

# Presentation Day Novena

2022



*“Vulnerability is the core, the heart, the center,  
of meaningful human experiences.”*

*Brené Brown*



Dear Sisters, Brothers, Associates and Friends of Nano,

We send you greetings of courage and peace as we gather across the world to prepare for the special feast of the Presentation of Mary in the Temple.

We are grateful to Srs Mary Kealy, Lois Greene, Prema Antony and Sheila Reen who prepared the Novena this year.

At this moment in time we are very conscious of the suffering, pain and vulnerability felt by all peoples struggling with the daily uncertainty of life. We are very conscious, too, of the destruction of our beautiful earth.


This year our Novena invites us to reflect on the vulnerability being felt right across the globe. Our shared reflections are opening our hearts and minds as we prepare to convoke our Congregational Gathering on Presentation Day inviting us into ***Embracing Vulnerability as Possibility***.

Each day of the Novena is an invitation to awaken and listen to the gift that vulnerability offers us and the possibilities that are ours *when we have the courage to show up even when we have no sense of the outcome.*

As we pray the Novena toward commemorating the Presentation of Mary in the Temple, may we experience the gift of vulnerability as we listen to God, to ourselves and to one another.

  
Congregational Leadership Team

## LISTENING JOURNEY



Elijah stood at the cave's mouth.  
The earth rocked beneath him,  
the storm-winds beat about him,  
and the fierceness of forest-fire,  
but he waited ... watchful ... listening.  
Then, beyond the clamour ... stillness.  
within the stillness ... silence,  
and, in the silence, God's Word  
on the breath of the breeze:  
'Go where I shall send you,  
and what I bid you, do.'

Yet may the storms break.  
Yet may the rocks be rent.  
Though white the fire, they  
will yet be found  
who stand on Yahweh's  
mountain, listening,  
alive to His presence where the  
least dust lifts,  
attuned to His message in the  
dawn-wind's keen,  
who, listening, journey beyond the daybreak  
for the sake of the Word ...  
and a Kingdom unseen.

Raphael Consedine, pbvm

Day 1: 12<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
**Vulnerability in Relationship with God**

Gather with soft music playing. Take time to be still. Be aware of Presentation People around our world gathering as one.

**Today we remember Presentation People in New Zealand and in Latin America.**

**Creating the Sacred Space**

Globe, Icon of Mary of the Cosmos, Lantern/Candle



Breathing in, I send myself love. Breathing out, I send love to someone else who needs it.

**Mantra**

Be still, be still and know that I am God!

<https://youtu.be/rur2VC4W4p8>

### Call to Gather

The call on this first day of the Novena is to open ourselves to God's Love as Nano did – to the knowledge that we are always the beloved of God, as Mary is, no matter what our love/or lack of love of self tells us.

### Call to Ponder

Paul Tillich said, “The name of this infinite and inexhaustible depth and ground of all being is God”, however we have to learn how to see God in all things. Even though it can be uncomfortable, vulnerability is also the birthplace for joy, creativity, authenticity and love. With vulnerability, we can let our guard down and be seen for who we truly are. The truth about vulnerability is that it is not a weakness; it is a strength. Brené Brown

**Sacred Scripture:** The Prodigal Son – Lk. 15:11-32

### Call to Share

What if I/we always opened our hearts to God's love?

### Call to Action

Spend extra time in contemplative prayer allowing yourself to experience God's abiding love. Consciously reach out to another in love.

### Call to Give Thanks

We give thanks to God for our many blessings and pray for an open heart.

**Four-fold Blessing** (*see pages 21-22*)

### A Suitable Hymn

Day 2: 13<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
**Vulnerability in Relationship with Family**

Take time to be still, aware of Presentation People around our world gathering as one, **remembering especially Presentation People in the Philippines and Thailand.**

**Creating the Sacred Space**

Globe, Icon of Mary of the Cosmos, Lantern/Candle



Breathing in, I send myself love. Breathing out, I send love to someone else who needs it.

**Mantra**

Be still, be still and know that I am God!

<https://youtu.be/rur2VC4W4p8>

**Call to Gather**

Creator God, you are in the still place at the centre of my being, may I, like Mary and Nano, be open to your word.



### Call to Ponder

We are the ancestors called to birth the future, to leave our footprints behind so that others may find their way to God who is always waiting to welcome us home, to our true place of belonging, as life continues to evolve.

Joan O’Sullivan, pbvm

"This is how one lives freedom in the family" – the Pope’s words tell us – “There are no 'planets' or 'satellites' each travelling on its own orbit. The family is the place of encounter, of sharing, of going out of oneself to welcome the other and be close to him. It is the first place where one learns to love”.

Pope Francis at World Meeting on Families

**Sacred Scripture:** Searching for Jesus – Lk. 2:39-52

### Call to Share

Share how some member of your family has been a special blessing in your life! May Mary, Joseph and Jesus, the family at Nazareth bless all families, human and non-human.

### Call to Action

Today we see many families who are in financial and or psychological difficulty. Be supportive of organizations which are designed to help them.

### Call to Give Thanks

We thank God for our immediate and extended family. We pray for those who have gone before us, those who are impacting our lives now, and for future generations.

**Four-fold Blessing** (*see pages 21-22*)

### A Suitable Hymn



Day 3: 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
**Vulnerability in Relationship with  
Presentation People**

Take time to be still, aware of Presentation People around our world gathering as one, **remembering especially Presentation People in Canada and the West Indies.**

**Creating the Sacred Space**

Globe, Icon of Mary of the Cosmos, Lantern/Candle



Breathing in, I send myself love. Breathing out, I send love to someone else who needs it.

**Mantra**

Be still, be still and know that I am God!

<https://youtu.be/rur2VC4W4p8>

**Call to Gather**

Creator God, you are in the still place at the centre of my being, may I, like Mary and Nano, be open to your word.

### Call to Ponder

Isn't it amazing that we are all created in God's image, and yet there is so much diversity in God's Creation!

Bishop Desmond Tutu

In his masterpiece, **The Human Phenomenon**, Teilhard de Chardin emphasizes vision, "to see and to make others see." He goes on to say that "the whole of life lies in that verb."

**Sacred Scripture:** Lord, that we may see – Lk. 18:40-43

### Call to Share

What is it I need to see with the eyes of the heart and so encourage others to see? Consider the ways that we Presentation People support one another and share a personal example of same.

### Call to Action

Resolve to read more intently the messages of IPA and the other media messages we receive that deal with Presentation People in other places. Where possible be involved with helping needy women and children.

### Call to Give Thanks

Thank God for the call that is ours and the blessings that we have received and are continuing to receive in the network of Presentation People.

**Four-fold Blessing** (*see pages 21-22*)

### A Suitable Hymn

Day 4: 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
**Vulnerability in Relationship with Earth**

Take time to be still, aware of Presentation People around our world gathering as one, **remembering especially Presentation People in England, Ireland, Holy Land and Slovakia.**

Creating the Sacred Space

Globe, Icon of Mary of the Cosmos, Lantern/Candle



Breathing in, I send myself love. Breathing out, I send love to someone else who needs it.

Mantra

Be still, be still and know that I am God!

<https://youtu.be/rur2VC4W4p8>

Call to Gather

Creator God, you are in the still place at the centre of my being, may I, like Mary and Nano, be open to your word.

### Call to Ponder

We often forget that we are nature. Nature is not something separate from us. So, when we say that we have lost our connection to nature, we've lost our connection to ourselves.

Andy Goldsworthy

Whoever you are, no matter how lonely, the world offers itself to your imagination, calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting, over and over announcing your place in the family of things.

Mary Oliver

**Sacred Scripture:** Parable of the Sower – Mk. 4:1-9

### Call to Share

How do you feel inspired/challenged/awakened by the Sacredness of Nature and Immensity of Creation? How does your heart ache for the woundedness of Mother Earth?

### Call to Action

What choices can I make in my life to express an awareness of the sacredness of creation? How are we as a community called to bring about reconciliation and healing to Earth?

### Call to Give Thanks

We give thanks to God for the grandeur of nature within and around us, and pray we never take it for granted. May we remember we are Earth.

**Four-fold Blessing** (*see pages 21-22*)

### A Suitable Hymn

Day 5: 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
**Vulnerability in Relationship with Refugees**

Take time to become still, aware of Presentation People around our world gathering as one, **remembering especially Presentation People in India and Pakistan.**

**Creating the Sacred Space**

Globe, Icon of Mary of the Cosmos, Lantern/Candle



Breathing in,  
I send myself  
love.

Breathing out,  
I send love to  
someone else  
who needs it.

**Mantra**

Be still, be still  
and know that  
I am God!

<https://youtu.be/rur2VC4W4p8>

**Call to Gather**

Creator God, you are in the still place at the centre of my being, may I, like Mary and Nano, be open to your word.

### Call to Ponder

In the centre of the Christian story stands not the lovely ‘white lady’ of artistic and popular imagination, kneeling in adoration before her son. Rather it is the young pregnant woman, living in occupied territory and struggling against victimization and for survival and dignity.

Elisabeth Schussler Fiorenza

**Sacred Scripture:** The flight into Egypt – Matt. 2:13-22

### Call to Share

“You call on us to care for those who dwell on the edges, to bring them to the centre of our care.” How am I bread of welcome and hope for ones who dwell on the edges of society?

### Call to Action

What will open my/our eyes and soften my/our hearts to the suffering and displaced ... to the pain of our brothers and sisters in Ukraine, in Afghanistan, in the Holy Land, in Yemen and in so many other parts of our world?

### Call to Give Thanks

We turn to you and trust your call to live justice and love kindness. Open our imaginations as we seek ways to welcome with love the refugee, asylum seeker and those who have experienced violence. May our hospitality be grounded in a mutual sharing of gifts and wisdom.

**Four-fold Blessing** (*see pages 21-22*)

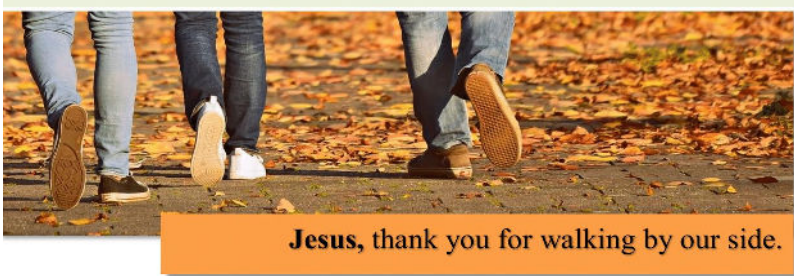
### A Suitable Hymn

Day 6: 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
**Vulnerability in Relationship in  
Mission and Ministry**

Take time to be still, aware of Presentation People around our world gathering as one, **remembering especially Presentation People in Zambia and Zimbabwe.**

**Creating the Sacred Space**

Globe, Icon of Mary of the Cosmos, Lantern/Candle



Breathing in, I send myself love. Breathing out, I send love to someone else who needs it.

**Mantra**

Be still, be still and know that I am God!

<https://youtu.be/rur2VC4W4p8>

**Call to Gather**

Creator God, you are in the still place at the centre of my being, may I, like Mary and Nano, be open to your word.



### Call to Ponder

There is no vulnerability without risk; there is no community without vulnerability; there can be no peace, and ultimately no life without community.

M. Scott Peck

Jesus teaches us the importance of vulnerability, not only as an ideal for spiritual life, but also as a tool for mission.

Sister Anne Falola

**Sacred Scripture:** Jesus' Manifesto – Lk. 4:16-20

### Call to Share

How do we live this message of Jesus in our mission and ministry?

### Call to Action

We shall live Jesus' Manifesto by the quality of our presence – acting with love and being a presence in Mission and Ministry.

### Call to Give Thanks

We are grateful for the call and response of Nano to give of herself to the service of those kept poor. We pray that we too may live grateful lives and be most generous in the use of our gifts and talents.

**Four-fold Blessing** (*see pages 21-22*)

### A Suitable Hymn

Day 7: 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
**Vulnerability in Relationship with the  
Suffering World**

Gather with soft music playing. Take time to become still, aware of Presentation People around our world gathering as one, **remembering especially Presentation People in Australia and Papua New Guinea.**

**Creating the Sacred Space**

Globe, Icon of Mary of the Cosmos, Lantern/Candle



Breathing in, I send myself love. Breathing out, I send love to someone else who needs it.

**Mantra**

Be still, be still and know that I am God!

<https://youtu.be/rur2VC4W4p8>

**Call to Gather**

Creator God, you are in the still place at the centre of my being, may I, like Mary and Nano, be open to your word.

## Call to Ponder

### **Profile: Nano Nagle**

In the face of fear, she chose to be daring,  
in the face of anxiety, she chose to trust,  
in the face of impossibility, she chose to begin.

To universal misery she opposed ministry to persons,  
to ignorance, knowledge  
to disillusionment, tenacity of purpose,  
and to multiple vexations, singleness of heart.

Faced with failure, she held fast to hope,  
faced with death, she believed in a living future,  
and programme for that future she gave in one word,  
LOVE. Raphael Consedine, pbvm

**Sacred Scripture:** Beatitudes – Matt. 5:1-12

## Call to Share

How do we live this message?

## Call to Action

What if we consciously spent ourselves for the poor and suffering of our world – the Spirituality of Being in Communion?

## Call to Give Thanks

We are grateful for the times we stand in solidarity with those who suffer, and we give thanks for the inspiration and wisdom they bring. May God's blessing protect them.

**Four-fold Blessing** (*see pages 21-22*)

## A Suitable Hymn

Day 8: 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
**Vulnerability in Relationship with Self**

Take time to be still, aware of Presentation People around our world gathering as one, **remembering especially Presentation People in the United States of America.**

**Creating the Sacred Space**

Globe, Icon of Mary of the Cosmos, Lantern/Candle



Breathing in, I send myself love. Breathing out, I send love to someone else who needs it.

**Mantra**

Be still, be still and know that I am God!

<https://youtu.be/rur2VC4W4p8>

**Call to Gather**

Creator God, you are in the still place at the centre of my being, may I, like Mary and Nano, be open to your word.

### Call to Ponder

No more clinging to smaller worlds, the worlds that kept you safe.... In letting go the deepest things inside you, recognize that this is life, the only life worth dying for.

Martina Lehane Sheehan

Pope Francis reminds us: “Every man and woman is created out of love and made in God’s image and likeness” (Gen 1:26). This shows us the immense dignity of each person, “who is not just something, but someone”. The Creator can say to each one of us: “Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you” (Jer. 1:5). We were conceived in the heart of God, and for this reason “each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, each of us is necessary”.

**Sacred Scripture:** Woman Caught in Adultery – John 8:1-11

### Call to Share

Share an occasion when you were affirmed, challenged, and supported by another.

### Call to Action

In our daily living we are called to be aware of possibilities to consciously recognize and affirm the dignity of every person and every creature.

### Call to Give Thanks

We pray in gratitude for the Spirit of God blowing through our lives as we pray together united as Presentation People.

**Four-fold Blessing** (*see pages 21-22*)

### A Suitable Hymn

Day 9: 20<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
**Vulnerability in Relationship with Church**

Gather with soft music playing. Take time to be still, aware of Presentation People around our world gathering as one, **remembering especially all Members of the Nagle/Rice Family.**

Creating the Sacred Space

Globe, Icon of Mary of the Cosmos, Lantern/Candle



Breathing in, I send myself love. Breathing out, I send love to someone else who needs it.

Mantra

Be still, be still and know that I am God!

<https://youtu.be/rur2VC4W4p8>

Call to Gather

Creator God, you are in the still place at the centre of my being, may I, like Mary and Nano, be open to your word.

### Call to Ponder

Blessed are you who bear the light in unbearable times ...  
in unaccountable faith, in stubborn hope, in love that  
illuminates every broken thing it finds.

Jan Richardson

The Church learns from her Master that in order to be able  
to give her life in service to others, she is invited to  
recognize and accept her own fragility, and from there, to  
bow down to the fragility of others.

Pope Francis

**Sacred Scripture:** Dynamic conversation between the  
Syrophenician Woman and Jesus Mk. 7:24-30

### Call to Share

Name your relationship with Church as a people of God.  
Name some of the challenges you face in relationship to  
the institutional Church.

### Call to Action

Become more aware of the “Call to Synodality” by  
engaging with events in your Diocese. “We need to  
strengthen the conviction that we are one single human  
family.”

Laudato Si’

### Call to Give Thanks

We are part of the Church ... communion of communities  
... and we give thanks.

**Four-fold Blessing** (*see pages 21-22*)

### A Suitable Hymn



## **Suggested hymns/videos for use with the Novena**

Woman – Marie Cox rsm, Briege O’Hare, osc  
Christ Be Our Light – Bernadette Farrell  
Behold I See a Virgin – Marie Cox rsm, Briege O’Hare, osc  
The Canticle of Mary – Michael Joncas  
Magnificat – Bernadette Farrell  
Shepherd Me O God – Michael Joncas  
I Heard the Lord – Miriam K. Martin, pbvm  
Steadfast Love – Miriam K. Martin, pbvm  
Woman of Earth – Miriam K. Martin, pbvm  
All I Do Today – Jan Novotka  
In the Name of All That Is – Jan Novotka  
A Language of the Heart – Kathy Sherman  
Touch the Earth – Kathy Sherman  
Little Butterfly – Jana Stanfield  
Prayer of St. Theresa of Avila – John Michael Talbot

**Song:** **Praying with a Broken Heart – Sarah Hart**  
<https://youtu.be/Q6UooFJdNuQ>

**Song:** **Anthem “There is a crack in everything.  
That’s how the light gets in.” by Leonard Cohen**  
<https://youtu.be/mDTph7mer3I>

Many of these songs can be found on YouTube if you have “Chromecast” or “YouTube” on your TV

**Song:** **Plenary hymn at UISG – Embracing by Paula Jordão, FMVD and Valentina Stilo, FMVD**



Embracing-Paula  
Jordao.mp3

## “EMBRACING”

“Under your cross we stand  
Hearing the cry of your world  
Our desire is to embrace  
The wounds of humanity

You know we are  
Vulnerable and poor  
But we know that your grace  
makes us strong, makes us new  
so, sends us out to the world

We will speak your WORD that holds your HOPE  
We will live COMMUNION sowing LOVE  
We will walk TOGETHER as your CHURCH  
Seeking to INCLUDE everyone

We will share our LIVES, our TIME, our DOUBTS  
Learning from each OTHER on the ROAD  
We will trust the POWER OF YOUR SPIRIT  
Knowing we DEPEND on you, we PRAY:

May your KINGDOM come  
May your WILL be done  
May our HEARTS FORGIVE  
AND LEAD us all BACK TO YOU  
And LEAD us all, LORD OUR GOD, LEAD US BACK  
to you.”

**Author of the text and music – Paula Jordão, FMVD**





And the blessing of God, the Supreme Majesty  
and our Creator,  
Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Word who is our  
brother and Saviour,  
and the Holy Spirit, our Advocate and Guide,  
be with you  
and remain with you this day and forevermore. Amen.

Sister Rose Marlene Fox, OSB,  
Four-fold Benedictine Blessing, 1985  
(Praying Our Journey, p.100 – PBVM Union 2017)

We too are invited to follow in Nano's footsteps and fan  
into flame the gift of God in our own lives and in our own  
time.

The light of the soul throws sparks, can send up  
flares, causes proper matters to catch fire.  
To display the lantern of the soul in shadowy times  
like these – to be fierce and to show mercy towards  
others – are both acts of immense bravery and  
greatest necessity. Struggling souls catch light  
from other souls who are fully lit and willing to  
show it.

**Do Not Lose Heart** – Christina Pinkola Estes



***Live Contemplatively!***

***Walk Lightly on Earth!***

***Witness Prophetically!***