



**NOVENA  
OF  
ST. JOSEPH ALLAMANO**



**ROMA**

## NOVENA OF ST. JOSEPH ALLAMANO



### 1st Day: Communion with God

**Invitatory:** Let us celebrate and thank the Lord, for the gift given to the Church and the world, of Saint Joseph Allamano, our Founder, Father and Teacher, who even now says to us, "I bless you as you were present to me, desiring to infuse you with the blessing of our Consolata as much as a father desires you in Dom-

ino."

#### 2. **Food for thought**

*Our superiors wrote to us, "We would like to offer you the opportunity to experience a privileged time to be in contact with the Founder as true daughters and sons. We are certain that the Founder is alive, present among us, in our history, in the mission, and continues to give us his spirit if we remain in communion with him.*

*We wish to continue to pray to him that he may transmit to us his spirit, his zeal, so that from the source of his teaching and example may continue to spring sisters and brothers, capable of self-giving to God and to every person."*

And we want, in this novena, to commemorate the miracle attributed to his intercession, so that we may recognize in it "the finger of God" that shows us how our Blessed Founder is now ready to be glorified among the Saints of Heaven.

We recall that on precisely Feb. 7, 1996, the first day of the Allamano novena, Sorino Yanomami was attacked by the jaguar, in the Brazilian Amazon rainforest and receiving initial care from Sister Felicita Muthoni, who recounts, "I saw Sorino on the ground, in a bloodbath, I was petrified, frozen and trembling, not knowing what to do. I didn't even know if he was alive.

"Oh my God, today is February 7, today we begin the novena of our Founder. I said: Oh, Allamano! You founded your missionaries for non-Christians. But what is this? Now you are going to do something, if you have really received this gift. For this people, I will ask one thing of you: That Sorino may heal completely, so that he can hunt, cultivate, fish, etc. If not, take it already, but I know it means that I will also die. So, prepare me for this death!"

#### **Brief pause for silence**

#### 3. **Prayer**

We thank you, Lord, source of all good for having given to the Church and to the world **Saint Joseph Allamano**

Rector of the Consolata Shrine he devoted himself to the service of your people with humility and wisdom.

He thus became the father and guide of families consecrated to the Mission, so that, in the name of the Virgin Mary, they may give witness throughout the world to Jesus, the Saviour.

Grant us, oh Lord, that we may follow his example of daily holiness, enjoy the benefit of his intercession and cooperate with zeal in the proclamation of the Gospel, so that all may have the fullness of life. Amen.

#### 4. **Blessing and dismissal**

#### 5. **Hymn to the Founder (or missionary)**

*Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be  
St. Joseph Allamano: Pray for us  
Our Lady Consolata: Pray for us.*

## 9th Day: Eyes focussed towards heaven



**Invitatory:** Let us celebrate and thank the Lord, for the gift given to the Church and the world, of Saint Joseph Allamano, our Founder, Father and Teacher, who even now says to us, "I bless you as you were present to me, desiring to infuse you with the blessing of our Consolata as much as a father desires you in Domino."

### 2. **Food for thought**

*"We keep our eyes turned toward Heaven... which gives explanation of everything... our place is not here, not*

*even in Africa; but in Heaven. Oh! the Paradise of a missionary! I incite you to Paradise, but I want you to go there at the age of ninety." However, to Paradise you don't go in a carriage... you have to earn it, you have to sanctify yourself."*

Sister Lisadele writes: "On the night of February 17, 1996, seeing the seriousness of Mr. Sorino's health condition, I decided to baptize him. In great secrecy, I took a glass of water and baptized him, giving him the name of Joseph, my father... He was breathing hard, continued throughout the night. In the morning, when the sister came, I told her, "He is not dead, but if he should die, know that he is already baptized." I was to return the next night; when I arrived, I was stunned: I saw him sitting, talking with the sisters, the doctors.... I saw him having dinner, then the nun who had brought me said, "Leave him there, he doesn't need anything else."

It began, from that day, strengthened by the grace of the sacrament of Baptism, "the path of salvation" of Sorino Yanomami who, having escaped death, lovingly cared for and nursed in his harsh living environment, healed completely, so that he could hunt, cultivate, fish," as Sister Felicita had asked her blessed Founder, amid tears, after Sorino left for the city hospital:

I asked for water; then I realized that his scalp was sticking out and Sorino was also bleeding a lot; there was a lot of sand, dirt, and part of his brain had leaked out. I picked up the scalp and put it back, but he was still bleeding; he was alive, but he wasn't talking."

### *Short pause of silence*

### 3. **Prayer**

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he devoted himself to the service of your people with humility and wisdom.

He thus became the father and guide of families consecrated to the Mission, so that, in the name of the Virgin Mary, they may give witness throughout the world to Jesus, the Saviour.

Grant us, oh Lord,

that we may follow his example of daily holiness, enjoy the benefit of his intercession

and cooperate with zeal in the proclamation of the Gospel,

so that all may have the fullness of life.

Amen.

### 4. **Blessing and dismissal**

### 5. **Hymn to the Founder (or missionary)**

*Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be*

*St. Joseph Allamano: Pray for us*

*Our Lady Consolata: Pray for us.*

## 2nd Day: Union of mind and heart



**Invitatory:** Let us celebrate and thank the Lord, for the gift given to the Church and the world, of Saint Joseph Allamano, our Founder, Father and Teacher, who even now says to us, "I bless you as you were present to me, desiring to infuse you with the blessing of our Consolata as much as a father desires you in Domino."

### 2. *Food for thought*

*"Another character of mission work is concord. Union of mind and heart while it makes light of toil, makes*

*strength and achieves victory. Woe to the missionary who is tenacious of his own judgment and does not know how to give up his own views in order to accept cordially those of the majority of his companions and, more so, those of his superiors."*

Given the extremely dangerous situation, Sister Felicita requests that Sorino be transported to the hospital in the capital, Boa Vista. She is assured a seat on the small plane serving the vast indigenous area, although she will have to wait a while because the calls for help are numerous.

But violent is the reaction of Sorino's companions, who oppose, with threats, the nun's request; for them it is indeed inconceivable that a Yanomami may die outside his village, his spirit now being ready to be received by the other spirits of the forest. They shout, "No! Sorino will stay here! The shaman has already said that when the sun sets, he will enter the spirit house, he will ascend on high." Eventually, they give in to the nun, but with a terrible threat: if their comrade should die in the city, far from the forest and among 'the whites,' they will kill, with their arrows, the missionaries present at Catrimani!

## *Brief pause for silence*

### 3. *Prayer*

We thank you, Lord, source of all good for having given to the Church and to the world

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he devoted himself to the service of your people with humility and wisdom.

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Grant us, oh Lord,

that we may follow his example of daily holiness, enjoy the benefit of his intercession and cooperate with zeal in the proclamation of the Gospel,

so that all may have the fullness of life.

Amen.

### 4. *Blessing and dismissal*

### 5. *Hymn to the Founder (or missionary)*

*Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be*

*St. Joseph Allamano: Pray for us*

*Our Lady Consolata: Pray for us.*

## 8th Day: Be united with God



1. **Invitatory:** Let us celebrate and thank the Lord, for the gift given to the Church and the world, of Saint Joseph Allamano, our Founder, Father and Teacher, who even now says to us, "I bless you as you were present to me, desiring to infuse you with the blessing of our Consolata as much as a father desires you in Domino."

2. **Food for thought**  
"Paul called the time of the Gospel a "favourable time," a "time of health," that is, worthy of being accepted with gratitude and love. The Church applies these words of Paul to Lent and re-

peats them to us often. Indeed, the time of Lent is indeed acceptable. In it the Lord willingly accepts what we do, hears our pleas, more than in other times. So we need to shake it off, not let it pass in vain. It is not so much the quantity that does, but the intensity. We need to be more united with God and not go hours at a time without thinking about Jesus. It's all there! The same words we can apply to you, to the time you spend preparing for the mission. We need to correspond in this time of Lent, which is an opportune time; to animate ourselves, not to be in the number of those who go on like this, like this."

Interesting is the testimony of Dr. Roberta Barbaro (who has followed Sorino's story with much passion and expertise: "On March 4, 2019 (thus, a full 23 years after the jaguar assault!) I went to the Catrimani mission and met with Mr. Sorino Yanomami, having the opportunity to observe him in his daily life. Sorino gave a detailed account of the incident that occurred in 1996. He reported that he leads a normal life, continuing his hunting and fishing activities, without any problems. He also reported that he never took the anti-myocomial therapy, prescribed at discharge, and never experienced seizures or other neurological symptoms.

Sorino's wife and other community members confirmed complete restitutio ad integrum and the absence of post-traumatic behavioral changes."

### *Short pause for silence*

### 3. **Prayer**

We thank you, Lord, source of all good for having given to the Church and to the world

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Grant us, oh Lord, that we may follow his example of daily holiness, enjoy the benefit of his intercession and cooperate with zeal in the proclamation of the Gospel, so that all may have the fullness of life. Amen.

### *Blessing and dismissal*

### *Singing to the Founder (or missionary)*

*Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be  
St. Joseph Allamano: Pray for us  
Our Lady Consolata: Pray for us.*

### 3rd Day: Work and prayer



**Invitatory:** Let us celebrate and thank the Lord, for the gift given to the Church and the world, of Saint Joseph Allamano, our Founder, Father and Teacher, who even now says to us, "I bless you as you were present to me, desiring to infuse you with the blessing of our Consolata as much as a father desires you in Domino."

#### 2. **Food for thought**

*"If you, as Missionaries must work much, much more you must pray. You do more in half an hour after praying than with a day's work without prayer. A religious who does not pray night and day has no spirit, and instead of drawing blessings on the Community, it drives them away. One stands before God, and enjoys standing before Him, and is at peace, and tranquillity. The soul deals with God as with a father and a mother. A fruit is eaten, tasted, satiates the soul; so, these gifts fill the soul and contain in them a suavity, a sweetness: it seems like eating an apple or a beautiful bunch of grapes."*

Around 2 p.m., the plane finally arrives, where Sorino, despite resistance and threats from those present, is boarded. At the Boa Vista airport, he is met by the missionary sisters, who immediately transport him to the General Hospital. One of the doctors, present recalls, "I was in the emergency room of the hospital and an indigenous man arrived: he had had an accident with a jaguar, which had attacked him and torn off almost half of his head.

He had arrived in terrible condition, because he had come from the distant indigenous area, with leaves, dust, dirt, but he was still alive. We, therefore, went to the operating room, did a surgical cleaning and removed the necrotic tissue. His situation was very serious and we didn't believe much in healing, because the way it was infected, putrid and in a 'noble' place like the brain, it would cause encephalitis and meningitis. So, we really didn't have much hope, but he had arrived alive and we had to treat him, doing everything we could."

### Short pause for silence

#### 3. **Prayer**

We thank you, Lord, source of all good for having given to the Church and to the world

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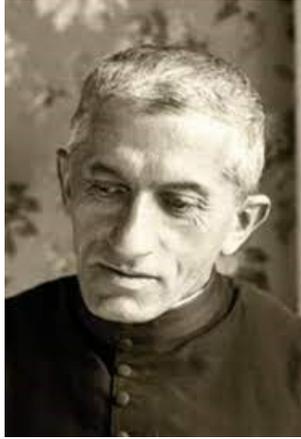
Grant us, oh Lord, that we may follow his example of daily holiness, enjoy the benefit of his intercession and cooperate with zeal in the proclamation of the Gospel, so that all may have the fullness of life. Amen.

#### 4. **Blessing and dismissal**

#### 5. **Hymn to the Founder (or missionary)**

*Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be  
St. Joseph Allamano: Pray for us  
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## 7th Day: Be hopeful



1. **Invitatory:** Let us celebrate and thank the Lord, for the gift given to the Church and the world, of Saint Joseph Allamano, our Founder, Father and Teacher, who even now says to us, "I bless you as you were present to me, desiring to infuse you with the blessing of our Consolata as much as a father desires you in Domino."

2. **Food for thought**

*"I want to tell you that one must live by hope. One often believes that faith is necessary and so is charity, but it is not always believed*

*that hope is also necessary. Some people imagine that they always have to live with fear, some people imagine that they have too much hope. You see: hope is immediately after faith, it is necessary that like this, indeed, I would say, that even more... In religious perfection hope has the greatest part; when hope is more robust, then it is called confidence."*

Sorino slowly resumed, his normal life of "inhabitant of the forest" in his activities of hunter, fisherman, farmer, although weaker due to the aches and pains of advancing age, anemias caused by malaria (endemic in those places) and some isolated episodes of crisis, or malaise, punctually reported in the mission diaries... while his health condition, beyond all expectations, remained good and without any negative consequences of the accident.

He, himself, describes himself as follows, in his deposition at the Diocesan Trial: "When I came back from the hospital, I used to do like other Yanomami: I used to work, I used to cultivate the fields, only now I can't work anymore, because I am old. I only work early in the morning, and when the sun gets high, I go home. But I feel good."

## Brief pause for silence

### 3. **Prayer**

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**Saint Joseph Allamano**

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He thus became the father and guide of families consecrated to the Mission, so that, in the name of the Virgin Mary, they may give witness throughout the world to Jesus, the Saviour.

Grant us, oh Lord, that we may follow his example of daily holiness, enjoy the benefit of his intercession and cooperate with zeal in the proclamation of the Gospel, so that all may have the fullness of life. Amen.

4. **Blessing and dismissal**

5. **Hymn to the Founder (or missionary)**

*Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be*

*St. Joseph Allamano: Pray for us*

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## 4th Day: Seeing the hand of God



1. **Invitatory:** Let us celebrate and thank the Lord, for the gift given to the Church and the world, of Saint Joseph Allamano, our Founder, Father and Teacher, who even now says to us, "I bless you as you were present to me, desiring to infuse you with the blessing of our Consolata as much as a father desires you in Domino."

2. **Food for thought**

*If the Lord blessed many works to which I placed my hand, to arouse admiration at times, my secret was to seek God alone and his holy will, manifested to me by my superiors. This was and is my consolation in life, and will be my confidence at the tribunal of God. I do not think it prideful to propose myself as your example and model in the virtue of obedience. Believe me: the man who obeys will sing victory."*

On Sorino's condition in the days following the first surgery, here is the invaluable testimony of Sr. Florença Lindey, a religious who had worked at Catrimani and knew Sorino and his family well: "When the doctors heard that I had arrived, they called me to go to the hospital. Sorino had been admitted to the intensive care unit, not speaking or eating. When I entered the room, he was surprised to see me, wanted to hug me and talk. After a few days, he was discharged from the ICU and transferred to the infirmary. He was getting better and better, especially in mood, when someone he knew was with him.

At one point in the hospitalization, a second surgery had to be performed, but he was against it. It was not easy to convince him; he was very determined; he had a strong character. I talked to the doctors and they allowed me to accompany him to the operating room; they explained and assured him that he would feel no pain; therefore, he agreed to undergo the surgery."

## Brief pause for silence

### 3. **Prayer for canonization**

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Grant us, oh Lord,

that we may follow his example of daily holiness, enjoy the benefit of his intercession and cooperate with zeal in the proclamation of the Gospel,

so that all may have the fullness of life.

Amen.

### 4. **Blessing and dismissal**

### 5. **Singing to the Founder (or missionary)**

*Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be*

*St. Joseph Allamano: Pray for us*

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## 6th Day: Humility



1. **Invitatory:** Let us celebrate and thank the Lord, for the gift given to the Church and the world, of Saint Joseph Allamano, our Founder, Father and Teacher, who even now says to us, "I bless you as you were present to me, desiring to infuse you with the blessing of our Consolata as much as a father desires you in Domino."

2. **Food for thought**  
*"Humility! We will have this word written on all the walls of the house,*

*so that you will always have it before your eyes to remind you of the need to become humble, for make no mistake about it, proud you all are, all of you... "The Lord could have chosen another to found this Institute, one more capable, with greater gifts, with more health, but one who loved you more than I do... I don't think so."*

From the Catrimani Mission Diary, we know that Sorino returns to his village on May 8, greeted by the amazement and joy of his family, missionaries and members of his tribe: he is almost perfectly healed! But with the obligation of still being followed by the dispensary in Catrimani, presenting himself, every 15-20 days for check-ups and medication.

Curiously, on the plane that brought him home, there was also Sister Lisadele, who had attended Sorino at the hospital, and had even secretly baptized him, who noted in wonder, "Sorino was returning for the first time to Catrimani...I saw his joy to return. Every maloca was waiting for him, it was very good. The wound was still half-open, so I had the opportunity to apply dressings to him; I washed him with hydrogen peroxide, cleaned him with gauze, and then put my hat on his head, but only to protect him."

## Brief pause for silence

### 3. **Prayer**

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so that all may have the fullness of life.  
Amen.

### 4. **Blessing and dismissal**

### 5. **Hymn to the Founder (or missionary)**

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## 5th Day: Don't be frightened



1. **Invitatory:** Let us celebrate and thank the Lord, for the gift given to the Church and the world, of Saint Joseph Allamano, our Founder, Father and Teacher, who even now says to us, "I bless you as you were present to me, desiring to infuse you with the blessing of our Consolata as much as a father desires you in Domino."

2. **Food for thought**

*"Don't be frightened, I too have always been of rather delicate health; nevertheless, I have always pulled ahead. Now it*

*is nothing. When I was a cleric in the seminary, I suffered so terribly from this migraine, that from superiors and fellow students, it was doubted whether I could continue my studies. Nevertheless, with the grace of the Lord, and the ardour of my firm will, I succeeded - albeit with no slight effort and sacrifice - in passing my studies."*

Admitted to the Intensive Care Unit, Sorino awoke after about 20 days, without presenting neurological outcomes (i.e.: oriented in time and space, absence of motor and sensory deficits, fluent speech). On March 4, he was then transferred to the "Hekura Yano" Home (reserved for the care of natives) for continued treatment...with one detail, testified at the Trial by Br. Carlo Zacquini: "I could not go to Sorino at the hospital; I found him at the Home. He was there with difficulty, because he had never come to the city. I learned that at some point he had run away with his mother from the Nursing Home, but it seems they had found him and brought him back."

## Short pause for silence

### 3. **Prayer**

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Amen.

### 4. **Blessing and dismissal**

### 5. **Hymn to the Founder (or missionary)**

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