

As wildfires and forest fires affect communities across the Diocese of Pueblo - from southern Colorado to the mountain valleys, rural communities, and the Western Slope - we begin this novena with hearts turned to God, asking for rain, protection, and renewed trust in His providence.

Bishop Berg recently spoke with Bishop David Ricken of the Diocese of Green Bay, Wisconsin, a former priest of the Diocese of Pueblo and the bishop who formally approved the apparitions of Our Lady of Champion.

Bishop Ricken assured our diocese of his prayers as we call upon the intercession of the Blessed Mother and St. Therese, patroness of our diocese.

During the Peshtigo Fire of 1871 in northeastern Wisconsin, in what is now the Diocese of Green Bay, the faithful gathered at the chapel of Our Lady of Champion and prayed through the night. As we begin this novena, we turn to Mary and St. Therese, asking their intercession for rain, safety, and protection for our firefighters, first responders, families, homes, livestock, land, and all who are in danger from wildfires and forest fires.

Opening Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

St. Therese of the Child Jesus, teach us to trust God with childlike confidence in this time of fire, fear, loss, and uncertainty. May your shower of roses bring rain to satisfy our parched earth.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of the Church and our mother, shelter the people of Colorado under your mantle of care. Intercede for firefighters, first responders, families, the elderly, the sick, and all who have been displaced.

Ask your Son to protect lives, calm the winds, send needed rain, and bring comfort, courage, and peace.

Help us to make good come from this suffering, to love one another generously, and to remain united in hope.

Amen.



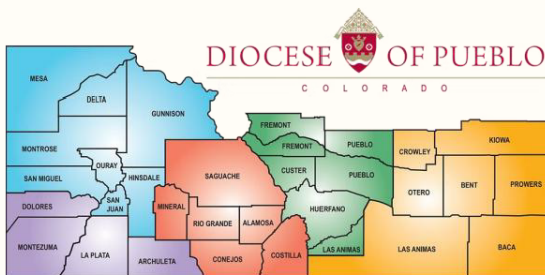
DIocese of Pueblo

Novena to St. Therese & Our Lady

for the
Wildfires and Forest Fires in the
Diocese of Pueblo

Please remember in your prayers our brothers and sisters in the counties of the Diocese:

Alamosa
Archuleta
Baca
Bent
Conejos
Costilla
Crowley
Custer
Delta
Dolores
Fremont
Gunnison
Hinsdale
Huerfano
Kiowa
La Plata
Las Animas
Mesa
Mineral
Montezuma
Montrose
Otero
Ouray
Prowers
Pueblo
Rio Grande
Saguache
San Juan
San Miguel



Daily Prayer

Day 1

St. Therese, teach us to trust God in the midst of danger. Our Lady of Champion, pray for Colorado. Protect homes, wildlife, farms, and forests from the wildfires and forest fires. Bring strength to those fighting the flames and wisdom to those making decisions. Amen.

Day 2

St. Therese, the Little Flower, you offered God small acts of love with great trust; pray that we may do the same now. Our Lady, Mother of Mercy, console families who have lost property and security. Shield them from despair and fill them with peace beyond all understanding. Amen.

Day 3

St. Therese, Patroness of Missionaries, intercede for firefighters and emergency workers. Our Lady, Mother of Divine Grace, be near every person who enters danger to save others. Guard them from harm, exhaustion, smoke, and injury. Amen.

Day 4

St. Therese of the Child Jesus, help us to pray with simplicity. Our Lady of Guadalupe, hear this plea for rain, for containment, and for relief. Let these wildfires and forest fires be restrained and the suffering of the land be lessened. Amen.

Day 5

St. Therese, Doctor of the Church, teach us to offer up hardship in love for the good of others. Our Lady, Mother of Mercy, obtain grace for all who are suffering because of the wildfires and forest fires. Turn fear into trust, and loss into deeper compassion and faith. Amen.

Day 6

St. Therese of the Holy Face of Jesus, obtain healing for those suffering from smoke inhalation, burns, trauma, and anxiety. Our Lady of Guadalupe, Source of Hope and Healing, pray for all the wounded. Bring comfort to children, the elderly, and those who feel overwhelmed. Amen.

Day 7

St. Therese, Missionary to the Missions, help us pray for willing hearts, generosity, and unity. Our Lady, Mother of the Eucharist, make our communities one body in Christ, where "if one member suffers, all suffer together." Move us to help one another with practical love, charity, and solidarity. Amen.

Day 8

St. Therese of the Little Way, you trusted God with heroic faith; pray for all who cannot see how this can be resolved. Our Lady of Guadalupe, cover the Diocese of Pueblo with your maternal protection. Bring safety to shelters, neighborhoods, churches, and evacuation centers. Amen.

Day 9

St. Therese, may this novena bear fruit in our hearts and inspire us to act in charity. Our Lady, Virgin of Guadalupe, thank you for your care and intercession. We entrust Colorado to your Son through your motherly heart, asking for peace, restoration, and renewed hope. Amen.

Closing Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, through the prayers of St. Therese and Our Blessed Mother, protect Colorado from further harm from wildfires and forest fires.

Bless all who suffer, guide all who respond, and restore what has been damaged. May this time of trial deepen faith, increase charity, and lead many hearts closer to You. Amen.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

St. Therese, pray for us.

Our Lady of Champion, pray for us.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us.