

NOVENA OF SURRENDER TO THE WILL OF GOD

Father Don Dolindo Ruotolo † 1882-1970

Day 1 - Why do you confuse yourselves by worrying? Leave the care of your affairs to me and everything will be peaceful. I say to you in truth that every act of true, blind, complete surrender to me produces the effect that you desire and resolves all difficult situations.

(Repeat the "O Jesus" prayer 10 times.) **O Jesus, I surrender myself to you. Take care of everything!**
Mother, I am yours now and forever. Through you and with you, I always want to belong completely to Jesus.

Day 2 - Surrender to me does not mean to fret, to be upset, or to lose hope, nor does it mean offering to me a worried prayer asking me to follow you and change your worry into prayer. It is against this surrender, deeply against it, to worry, to be nervous and to desire to think about the consequences of anything. It is like the confusion that children feel when they ask their mother to see to their needs, and then try to take care of those needs for themselves so that their childlike efforts get in their mother's way. Surrender means to placidly close the eyes of the soul, to turn away from thoughts of tribulation and to put yourself in my care,

(Repeat the "O Jesus" prayer 10 times.) **O Jesus, I surrender myself to you. Take care of everything!**
Mother, I am yours now and forever. Through you and with you, I always want to belong completely to Jesus.

Day 3 - How many things I do when the soul, in so much spiritual and material need turns to me, looks at me and says to me; "You take care of it," then close its eyes and rests. In pain you pray for me to act, but that I act in the way you want. You do not turn to me, instead, you want me to adapt to your ideas. You are not sick people who ask the doctor to cure you, but rather sick people who tell the doctor how to. So, do not act this way, but pray as I taught you in the Our Father: "Hallowed be thy Name", that is, be glorified in my need. "Thy kingdom come", that is, let all that is in us and in the world be in accord with your kingdom. "Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven", that is, in our need, decide as you see fit for our temporal and eternal life. If you say to me truly: "Thy will be done" which is the same as saying: "You take care of it" I will intervene with all my omnipotence, and I will resolve the most difficult situations.

(Repeat the "O Jesus" prayer 10 times.) **O Jesus, I surrender myself to you. Take care of everything!**
Mother, I am yours now and forever. Through you and with you, I always want to belong completely to Jesus.

Day 4 - You see evil growing instead of weakening? Do not worry. Close your eyes and say to me with faith: "Thy will be done. You take care of it." I say to you that I will take care of it, and that I will intervene as does a doctor and I will accomplish miracles when they are needed. Do you see that the sick person is getting worse? Do not be upset, but close your eyes and say, "You take care of it." I say to you that I will take care of it, and that there is no medicine more powerful than my loving intervention. By my love, I promise this to you.

(Repeat the "O Jesus" prayer 10 times.) **O Jesus, I surrender myself to you. Take care of everything!**
Mother, I am yours now and forever. Through you and with you, I always want to belong completely to Jesus.

Day 5 - And when I must lead you on a path different from the one you see, I will prepare you; I will carry you in my arms; I will let you find yourself, like children who have fallen asleep in their mother's arms, on the other bank of the river. What troubles you and hurts you immensely are your reason, your thoughts and worry, and your desire at all costs to deal with what afflicts you.

(Repeat the "O Jesus" prayer 10 times.) **O Jesus, I surrender myself to you. Take care of everything!**
Mother, I am yours now and forever. Through you and with you, I always want to belong completely to Jesus.

Day 6 - You are sleepless; you want to judge everything, direct everything and see to everything and you surrender to human strength, or worse - to men themselves, trusting in their intervention, - this is what hinders my words and my views. O, how much I wish from you this surrender, to help you and how I suffer when I see you so agitated! Satan tries to do exactly this: to agitate you and to remove you from my protection and to throw you into the jaws of human initiative. So, trust only in me, rest in me, surrender to me in everything.

(Repeat the "O Jesus" prayer 10 times.) **O Jesus, I surrender myself to you. Take care of everything!**
Mother, I am yours now and forever. Through you and with you, I always want to belong completely to Jesus.

Day 7 - I perform miracles in proportion to your full surrender to me and to your not thinking of yourselves. I sow treasure troves of graces when you are in the deepest poverty. No person of reason, no thinker, has ever performed miracles, not even among the saints. He does divine works whosoever surrenders to God. So, don't think about it anymore, because your mind is acute and for you it is very hard to see evil and to trust in me and to not think of yourself. Do this for all your needs, do this all of you and you will see great continual silent miracles. I will take care of things, I promise this to you.

(Repeat the "O Jesus" prayer 10 times.) **O Jesus, I surrender myself to you. Take care of everything! Mother, I am yours now and forever. Through you and with you, I always want to belong completely to Jesus.**

Day 8 - Close your eyes and let yourself be carried away on the flowing current of my grace; close your eyes and do not think of the present, turning your thoughts away from the future just as you would from temptation. Repose in me, believing in my goodness, and I promise you by my love that if you say "You take care of it," I will take care of it all; I will console you, liberate you and guide you.

(Repeat the "O Jesus" prayer 10 times.) **O Jesus, I surrender myself to you. Take care of everything! Mother, I am yours now and forever. Through you and with you, I always want to belong completely to Jesus.**

Day 9 - Pray always in readiness to surrender, and you will receive from it great peace and great rewards, even when I confer on you the grace of immolation, of repentance and of love. Then what does suffering matter? It seems impossible to you? Close your eyes and say with all your soul, "Jesus, you take care of it." Do not be afraid, I will take care of things and you will bless my name by humbling yourself. A thousand prayers cannot equal one single act of surrender, remember this well. There is no novena more effective than this:

(Repeat the "O Jesus" prayer 10 times.) **O Jesus, I surrender myself to you. Take care of everything! Mother, I am yours now and forever. Through you and with you, I always want to belong completely to Jesus.**

Father Don Dolindo Ruotolo was a Neapolitan priest (1882-1970), stigmatized miracle worker and "mouthpiece of the Holy Spirit". Father Ruotolo had extraordinary communications with Jesus throughout his heroic life, a life that was totally devoted to God and Holy Mother Mary. He referred to himself as "the Madonna's little old man" and the Rosary was his constant companion. As you can see from this novena much of what our Lord wants flies in the face of normal human inclination and reason. We can only rise to this level of thinking through the grace of God and the help of the Holy Spirit. We must let go of our problems, stop worrying and trying to resolve them ourselves. We must believe, trust and allow our Lord to rescue us from ourselves and supply our wants, needs and resolve our problems as only He can. Jesus, You take care of it, should be the first words that come to mind and flows from our lips. After all, we have tried to do things our way and look where it has got us. Just do as the prayer says, open our hearts and minds in love and close our eyes in trust and ask Jesus to take care of it. He will.

On November 19, 1970 Don Dolindo Ruotolo died at the age of 88. Padre Pio once said of this priest from Naples, Italy, the whole of paradise is in your soul. His name "Dolindo" means "Pain" and his life was rich with this pain. As a child, a teenager, a seminarian and a priest, he experienced humiliation, which was the realization of the prophetic words of a bishop who said You will be a martyr, but in your heart, not with your blood. In his profound humility, he was able to hear the words of God. Even with his hidden life he was one of the greatest prophets of the last century. He wrote to Bishop Hnilica in 1965 that a new John will rise out of Poland with heroic steps to break the chains beyond the boundaries imposed by the communist tyranny. On this postcard, he wrote words of consolation for Poland and all the countries suffering under the communist regime. This prophecy was realized in the papacy of John Paul II. In his tremendous suffering, Dolindo became more and more a child who lived his self-offering to the Divine Father. I am totally poor, a poor nothing. My strength is my prayer, my leader is the will of God which I let take me by the hand. My security over the uneven path is the heavenly mother Mary. One of the treasures from the words which Jesus spoke to Dolindo was the teaching about total abandonment to God. In this novena, Jesus is talking to Don Dolindo and also to you.