

**Novena for Peace - Day One**  
***For an End to the Injustice of Poverty***  
St. Benedict and St. Leo's Faith Communities

**OPENING SONG:** *The Cry of the Poor*

**R: The Lord hears the cry of the poor. Blessed be the Lord.**

1. I will bless the Lord at all times, with praise ever in my mouth.  
Let my soul glory in the Lord, who will hear the cry of the poor. **R.**

2. Let the lowly hear and be glad: the Lord listens to their pleas;  
and to hearts broken God is near, who will hear the cry of the poor. **R.**

3. Every spirit crushed God will save; will be ransom for their lives;  
Will be safe shelter for their fears, and will hear the cry of the poor. **R.**

**READING** (*from Blessed Frederic Ozanam, Founder of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul*)

**PSALM 67**

O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help.

Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice.  
With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth.

The earth has yielded its fruit for God, our God, has blessed us.  
May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him.

**READING** (*from Pope Francis, from Evangelii Gaudium, #48, 53-54*)

**REFLECTION**

**-- SILENT PRAYER TIME --**

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

*Please respond, "...hear our prayer."*

**MAGNIFICAT:**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;  
for He has looked with favor on His lowly servant.  
From this day all generations shall call me blessed.  
The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is His Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear Him in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of His arm,  
He has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich He has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of His servant Israel  
for He has remembered His promise of mercy,  
the promise He made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever.

**OUR FATHER, HAIL MARY, GLORY BE****PRAYER TO OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP:**

Mother of Perpetual Help, refuge of sinners and friend of the poor,  
today we face so many difficulties. Help us to reach out and help those in need.  
Help us understand that our lives belong to others as much as they belong to us.  
Mary, Model of Christian love, we know we cannot heal every ill or solve every  
problem. But with God's grace, we intend to do what we can. May we be true  
witnesses to the world that love for one another really matters. May our daily  
actions proclaim how fully our lives are modeled after yours, our Mother of  
Perpetual Help.

**CLOSING PRAYER****WORK OF MERCY:**

*"If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well," but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead." James, 2:16-17*

Today's take home challenge is to share your generosity with those in need.  
Perhaps you can bring in some donations for Tigers Den Food Pantry (their needs for this month of October are sugar, canned soups, and shampoo) or drop off gently used clothing in the St. Vincent de Paul clothing bin.