

DAY 7: Trusting in the help of Mary

Be you, Jesus, my strength and my support; be you my help, my everything; I place all my hope in you, and you can do all that you will; work in me as you wish, for I give you full freedom to go ahead. I am yours, my Lord, and yours I want to be for all eternity.

Most Holy Mary, my sweet hope and comfort, I commend myself to you. This is the best moment for you to let me know that you are a most tenderly loving Mother to me, by helping me to be faithful to Jesus (Scr III, 701-702).

- ✓ During this day, may our Saints Bartolomea & Vincenza help us to entrust ourselves to Mary to be evermore faithful to Jesus and to be intercessors for every suffering brother and sister.

Let us pray for our sisters who are sick and elderly

DAY 8: Courage and trust in matters concerning the Institute

I felt urged to aspire to perfection and earnestly desire it, that I must be determined to become a great saint, and that though I should not rely on myself but admit that I am not able to do anything except offend God, I should all the same trust fully in Him, abandon myself in his arms and hope for everything from Him. Even in matters concerning our Institute, to have great trust in God, not to get anxious in any way but take everything from His hands, even the hardest and most difficult things (Scr III, 199).

- ✓ During this day, may our Saints Bartolomea & Vincenza help us to have great trust in God. **Let us pray for our Institute that it may serve according to the Will of God and may not lack in courage and generosity of each of its member.**

DAY 9: Letting ourselves to be used for God's work.

I felt the Lord urging me to abandon myself totally in his arms and let him do everything even for the Institute itself because the humblest instruments are the very ones he uses to carry out His designs with. I felt he was encouraging me to proceed with this undertaking and take heart; to let him do everything himself: all I had to do was to remove all obstacles and follow him (Scr III, 173).

- ✓ During this day, may our Saints Bartolomea & Vincenza help us to let ourselves be used for the work of God.

Let us pray that even in this difficult time we may know to discern the designs of God over the world.

Sisters of Charity of Saints B. Capitanio & V. Gerosa - Milan, Generalate 2020



I am in the hands of God who loves me as a Father

(Scr I, 572).

“...Only love safeguards the life we have because it embraces our fragility and transforms it. It is God's love that turned death into a passage of life, that changed our fear into trust, our anxiety into hope. God can change everything into good. Jesus changed history by drawing himself near to us and, though still marked by evil, turned it into the history of salvation. From the open heart of the Crucified One, God's love reaches each one of us. We can change our histories by drawing near to him, welcoming the salvation that he offers us. (cf Pope Francesco).

In this Novena, accompanied by our Saints, “let us open our whole heart to him in prayer. Let us allow his gaze to rest upon us and we will understand that we are not alone, but loved, because the Lord does not abandon us and he does not forget us, ever.”

For the Novena of saints Bartolomea Capitanio & Vincenza Gerosa texts from the Writings of St. Bartolomea has been chosen for each day to be read after the short reading of the Lauds, as an inspiration to be lived during the day together with the proposed prayer intention.

DAY 1: **The best proof of love**

I entered into the contemplation of the steadfast charity that the Heart of Jesus has shown me throughout my life, and I have sought sweet repose in that Heart that is wholly aflame with love for his creatures. He made me understand that the best proof of my love that I can give him is to cast myself entirely in his arms, live in tranquil security in His hands, never anxious about anything, for he will help me all the time (Scr III, 202).

- ✓ During this day, may our Saints Bartolomea & Vincenza help us to consider the steadfast charity that Jesus has used and uses for us and for his creatures.

Let us bring to God the prayers, fears, and hope of the entire world.

DAY 2: **Taking everything from the hands of God**

Our Lord made me understand that he wanted me to be fully docile to his will, whatever might happen. I have to take everything from his hands, have full trust in him and be restful in him. He assured me he will be ever mindful of me, disposing everything for his greater glory and my growth in holiness (Scr III, 80).

- ✓ During this day, may our Saints Bartolomea & Vincenza help us to take everything from the hands of God and to entrust ourselves fully to Him.

Let us entrust to Him in particular all the sick and all their loved ones.

DAY 3: **Striving to be deeply convinced of God's immense Goodness**

I will try to keep greater tranquility of mind so that my heart may become a kind of retreat where I can frequently seek refuge. I will strive to be deeply convinced of God's immense Goodness, in order that I may have an ever-greater trust in him. I will abandon myself entirely to God's designs, seeking to accept gladly whatever he is pleased to do of me. ...; forming the habit of seeing in all circumstances the will of God and so accepting everything gladly, never complaining but always thanking (Scr III, 212-213, 166).

- ✓ During this day, may our Saints Bartolomea & Vincenza help us to be convinced of God's immense Goodness and to look trustfully at the future.

Let us bring to God the needs and the uncertainties of the families.

DAY 4: **Remaining constantly at peace and tranquil in heart**

Cultivate a complete abandonment of all you are and all you have in the Lord's hands. Look upon whatever happens to you as coming from Heaven, and it will be

very dear and sweet to you. In circumstances you find hard to accept, remain constantly at peace and tranquil in heart, knowing for certain that your gentle Jesus allows everything to happen for your greater good. Let not even a single word of complaint ever come from your lips: that would not at all honour your Spouse who is all the time watching over you that you may derive spiritual benefit from the things that happen to you (Scr III, 656-657).

- ✓ During this day, may our Saints Bartolomea & Vincenza help us to keep peace of heart and to not let any word of complaint ever come from our lips.

Let us bring to God all the expectations and the hopes of children, adolescent boys and girls and the youth.

DAY 5: **Being an instrument in the hands of God**

My dear Jesus, I am the poorest instrument, unworthy and incapable of anything... I beg of you, let your power rule me; show how in your all-powerful hands the poorest instrument can do the most marvellous things. I do not rely on myself at all, but I have full trust in you. This sweet confidence enlivens me and gives me courage, instilling in me the hope of obtaining everything from you. In dealing with the most difficult, tiresome or even hopeless works, I trust that through your loving kindness I will happily succeed..., certain that you take care of your handmaid (Scr III, 698).

- ✓ During this day, may our Saints Bartolomea & Vincenza help us to recognise ourselves as poor instruments in the hands of God.

Let us pray for those who are committed to the common good of the society.

DAY 6: **Entrusting ourselves to the Lord's care**

Good Jesus, for I do want to dedicate myself earnestly to your dear creatures, doing it all for love of you. And while I shall be concerned with the good of others, you must know, my dear Spouse, that I entrust the care of myself entirely to you. See to my needs yourself, attend to my necessities and assist me; be always at my side, uproot all vices from my heart, planting virtues instead; make me a saint, for I surrender myself totally to you; nor do I think I belong to myself any longer, but wholly to you (Scr III, 699).

- ✓ During this day, may our Saints Bartolomea & Vincenza help us to renew our commitment to charity without limits, confident that God cares for us.

Let us pray for the Pope, the bishops, the priests, the consecrated men and women serving in the Vineyard of the Lord.