

Hope in Hard Times: A Novena with Dorothy Day  
DAY 5, The Marginalized



Photo: Central Park, NYC, 4/17/2020

The Dorothy Day Guild asks its members and others to “spiritually gather” (in the words of Pope Francis) to pray a novena for solidarity and compassion in this challenging time. All are affected, but the devastation of this pandemic is falling most heavily on those already at the margins of our society. We pray for the most vulnerable among us — the poor, the homeless, the imprisoned, the undocumented, the discriminated against — all too easily forgotten. May God grant us the grace of hearts that yearn, and hands that work for justice.

“What we would like to do is change the world—make it a little simpler for people to feed, clothe, and shelter themselves as God intended them to do. And, by fighting for better conditions, by crying out unceasingly for the rights of the workers, the poor, of the destitute—the rights of the worthy and the unworthy poor, in other words—we can, to a certain extent, change the world; we can work for the oasis, the little cell of joy and peace in a harried world. We can throw our pebble in the pond and be confident that its ever widening circle will reach around the world. We repeat, there is nothing we can do but love, and, dear God, please enlarge our hearts to love each other, to love our neighbor, to love our enemy as our friend.”

– Dorothy Day, *The Catholic Worker*, 1946

Let us pray...Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be OR the Holy Rosary

Prayer for the Canonization of Servant of God Dorothy Day (1897 – 1980)

God our Father,

Your servant Dorothy Day exemplified  
the Catholic faith by her life  
of prayer, voluntary poverty,  
works of mercy, and  
witness to the justice and peace  
of the Gospel of Jesus.

May her life inspire your people  
to turn to Christ as their Savior,  
to see His face in the world's poor, and  
to raise their voices for the justice  
of God's kingdom.

I pray that her holiness may be recognized by your Church

And that you grant the following favor that I humbly ask through her intercession:  
(here mention your request)

I ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.