



## Novena of Prayer For Oblate Vocations

The Missionary Oblates invite you from May 21st - 29th to pray for vocations to the Oblate Call and Mission. Especially we ask you to pray that young men will respond to God's invitation to become Oblate priests and brothers. Each day we invite you to say the Novena Prayer and to meditate on the theme for the day. At the end of your short meditation we ask that you entrust this intention to Mary Immaculate, patroness of the Oblate Family, by praying the Hail Mary. Close to Jesus, close to Mary, we pray for the birth of new vocations.

*Merciful Father,*

*You Called St Eugene de Mazenod to send forth missionaries to proclaim and live the Gospel among the poor.*

*Increase our love, we pray, for those who are most abandoned.*

*Extend your loving Call to many young people in our community and grant them the desire to give of themselves,*

*their lives, and their talents to the service of Jesus Christ and the Church.*

*May more men of our area go forth as Brothers and Priests of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate to serve those who are in need.*

*This we ask through Christ our Lord. AMEN.*

Saint Eugene de Mazenod *Pray for us*

Blessed Joseph Gerard *Pray for us*

Blessed Józef Cebula *Pray for us*

Mary Immaculate *Pray for us*



Oblate  
Vocations

## 21st May – Feast of Saint Eugene De Mazenod, OMI (1782-1861) - Co-Operating in The Saviour's Work

**Scripture:** When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. [Matthew 9:36]

**Oblate Call:** The Call of Jesus Christ, heard within the Church through people's need for salvation, draws us together as Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate.

**Reflection:** The cross of Christ reveals to us the unceasing love of God for us, whose confidence in humanity never runs out. What burdens must I let go of today so that I can be more open to this love made manifest on the cross.?

## 22nd May - Attentive to the Poor

**Scripture:** You cheated the workers who worked in your fields; the wages you held back cry out to heaven. [James 5:4]

**Oblate Call:** Our first priority in mission is to be attentive to those on the margins of society and to those for whom the Church is most distant.

**Reflection:** 'Who are you in the eyes of the world?... Come and discover who you are in the eyes of God.' (St Eugene) We will challenge situations that undermine the dignity of the human person and allow injustice to flourish. How do I see myself as precious in God's eyes? In what ways do I attend to the needs of the poor and to those who feel excluded?

## 23rd May - Through Apostolic Community

**Scripture:** They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer... the believers were together and held everything in common. (Acts2:42,44)

**Oblate Call:** The community of the Apostles with Jesus is the model of Oblate Call. St. Eugene left as a final bequest to his "children" this expression of his heart: "Among yourselves, charity, charity, charity, and outside – zeal for the salvation of souls."

**Reflection:** There is no communion among people unless there is first a personal communion with Christ, source of our immense hope. I commit myself to holding the 'urgent' at bay for a moment this day so I can make room for what is truly 'necessary'.

## 24th May - Called to Evangelize

**Scripture:** Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” [Matt 28: 19-20]

**Oblate Call:** We preach the Gospel among people who have not yet received it and help them to see their own values in its light. Where the Church is already established our commitment is to those groups it touches least.

**Reflection:** Our evangelizing flows from all that we are, and what we say and do. Evangelization is as much a question of being the ‘Good News’ as of speaking the ‘Good News’. To whom I am I ‘Good News’ for this day?

## 25th May - Sharing our gifts together as an Oblate Family

**Scripture:** Though there are many of us, we form a single body because we all have a share in this one bread. [I Corinthians 10:16-17]

**Oblate Call:** Many people recognize that they are Called to share in the Oblate charism according to their state of Call, and to live it in ways that vary according to milieu and cultures.

**Reflection:** I am called to be part of the Oblate family. How will I live the motto of St. Eugene, “God has sent me to bring the good news to the poor”,

## 26th May - In communion with the Church

**Scripture:** Go and sell everything you own..., then come, follow me. [Mark10:21]

**Oblate Call:** We must lead people to act like human beings first of all, and then like Christians, and finally, we must help them to become saints.

**Reflection:** As Oblates guided by the Spirit, mindful of both goodness and sin within us and in our world, we proclaim that God still believes in humanity. What area in my life do I need healing ? For what shall I give joy to God?

## 27th May – Blessed Józef Cebula OMI (1902-1941)

### - Witnessing to Hope

**Scripture:** I tell you solemnly there is no one who has left house, brothers, sisters, father or mother, children or land for my sake and for the sake of the gospel who will not be repaid a hundred times over. [Mark 10:29-30]

**Oblate Call:** We are sustained by the unreserved gift we make of ourselves in our oblation (commitment to God), an offering constantly renewed by the challenges of our mission.

**Reflection:** Together with all God's people, we want to be people of hope, reflecting the attitude of a God who never abandons his people. How can I reflect hope to all those I meet this day?

## 28th May - Mary Immaculate

**Scripture:** Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word." (Luke 1:38)

**Oblate Call:** Open to the Spirit, Mary consecrated herself totally to the person and work of the Saviour. She received Christ in order to share him with the world.

**Reflection:** Mary Immaculate constantly invites us to deepen our personal intimacy with Jesus. She is our model, her faith and courage that marked her call and her commitment to the values of the Kingdom. To what is God calling me to say "yes" to?

## 29th May – Blessed Joseph Gerard OMI (1831-1914)

### - The Oblate Ideal

**Scripture:** 'Courage,' they said 'get up: he is Calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' [Mark 10:51]

**Oblate Call:** Growing in faith, hope and love, we commit ourselves to be a leaven of the Beatitudes at the heart of the world.

**Reflection:** 'An Oblate of Mary Immaculate wants to see everything with his eyes, know with his heart, give joy to everyone by his presence, be all things to all people to win them over to Jesus Christ.' (Blessed Joseph Gerard) I may meet many people this day; how shall I see them through the eyes of the Christ?

For more information on the Oblate way of life please speak to any of your local Oblate brothers or priests. Alternatively email [info@oblatevocations.org](mailto:info@oblatevocations.org) or visit: [www.oblatevocations.org](http://www.oblatevocations.org)