

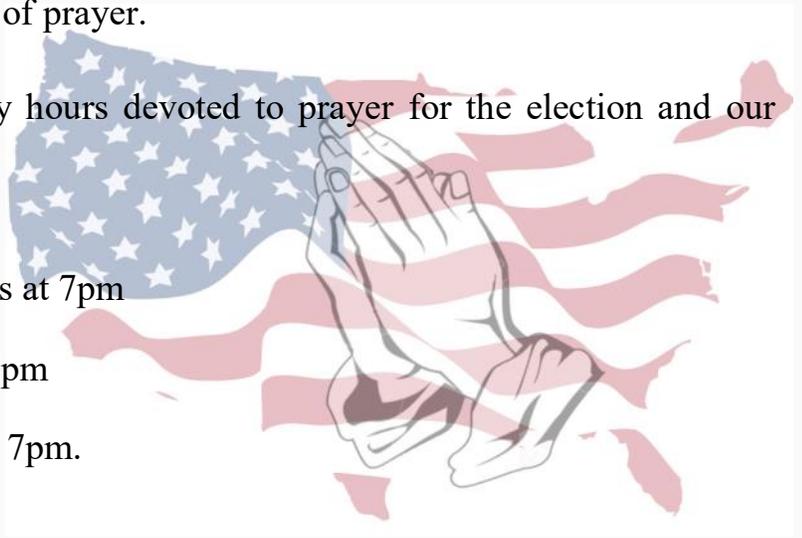
Prayer for Elections – Holy Hours

As the national election is approaching, this may be a time to consider certain prayers and sacrifices to help our country and for the right officials to be elected at the national, as well as state and local levels. In many ways there are great concerns facing our nation and society.

We have been through a lot these last several months, with the health concerns and other uncertainties. I know, and can imagine that so many of you, if not all, are already praying for the well-being of families and society. The power of prayer, and recognizing our need and dependence on God signifies the importance of prayer.

In this effort, my plan is to have three holy hours devoted to prayer for the election and our nation:

- Thursday, September 17th at St. Francis at 7pm
- Wednesday, October 7th at OLMC at 7pm
- Sunday, November 1st at St. Francis at 7pm.



The holy hours will include a reflection by me, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, rosary, time for quiet prayer, and benediction. You may consider coming if it works into your schedule, and/or incorporating other prayers during this time before the election.

Similar to Lent, giving up something for a period of time as a sacrifice/fasting could be considered as well to seek God's guidance, direction, and help. Even if it is something small, whether in prayer and/or sacrifice, God, I believe, will take what we can offer and do great things with it. As reflected in scripture, Jesus took just five loaves and two fish and fed thousands. If we offer our five loaves and two fish, so to speak, it will bear much fruit for our nation.

May our prayer and sacrifices/fasting help our country in the elections and in the days ahead.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel pray for us!

St. Francis of Assisi pray for us!