to support the ordinand who is specially recommended to me today.
5. Before continuing my prayer, I let myself be challenged by what I have just read and prayed. I take the time to welcome, taste and feel what this prayer does in me. I can talk to the Lord about it and express the particular intentions it inspires in me.
6. I pray the *Lord's Prayer* (1 *Pater*).
7. I also pray to Mary, Mother of the Society of Jesus, that she may intercede with her Son and obtain for the Society of Jesus, its brothers, its priests, those in formation, and especially the ordinands, the grace to faithfully carry out the mission received from Christ and his Church, and to receive new companions for the mission (10 *Ave*). I conclude with the *Memorare*.
8. As my prayer comes to an end, I thank the Lord for this time spent with Him (colloquy) and then, in the words of St Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, I recite the *final prayer* and end with the sign of the cross.

As an extension of my prayer, I can choose a particular point of attention that helps me to remain united to God throughout my day, and thus to avoid sin. This novena is also an opportunity to associate myself more particularly with the prayer of the ordinands, by receiving the sacraments (sacramental confession and Eucharistic communion).

What's the programme?

Day 1: Prayer for Pradeep Alwyn ALBUQUERQUE (India, Jesuit province of Dumka)

Day 2: Prayer for John Vinay BESRA (India, Jesuit province of Dumka)

Day 3: Prayer for Carlos CHUQUIHUARA (Peru, Jesuit Province of the UK)

Day 4: Prayer for Olivier DEWAVRIN (France, Jesuit Province of French-speaking Western Europe)

Day 5: Prayer for Emile GEBRAIEL (Egypt, Jesuit Province of the Near East)

Day 6: Prayer for Cédric LECORDIER (Mauritius, Jesuit Province of French-speaking Western Europe)

Day 7: Prayer for Brook STACEY (Canada, Jesuit Province of Canada)

Day 8: Prayer for Maréus TOUSSELIAT (Haiti, Jesuit Province of Canada)

Day 9: Prayer for the growth and sanctification of the body of the Society of Jesus

Why do we do it?

Without grace, man can do nothing. Through his prayer, man can ask the Lord for His grace by asking Him directly or by asking Mary and the saints to intercede for him.

Prayer also enables us to ask the Lord for His grace for others whom we recommend to Him because of particular circumstances. Diaconal ordination, in that it commits the ordinand to a lifetime of service to the Lord and His Church, is an excellent opportunity for prayer.

Moreover, praying for others is an act of Christian charity, showing our love for those we pray for and our trust in our God, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

RECURRING PRAYERS

A) Preparatory prayer

I ask God our Lord for his grace that all my intentions, actions and operations be purely directed to the service and praise of his divine Majesty.

[Spiritual Exercises, n. 46]

B) Our Father (*Pater*)

*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.
Amen.*

C) Hail Mary (*Ave*)

*Hail Mary,
full of grace,
the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.*

D) *Memorare*

*Remember, O most loving Virgin Mary,
that it is a thing unheard of that anyone who had recourse to your protection,
implored your help, or sought your intercession, was left forsaken.
Filled therefore with confidence in your goodness,
I fly to you, O Mother, Virgin of virgins.
To you I come; before you I stand, a sorrowful sinner.
Despise not my words, O Mother of the Word,
but graciously hear and grant my prayer.
Amen.*

E) Final prayer (prayer attributed to Saint Ignatius of Loyola)

*Lord, teach me to be generous,
to serve you as you deserve,
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not to heed the wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labor and not to look for any reward,
save that of knowing that I do your holy will.*

DAY 1 Pradeep Alwyn ALBUQUERQUE SJ (Thursday 4 May 2023)

We propose that you pray to the Lord to grant the Society of Jesus, and especially its ordinands, the grace to carry out faithfully the mission received from Him and from His Church.

On this first day of our novena, we pray especially for Pradeep Alwyn ALBUQUERQUE, an Indian Jesuit from the province of Dumka, who will be ordained a deacon by Mgr Theodoros Kodidis, Archbishop of Athens, on Saturday 13 May 2023, together with 7 other Jesuit companions.



♣ I make a sign of the cross to place myself in the presence of the Lord.

♣ I recite the *preparatory prayer* (A) and take time to welcome the presence of the Lord.

♣ I pray with the prayer of the day to support the ordinand who is specially recommended to me today:

Prayer of the day

An Indian Jesuit, **Pradeep Alwyn** is the eldest of three children born into a devout family in South India, Karnataka. His studies with the Sisters of Bethany and his service as an altar boy nourished his faith journey. After hearing about the life and work of the Jesuits in the state of Jharkhand, especially their commitment to education and their struggle to promote justice, he joined the novitiate in 2008. Through the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, he discovered a new way of relating to God and felt confirmed in his journey. He followed the classical formation of the Society of Jesus: philosophy studies, a secular degree (a master's degree in mathematics), then

regency (apostolic insertion) in a rural high school in Jharkhand - this experience marked him for life. Today, as a theology student at the Centre Sèvres, he is involved in youth ministry at the *Maison Magis* and in the accompaniment of a Christian Life Community (CLC), activities which nourish his studies and his reflection.

During this novena, I wish through your prayers to entrust myself to the intercession of the Jesuit Saint John de Britto. Born in Lisbon, John de Britto entered the Jesuit novitiate in 1662. At the age of twenty-six, he arrived in-India and went to the mission of Madurai. He became an Indian ascetic, a *pandaraswami*, which allowed him to meet members of all castes. He was arrested several times and led a heroic life; his success in converting a prince was among the reasons for his death by beheading. His adaptation to the local culture and his perseverance in proclaiming the Gospel are inspiring.

For me, the diaconate is a call to act in accordance with Christ the servant, to profess my faith **publicly**, and to represent the Church, the body of Christ. It is a mission of service that the Church entrusts to me: on the one hand, to proclaim the Gospel and help the priest in the celebration of the sacraments; on the other hand, to engage in discreet service. And above all, like John de Britto, to persevere in the witness of Christ through a personal relationship with Him.

I therefore entrust myself to your prayer, and especially to the intercession of St John de Britto, **entrusting to you this intention:** to grow in faith, in familiarity with Christ. May this witness be manifested in the service of others without exception, especially the poorest and most excluded. In a spirit of inculturation and dialogue, may we learn to recognise the good in others and persevere in proclaiming the Good News to all. May we be reconciled with ourselves, with others, with God and with all Creation.

I make my prayer. Afterwards, before moving on, I take some time to let the challenge of what I've just read and prayes sink in. I take the time to acknowledge, to sense, to feel, what this prayer has done in me. I may talk to the Lord about it, and express any desires that the prayer may have inspired

♣ I recite the *Lord's Prayer* (B) (1 *Pater*).

I also pray to Mary, Mother of the Society of Jesus, that she may intercede with her Son and obtain for the Society of Jesus new companions and, especially for Pradeep Alwyn, the grace to carry out faithfully the mission received from Christ and his Church. I recite ten *Hail Marys* (C) (10 *Ave*). I conclude with the *Memorare* (D).

♣ I thank the Lord for this time spent with Him (colloquy) and then, using the words attributed to St Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, I recite the *final prayer* (E) and end with the sign of the cross.

DAY 2 John Vinay BESRA sj (Friday 5 May 2023)

We propose that you pray to the Lord to grant the Society of Jesus, and especially its ordinands, the grace to carry out faithfully the mission received from Him and from His Church.

On this second day of our novena, we pray especially for John Vinay BESRA, an Indian Jesuit from the province of Dumka, who will be ordained a deacon by Mgr Theodoros Kodidis, Archbishop of Athens, on Saturday 13 May 2023, together with 7 other Jesuit companions.



♣ I make a sign of the cross to place myself in the presence of the Lord.

♣ I recite the *preparatory prayer* (A) and take time to welcome the presence of the Lord.

♣ I pray with the prayer of the day to support the ordinand who is specially recommended to me today:

Prayer of the day

Vinay was born in 1989 in Jharkhand, India. He grew up in a loving family with his two sisters. From a young age, he met several priests and religious who made him curious about their lives and their commitment to the poor and oppressed. The encouragement of his family and the guidance of two of his cousins who were priests helped him to reflect on his vocation. His father's commitment to the sick and the poor inspired him greatly. At the age of 17, along with other aspiring Jesuits, he joined the pre-novitiate. He spent three years there: while pursuing secular studies, he took this time to learn more about the Society of Jesus and its spirituality and to discern his vocation. In 2011, he was admitted to the Order and followed a classical formation:

secular studies and philosophy. During his two years of regency (apostolic internship), he was asked to accompany young adults and assist them in their studies. In June 2019, he was sent to the Centre Sèvres in Paris to study theology. He is now looking forward to a mission of pastoral ministry in India.

During this novena, through your prayers, I wish to entrust myself to the intercession of Blessed Francisco Garate, SJ. Brother Francisco Garate (1857-1929) is remembered as a man who did ordinary things with great kindness and generosity. In 1874, he joined the Society of Jesus in Poyanne, France. He was a nurse and porter at the Jesuit College for almost forty years until his death. There he was an example to all by his extraordinary charity, dedication, courtesy and many other virtues. He died in 1929 and was beatified in 1985 by Pope John Paul II. After his death, the students showed their attachment and esteem for the brother who had shown them so much love.

For me, the diaconate represents a new stage with new responsibilities in the service of the Gospel. It is a sincere commitment to transmit God's love in action and to be a witness of Christ the Servant to his people.

Therefore, I entrust myself to your prayer, and especially to the intercession of Blessed Francisco Garate SJ, **entrusting you with this intention:** that the flame of the desire to serve God and his people may remain burning in my heart; that I may be faithful and generous like Francisco Garate in every task, great or ordinary; that I may always seek courage and consolation in his Providence and love and that I may share this courage and peace with all those I meet.

I make my prayer. Afterwards, before moving on, I take some time to let the challenge of what I've just read and prayes sink in. I take the time to acknowledge, to sense, to feel, what this prayer has done in me. I may talk to the Lord about it, and express any desires that the prayer may have inspired

♣ I recite the *Lord's Prayer* (B) (1 *Pater*).

I also pray to Mary, Mother of the Society of Jesus, that she may intercede with her Son and obtain for the Society of Jesus new companions and, especially for John Vinay, the grace to carry out faithfully the mission received from Christ and his Church. I recite ten *Hail Marys* (C) (10 *Ave*). I end with the *Memorare* (D).

♣ I thank the Lord for this time spent with Him (colloquy) and then, using the words attributed to St Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, I recite the *final prayer* (E) and end with the sign of the cross.

DAY 3 Carlos CHUQUIHUARA sj (Saturday 6 May 2023)

We propose that you pray to the Lord to grant the Society of Jesus, and especially its ordinands, the grace to carry out faithfully the mission received from Him and from His Church.

On this third day of our novena, we pray especially for Carlos CHUQUIHUARA, a Peruvian Jesuit from the UK Province, who will be ordained a deacon by Mgr Theodoros Kodidis, Archbishop of Athens, on Saturday 13 May 2023, together with 7 other Jesuit companions.



♣ I make a sign of the cross to place myself in the presence of the Lord.

♣ I recite the *preparatory prayer* (A) and take time to welcome the presence of the Lord.

♣ I pray with the prayer of the day to support the ordinand who is specially recommended to me today:

Prayer of the day

My name is **Carlos** and this is my story: I was born on 7 March 1987 in Lima to parents of Andean origin. My first encounter with the Church was at home and in my local parish run by the Capuchin friars. In 2006, after finishing high school, I moved to Sheffield (England) to study biomedical sciences. It was at the Sheffield University Chaplaincy that my faith was renewed. It was also there that I first met a Jesuit: Father Michael Beattie. In September 2012, after working for a year following my studies, I entered the novitiate of the Society of Jesus in Birmingham. After taking my first vows on 6 September 2016, I was sent to Regis College (in Toronto) to study philosophy for three and a half years. Then I was sent on a regency assignment to Coláiste

Iognáid (the Jesuit college in Galway) and Educate Magis for a year and a half. Then, in 2019, I was missioned for a year to the youth ministry in London. Since September 2020 I have been studying theology at the Centre Sèvres.

During this novena, through your prayers, I wish to entrust myself to the intercession of the Jesuit Saint Edmund Campion, patron saint of the British Province, so that I may have the evangelical audacity to proclaim the mercy of God without fear. During his life, Edmund Campion lived an intense intellectual and spiritual journey that led him to convert to Catholicism and become a Jesuit. Although his missionary activity lasted only a little over a year, his witness to faith has left its mark on Catholics and Anglicans. I also pray that, like St Edmund, I will be able to use my intellectual skills to proclaim the Gospel to those who need to hear God's message of justice and love.

For me, the diaconate represents an important step in my incorporation into Jesus, his Church and the Society of Jesus. As a deacon, I will be officially charged with sharing the Word of God with the faithful and being an agent of charity to those whom the Church needs to reach. In this regard, I hope that as a Jesuit deacon, I can be a man for others, a person of service and a spokesperson for God's love for all. Ultimately, being a deacon will be an excellent preamble to becoming a Jesuit priest in a year's time.

I therefore entrust myself to your prayers, and especially to the intercession of St. Ephrem the Syriac (deacon of the 4th century) and of Edmund Campion, **entrusting you with this intention:**

I pray to God, the source of all mercy, through the intercession of St. Ephrem and St. Edmund Campion:

*that I may become a faithful deacon in God's Church;
that my mouth may proclaim God's love for all creation;
that my eyes may be attentive to the signs of the times;
that my ear may listen to the cries of the poor and the earth;
and that my hands may always be open to serve those in need
I entrust this to you in the name of Jesus, the Word made flesh, Amen.*

I make my prayer. Afterwards, before moving on, I take some time to let the challenge of what I've just read and prayes sink in. I take the time to acknowledge, to sense, to feel, what this prayer has done in me. I may talk to the Lord about it, and express any desires that the prayer may have inspired

♣ I recite the **Lord's Prayer** (B) (1 *Pater*).

I also pray to Mary, Mother of the Society of Jesus, that she may intercede with her Son and obtain for the Society of Jesus new companions and, especially for Carlos, the grace to carry out faithfully the mission received from Christ and his Church. I recite ten **Hail Marys** (C) (10 *Ave*). I end with the **Memorare** (D).

♣ I thank the Lord for this time spent with Him (colloquy) and then, using the words attributed to St Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, I recite the **final prayer** (E) and end with the sign of the cross.

DAY 4 Olivier DEWAVRIN sj (Sunday 7 May 2023)

We propose that you pray to the Lord to grant the Society of Jesus, and especially its ordinands, the grace to carry out faithfully the mission received from Him and from His Church.

On this fourth day of our novena, we pray especially for Olivier DEWAVRIN, a French Jesuit from the French-speaking Western European Province, who will be ordained a deacon by Mgr Theodoros Kodidis, Archbishop of Athens, on Saturday 13 May 2023, together with 7 other Jesuit companions.



♣ I make a sign of the cross to place myself in the presence of the Lord.

♣ I recite the *preparatory prayer* (A) and take time to welcome the presence of the Lord.

♣ I pray with the prayer of the day to support the ordinand who is specially recommended to me today:

Prayer of the day

The second of six children, **Olivier** grew up in Rennes, Tahiti, Rouen and Paris. Curiosity about the world and its diversity led him to study biology. He has been a Jesuit for 10 years, in love both for God and for the little ones for whom He became incarnate and he is grateful for how his studies in philosophy and theology have helped him better understand and inhabit the world. Whether it be in outreach work, in work with non-Christian people, in prison chaplaincy or in the service of exiled displaced people (with [JRS France](#)), Olivier seeks to love and serve the God who is present in all, and to collaborate ever more deeply with a God who is tender, intelligent

and full of humour. Olivier is not a good cook, but he is a good guest. If he is not a good cook, Olivier is a good guest: he likes to laugh. Community life, with its ups and downs, gives him the opportunity to do so every day.

During this novena, through your prayers, I wish to entrust myself to the intercession of the Jesuit Saint Jean-François Régis. Born in 1597, Jean-François Régis became a Jesuit at the age of 15. Despite his desire to evangelise Canada, his superiors sent him on a mission to the Vivarais region of France. He travelled through the countryside as a preacher, seeking to establish peaceful relations between Catholics and Protestants. In Le Puy, he founded several charities. He was therefore a minister both of the Word and of charity – or rather, it was his service to others in charity that made him a true minister of the Word. Always working with other Jesuits, he was not a solitary hero, but a gentle man who was attentive to the needs of others.

For me, the diaconate is first of all a mission received from the Church. Jean-François Régis was not sent to Canada but to France, where his obedience allowed him to sow the seeds of peace. The diaconate is also a mission of service: service of the Word and service of living people. For the Word sends us to our brothers and sisters, who in turn help us to live the Gospel. Being sent as a deacon to JRS is a way of embodying the Church's outreach to the displaced people who are so dear to her.

I therefore entrust myself to your prayers, and especially to the intercession of Jean-François Régis, **in entrusting this intention to you:**

- *Let us pray for displaced people, that the energy that helps them continue to live, move forward, make new relationships, and hope may not fail.*
- *Let us also pray for those they have left behind and for the people they meet on their way.*
- *Let us pray for those who help to integrate them in their new homelands, and for those who work to create a world where everyone can grow by using their talents to serve all.*

I make my prayer. Afterwards, before moving on, I take some time to let the challenge of what I've just read and prayed sink in. I take the time to acknowledge, to sense, to feel, what this prayer has done in me. I may talk to the Lord about it, and express any desires that the prayer may have inspired

♠ I recite the *Lord's Prayer* (B) (1 *Pater*).

I also pray to Mary, Mother of the Society of Jesus, that she may intercede with her Son and obtain for the Society of Jesus new companions and, especially for Olivier, the grace to carry out faithfully the mission received from Christ and his Church. I recite ten *Hail Marys* (C) (10 *Ave*). I finish with the *Memorare* (D).

♠ I thank the Lord for this time spent with Him (colloquy) and then, using the words attributed to St Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, I recite the *final prayer* (E) and end with the sign of the cross.

DAY 5 Emile GEBRAIEL sj (Monday 8 May 2023)

We propose that you pray to the Lord to grant the Society of Jesus, and especially its ordinands, the grace to carry out faithfully the mission received from Him and from His Church.

On this fifth day of our novena, we pray especially for Emile GEBRAIEL, an Egyptian Jesuit of the Near East Province, who will be ordained a deacon by Mgr Theodoros Kodidis, Archbishop of Athens, on Saturday 13 May 2023, together with 7 other Jesuit companions.



♣ I make a sign of the cross to place myself in the presence of the Lord.

♣ I recite the *preparatory prayer* (A) and take time to welcome the presence of the Lord.

♣ I pray with the prayer of the day to support the ordinand who is specially recommended to me today:

Prayer of the day

Emile was born in 1986 in Egypt. He is the fifth of six children in a Coptic Catholic family, the youngest of whom, Joseph, is also a Jesuit. His family and his parish have played a very important role in his vocation. His family brought him up in the faith and love of the Church, and it was the parish priest who pointed him to the Society of Jesus when he began to reflect on his vocation. Helped by the Spiritual Exercises and some other Jesuit spiritual writings, Emile spent 2 years of discernment before joining the Society in 2010, after completing his engineering studies. He studied philosophy and Arabic civilization at St Joseph's University in Lebanon, and

also worked as a chaplain at the Lebanese University. He did his regency at the Holy Family College in Cairo. Sent to the Centre Sèvres in Paris in 2018 to study theology, he completed the first cycle of theology there, and is continuing with a second cycle in systematic theology. In his 13 years in the Society, spiritual accompaniment has become an essential mission for him. And meeting the poor and suffering is gradually teaching him to contemplate Christ crucified, while working for reconciliation and justice in the hope of the Resurrection.

During this novena, I wish to entrust myself through your prayers to the intercession of the Servant of God, Venerable Fr. Nicolas Kluiters S.J.. Nicolas was involved with the poor population of the Bekaa in Lebanon, whose life he shared intimately. He is a model of hope in difficult situations, a model of working for development and a model of fighting against poverty. He wanted to be a man of peace, wanting to fight everything that divides people, by proclaiming the Gospel in word and action. Nicholas was martyred on 14 March 1985 for his faith and charity. He became, in his own words, "the fertiliser of the neglected land of the Bekaa".

For me, the diaconate is one more step in loving Christ and following him on the path of service to which I have dedicated my life. The diaconate means proclaiming the Gospel in word and deed, caring for the poorest and most vulnerable.

Therefore, I entrust myself to your prayer, and especially to the intercession of the servant of God, Fr. Nicolas Kluiters S.J., **by entrusting you with this intention:** in our world marked today by wars and economic crises, which particularly affect the poorest, we beg the Lord to give us peace and hope, and to send us people who will work for peace.

Lord, you have promised us new heavens and a new earth in which justice will dwell (2 Pet 3:13). Give us your grace to work to transform our world in their image, following the example of Nicolas Kluiters.

I make my prayer. Afterwards, before moving on, I take some time to let the challenge of what I've just read and pray sink in. I take the time to acknowledge, to sense, to feel, what this prayer has done in me. I may talk to the Lord about it, and express any desires that the prayer may have inspired

♣ I recite the *Lord's Prayer* (B) (1 *Pater*).

I also pray to Mary, Mother of the Society of Jesus, that she may intercede with her Son and obtain for the Society of Jesus new companions and, especially for Emile, the grace to carry out faithfully the mission received from Christ and his Church. I recite ten *Hail Marys* (C) (10 *Ave*). I end with the *Memorare* (D).

♣ I thank the Lord for this time spent with Him (colloquy) and then, using the words attributed to St Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, I recite the *final prayer* (E) and end with the sign of the cross.

DAY 6 Cédric LECORDIER sj (Tuesday 9 May 2023)

We propose that you pray to the Lord to grant the Society of Jesus, and especially its ordinands, the grace to carry out faithfully the mission received from Him and from His Church.

On this sixth day of our novena, we pray especially for Cédric LECORDIER, a Mauritian Jesuit from the French-speaking Western European Province, who will be ordained a deacon by Mgr Theodoros Kodidis, Archbishop of Athens, on Saturday 13 May 2023, together with 7 other Jesuit companions.



♣ I make a sign of the cross to place myself in the presence of the Lord.

♣ I recite the *preparatory prayer* (A) and take time to welcome the presence of the Lord.

♣ I pray with the prayer of the day to support the ordinand who is specially recommended to me today:

Prayer of the day

Cedric was born in 1989 in Mauritius. As an only child, Cedric was encouraged from an early age to enlarge his "tent space"; he called his cousins, his neighbours, and later his scout companions and schoolmates "brothers". "*Lord Jesus, teach us to be generous...*", "*Cheers to you College Holy Spirit...*": the refrains of the Scout prayer, attributed to Saint Ignatius, and the College Hymn punctuated his adolescence and sharpened his sense of belonging. In 2008, a scholarship sent him to the University of Melbourne, Australia: this was to be his apprenticeship

in adult life, with its joys and trials that opened up a personal encounter with Christ. In 2011, Cédric returned to Mauritius to discern his vocation with the Jesuits and joined the editorial staff of the newspaper *Le Mauricien*. He entered the novitiate in Lyon in 2013. During his nine years in the Society, he blossomed in theological studies and in apostolic activities: in youth ministry in St Denis, then as an educator at Saint-Mauront College in Marseille.

During this novena, through your prayers, I wish to entrust myself to the intercession of the Jesuit Saint Peter Claver and the Spiritan Blessed Jacques Désiré Laval. The Jesuit Pierre Claver and the Spiritan Jacques-Désiré Laval are almost twins in sanctity! Celebrated on 9 September, they are "apostles of the slaves": Claver in New Grenada in the 16th century, Laval in Mauritius in the 19th century. John Paul II, wrote about Laval: « May his example encourage all those who strive to build a fraternal world, free from racial prejudice! »

For me, the idea of the diaconate as a step towards the priesthood can lead to misunderstanding. Every priest is first and foremost a deacon, i.e. a servant in the footsteps of Christ the foot-washer, of Christ who restored the feast at Cana. Diaconal service is the foundation of the priesthood. A parish priest, a dean, a bishop, a pope: they are all deacons. May the diaconal vocation preserve us from any drift towards clericalism.

This is why I entrust myself to your prayers, and especially to the intercession of Saint Peter Claver and Blessed Jacques-Désiré Laval, **entrusting you with this intention:** Christ emptied himself, he let go of his privileged status, and let his flesh be marked by the wound of our divisions (Phil. 2, 6-11). With Fathers Claver and Laval, let us ask the Lord for the courage to follow him in his self-emptying. Thus we can confront the traumas of our history and to open up a space for reconciliation and dialogue between the descendants of slaves and slave-owners. Lord Jesus, heal our memories.

I make my prayer. Afterwards, before moving on, I take some time to let the challenge of what I've just read and prayed sink in. I take the time to acknowledge, to sense, to feel, what this prayer has done in me. I may talk to the Lord about it, and express any desires that the prayer may have inspired

♠ I recite the *Lord's Prayer* (B) (1 *Pater*).

I also pray to Mary, Mother of the Society of Jesus, that she may intercede with her Son and obtain for the Society of Jesus new companions and, especially for Cedric, the grace to carry out faithfully the mission received from Christ and his Church. I recite ten *Hail Marys* (C) (10 *Ave*). I end with the *Memorare* (D).

♠ I thank the Lord for this time spent with Him (colloquy) and then, using the words attributed to St Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, I recite the *final prayer* (E) and end with the sign of the cross.

DAY 7 Brook STACEY sj (Wednesday 10 May 2023)

We propose that you pray to the Lord to grant the Society of Jesus, and especially its ordinands, the grace to carry out faithfully the mission received from Him and from His Church.

On this seventh day of our novena, we pray especially for Brook STACEY, a Canadian Jesuit from the Province of Canada, who will be ordained a deacon by Mgr Theodoros Kodidis, Archbishop of Athens, on Saturday 13 May 2023, together with 7 other Jesuit companions.



♣ I make a sign of the cross to place myself in the presence of the Lord.

♣ I recite the *preparatory prayer* (A) and take time to welcome the presence of the Lord.

♣ I pray with the prayer of the day to support the ordinand who is specially recommended to me today:

Prayer of the day

The younger of two boys, **Brook** grew up in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. He studied geology at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, where he met a Catholic missionary movement that invited him to become more involved in his faith. During this period of discovery, he began to consider the possibility of becoming a Catholic priest. He sought out a spiritual director, who turned out to be a Jesuit. After two years of guidance, the summer before his final year of studies, Brook walked the *Camino* de Santiago de Compostela in Spain to confirm his discernment. Upon his return to Halifax, he completed his studies, applied to join the Jesuits and entered the Order in

2013. Since then, Brook has discovered a passion for teaching in high schools, coaching sports and working with refugees. Brook is currently completing his final year of theology at the Centre Sèvres and is looking forward to continuing with pastoral studies in Toronto.

During this novena, I wish through your prayers to entrust myself to the intercession of the Jesuit Saint Pierre Favre, an itinerant preacher, confessor and spiritual guide who, through his various challenges, persevered in humility, patience and heroic endurance. I pray with you that he will intercede for me during this period of preparation for ordination.

For me, the diaconate represents a movement to take on a new level of responsibility in the Church and to witness more publicly to the Catholic faith. It is a deeper commitment to God and his people to put our hands to the plough and not look back.

Therefore, I entrust myself to your prayers, and especially to the intercession of St. Peter Favre, **entrusting you with this intention**: that the moment of ordination be filled with joy, consolation, gratitude, gladness and love for God. May this strengthen me and give me the courage, peace and confidence to carry out His mission.

I make my prayer. Afterwards, before moving on, I take some time to let the challenge of what I've just read and prayes sink in. I take the time to acknowledge, to sense, to feel, what this prayer has done in me. I may talk to the Lord about it, and express any desires that the prayer may have inspired

♣ I recite the *Lord's Prayer* (B) (1 *Pater*).

I also pray to Mary, Mother of the Society of Jesus, that she may intercede with her Son and obtain for the Society of Jesus new companions and, especially for Brook, the grace to carry out faithfully the mission received from Christ and his Church. I recite ten *Hail Marys* (C) (10 *Ave*). I end with the *Memorare* (D).

♣ I thank the Lord for this time spent with Him (colloquy) and then, using the words attributed to St Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, I recite the *final prayer* (E) and end with the sign of the cross.

DAY 8 Maréus TOUSSELIAT sj (Thursday 11 May 2023)

We propose that you pray to the Lord to grant the Society of Jesus, and especially its ordinands, the grace to carry out faithfully the mission received from Him and from His Church.

On this eighth day of our novena, we pray especially for Maréus TOUSSELIAT, a Haitian Jesuit from the Province of Canada, who will be ordained a deacon by Mgr Theodoros Kodidis, Archbishop of Athens, on Saturday 13 May 2023, together with 7 other Jesuit companions.



♣ I make a sign of the cross to place myself in the presence of the Lord.

♣ I recite the *preparatory prayer* (A) and take time to welcome the presence of the Lord.

♣ I pray with the prayer of the day to support the ordinand who is specially recommended to me today:

Prayer of the day

Born in 1980 in Haiti, **Maréus** is the third of eight children in a Catholic family. His family is very involved in the parish where he grew up. He graduated in 2008 with a degree in legal sciences from the State University of *Haiti-Gonaïves*. For ten years, before entering the novitiate of the Society of Jesus, Maréus was director of OKPK/Inter-Aide, a Haitian NGO involved in education for sustainable development and the fight against illiteracy in rural areas: this was an opportunity for him to learn about management, among other things. But it was in the MEJ (Eucharistic Youth Movement), where he has been involved since childhood, that he discovered

his vocation to the priestly life. He joined the Society of Jesus in Port-au-Prince in August 2012 and obtained a degree in philosophy at the *Pontificia Universidad Javeriana* in Bogotá (Colombia). He did his regency (apostolic internship) in the North-East of Haiti where he was regional director of *Fé y alegría-Haiti* from 2017 to 2020. He arrived in France in 2020 to study at the Centre Sèvres. Currently finishing his theology degree, Maréus has meanwhile started a master's degree in educational sciences at the Institut Catholique de Paris.

During this novena, through your prayers, I wish to entrust myself to the intercession of the Jesuit Saint Francis Xavier. Francis Xavier, a close friend of Ignatius of Loyola, co-founder of the Society of Jesus, born on 7 April 1506 in Javier, and died on 3 December 1552 on the island of Shangchuan, 14 km off the coast of mainland China, was a Jesuit missionary with a great heart. The "Apostle of the Indies" travelled almost 80,000 km during his eleven years in Asia without ever seeing his native land again. May I find, through his intercession, the joy of giving myself in the mission of Christ without expecting anything in return.

For me, the diaconate represents a place of encounter with Christ in the service of others. It is both a ministry instituted by the Church and a way of being in the world today. It implies remaining oneself and being attentive to the voice of the Spirit.

That is why I entrust myself to your prayers, and especially to the intercession of Saint Francis Xavier SJ, by entrusting this intention to you: that I can be fully committed to the Gospel in a world where talking about God seems to me to be more and more difficult, and where faith is more a private matter than something people live together. I ask the Lord for the grace and the intelligence to bear witness ceaselessly to his love, and that I might be guided to find the right words and true and authentic gestures.

I make my prayer. Afterwards, before moving on, I take some time to let the challenge of what I've just read and prayes sink in. I take the time to acknowledge, to sense, to feel, what this prayer has done in me. I may talk to the Lord about it, and express any desires that the prayer may have inspired

♠ I recite the *Lord's Prayer* (B) (1 *Pater*).

I also pray to Mary, Mother of the Society of Jesus, that she may intercede with her Son and obtain for the Society of Jesus new companions and, especially for Maréus, the grace to carry out faithfully the mission received from Christ and his Church. I recite ten *Hail Marys* (C) (10 *Ave*). I end with the *Memorare* (D).

♠ I thank the Lord for this time spent with Him (colloquy) and then, using the words attributed to St Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, I recite the *final prayer* (E) and end with the sign of the cross.

DAY 9 Prayer for the growth and sanctification of the body of the Society of Jesus (Friday 12 May 2023)

We propose that you pray to the Lord to grant the Society of Jesus, and especially its ordinands, the grace to carry out faithfully the mission received from Him and from His Church.

On this ninth and last day of our novena, we pray especially for the 8 Jesuit companions who will be ordained deacons by Mgr Theodoros Kodidis, Archbishop of Athens, on Saturday 13 May 2023, and for the growth and sanctification of the body of the Society of Jesus.



♣ I make a sign of the cross to place myself in the presence of the Lord.

♣ I recite the *preparatory prayer* (A) and take time to welcome the presence of the Lord.

♣ I pray with the prayer of the day to support the eight Jesuits who will be ordained deacons tomorrow at 3 pm in the church of Saint Ignatius, Paris, France, and for the growth and sanctification of the body of the Society of Jesus.

Prayer of the day

- We have prayed throughout this novena for **Pradeep Alwyn, John Vinay, Carlos, Olivier, Emile, Cedric, Brook and Maréus**. Inwardly, I take the time to contemplate again the journey of each of them or to remember their faces to thank the Lord once again for the call they have received and the generosity of their response. I also pray that the Lord will accompany them, as we ourselves have been trying to do.

- The Society of Jesus is made up of thousands of other religious, spread all over the world and willing to serve the Lord in many ways that help souls. In this service to the world, to the Lord and to his Church, these men are nonetheless confronted with their limitations and weaknesses, but also with temptation and evil. I take time to pray **for the sanctification of the body of the Society of Jesus**: may God grant the Jesuits His grace so that, faithful to their vows and

entrusting themselves entirely to Him, they may be open to the work of the Holy Spirit and thus reject sin, Satan and his works, as they continue their mission of defending the faith and promoting justice.

- For almost five centuries, following Ignatius of Loyola, their holy founder, the Jesuits have been trying to work for the "greater glory of God", according to their motto. This work cannot continue unless other young Catholic men are able to hear and respond to the Lord's call to serve him as Jesuit religious and in particular as priests. I pray **for the growth of the body of the Society of Jesus**. May the Lord, who never ceases to call labourers into the harvest, help it. May He strengthen our missionary boldness and support Catholic families and works so that young men may be able to hear His call to become Jesuits; may He give those He calls the strength to respond in joy and peace; may He inspire our words and guide our actions so that we may accompany and welcome these vocations in truth, discernment and gratitude as brothers in the Society of Jesus.

I make my prayer. Afterwards, before moving on, I take some time to let the challenge of what I've just read and prayes sink in. I take the time to acknowledge, to sense, to feel, what this prayer has done in me. I may talk to the Lord about it, and express any desires that the prayer may have inspired

♠ I recite the *Lord's Prayer* (B) (1 *Pater*).

♠ I also pray to Mary, Mother of the Society of Jesus, that she may intercede with her Son and obtain for the Society of Jesus the grace to carry out faithfully the mission received from Christ and his Church. I also pray for vocations to the Society of Jesus. I recite ten *Hail Marys* (C) (10 *Ave*). I end with the *Memorare* (D).

♠ I thank the Lord for this time spent with Him (colloquy) and then, using the words attributed to St Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, I recite the *final prayer* (E) and end with the sign of the cross.

Continuation of the programme

May 12 Do you know who the Jesuits really are? And what is their mission? To answer these questions, **a time of discovery of the Society of Jesus** is organised this evening, Friday 12 May, at 6 pm at the Maison MAGIS (12 rue d'Assas, 75006 Paris). Several Jesuits will be present to answer and exchange with the participants, after a short introductory presentation. This activity will take place in French.

May 12 To complete my novena, I can also take part in the **prayer vigil** for the ordinands which will also take place this evening, at 7.30 pm, at the church of Saint Ignace (33 rue de Sèvres, 75006 Paris). This activity will take place in English and French.

May 13 The **ordination Mass** will take place in the church of Saint Ignace the following day: Saturday 13 May 2023, at 3 pm. It will be presided over by His Excellency Mgr Theodoros Kodidis, Archbishop of Athens. Live broadcast on the Youtube channel of the Jesuit Province of French-speaking Western Europe (<https://www.youtube.com/@jesuites/streams>).

May 15 From next Monday, you will be able to find the **homily, photos and video recording of the ordination mass** at this address: <https://www.jesuites.com/ordinations-diaconales-de-huit-jesuites-le-13-mai-en-leglise-saint-ignace-a-paris> or <https://www.jesuites.com/ordinations>

