

National Gun Violence Awareness Month

**NUNS**  
**AGAINST GUN**  
**VIOLENCE**

Novena 2026

---

## *Day 1 - Friday June 5th, 2026*

Pray:

### **Novena Against Gun Violence**

*by Michele Bisailon, DHS*

Loving God, You created for us a world of beauty, order and endless possibilities. But today ours is a world often in chaos: war, famine, drought, so many “isms,” lack of respect for life and for one another. In this country we face these issues day after day. One of these is uppermost in our minds these days—the horror of gun violence which continues to ravage our nation, our society, our people, even the youngest of our children.

Spirit God, we give you all names: Holy, Sanctifier, Paraclete, Advocate. Yet you are so much more: Challenger, Nudger, whirling Wind and engulfing Fire, Mover, Enabler, Lover, Breath of Life.

Be that for us, we pray. Instill in us your gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, reverence and awe. Pentecost us. Enable us to be as daring as the newly inspired apostles—to be bold in our defense of the right of all persons to feel safe wherever we are, unafraid of being forever silenced by those who are armed with weapons and anger and sometimes even hatred.

Give us the courage to speak the Word. Give us the audacity to take the actions needed to end this needless violence.

In the name of our Creator God, in the name of the Word of Life, and in the name of the Fire of Love. Amen.

Reflect:

Did you know that in the United States, **59 percent** of adults report that they or someone they know or care about has experienced gun violence in their lifetime?

([Source: Everytown Research & Policy](#))

Spend some time in prayer today, thinking of all the people impacted by gun violence in all its forms.

Action Options:

- Wear orange today in honor of [Wear Orange Weekend](#).
- Share with a family member or friend why you are wearing orange for victims of gun violence today.
- Use this Pax Christi Gun Violence Working Group's [Pray-Study-Act to end gun violence](#) resource

---

## *Day 2 - Saturday June 6th, 2026*

Pray:

### **Novena Against Gun Violence**

*by Michele Bisailon, DHS*

Loving God, You created for us a world of beauty, order, and endless possibilities. But today, ours is a world often in chaos: war, famine, drought, so many “isms,” and a lack of respect for life and for one another. In this country, we face these issues day after day. One of these is uppermost in our minds these days—the horror of gun violence, which continues to ravage our nation, our society, our people, even the youngest of our children.

Spirit God, we give you all names: Holy, Sanctifier, Paraclete, Advocate. Yet you are so much more: Challenger, Nudger, whirling Wind and engulfing Fire, Mover, Enabler, Lover, Breath of Life.

Be that for us, we pray. Instill in us your gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, reverence, and awe. Pentecost us. Enable us to be as daring as the newly inspired apostles—to be bold in our defense of the right of all persons to feel safe wherever we are, unafraid of being forever silenced by those who are armed with weapons and anger and sometimes even hatred.

Give us the courage to speak the Word. Give us the audacity to take the actions needed to end this needless violence.

In the name of our Creator God, in the name of the Word of Life, and in the name of the Fire of Love. Amen.

Reflect:

Did you know that every day in the United States, nearly 130 people in the US are killed with guns and more than 200 are shot and wounded? ([Source: Everytown Research & Policy](#))

Action Options:

- Continue wearing orange today in honor of Wear Orange Weekend.
- Spend some time scrolling through the pictures we have lost to gun violence at <https://gunmemorial.org/>, and offer prayers for them and their loved ones.

---

## *Day 3 - Sunday June 7th, 2026*

Pray:

### **Novena Against Gun Violence**

*by Michele Bisailon, DHS*

Loving God, You created for us a world of beauty, order, and endless possibilities. But today, ours is a world often in chaos: war, famine, drought, so many “isms,” and a lack of respect for life and for one another. In this country, we face these issues day after day. One of these is uppermost in our minds these days—the horror of gun violence which continues to ravage our nation, our society, our people, even the youngest of our children.

Spirit God, we give you all names: Holy, Sanctifier, Paraclete, Advocate. Yet you are so much more: Challenger, Nudger, whirling Wind and engulfing Fire, Mover, Enabler, Lover, Breath of Life.

Be that for us, we pray. Instill in us your gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, reverence and awe. Pentecost us. Enable us to be as daring as the newly inspired apostles—to be bold in our defense of the right of all persons to feel safe wherever we are, unafraid of being forever silenced by those who are armed with weapons and anger and sometimes even hatred.

Give us the courage to speak the Word. Give us the audacity to take the actions needed to end this needless violence.

In the name of our Creator God, in the name of the Word of Life, and in the name of the Fire of Love. Amen.

Reflect:

Did you know that in the United States, over 56 percent of gun deaths are gun suicides? That is about over 26,000 people we lose every year. The US gun suicide rate is nearly 12 times that of other high-income countries. ([Source: Everytown Research & Policy](#))

Action Options:

- Continue wearing orange today in honor of Wear Orange Weekend.
- **Learn more about "red flag laws"** that allow extreme risk protection orders (ERPO) to remove guns from the hands of people who've demonstrated that they are a risk to themselves or others through [Giffords Law Center](#).
- Research if your state has one or not. Or some states are trying to ban red flag laws.
  - **If you live in a state without a red flag law or where they are trying to ban it, contact your state lawmakers** to advocate for red flag laws.

---

*Day 4 - Monday June 8th, 2026*

Pray:

**Novena Against Gun Violence**

*by Michele Bisailon, DHS*

Loving God, You created for us a world of beauty, order and endless possibilities. But today ours is a world often in chaos: war, famine, drought, so many “isms,” lack of respect for life and for one another. In this country we face these issues day after day. One of these is uppermost in our minds these days—the horror of gun violence which continues to ravage our nation, our society, our people, even the youngest of our children.

Spirit God, we give you all names: Holy, Sanctifier, Paraclete, Advocate. Yet you are so much more: Challenger, Nudger, whirling Wind and engulfing Fire, Mover, Enabler, Lover, Breath of Life.

Be that for us, we pray. Instill in us your gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, reverence and awe. Pentecost us. Enable us to be as daring as the newly inspired apostles—to be bold in our defense of the right of all persons to feel safe wherever we are, unafraid of being forever silenced by those who are armed with weapons and anger and sometimes even hatred.

Give us the courage to speak the Word. Give us the audacity to take the actions needed to end this needless violence.

In the name of our Creator God, in the name of the Word of Life, and in the name of the Fire of Love. Amen.

Reflect:

By the end of 2026, Everytown estimates that [1.27 million guns](#) will have been illegally trafficked since 2017 (inside the United States). However, this is just the beginning of the issue as the United States also exports its gun problem to other countries through gun smuggling. According to Stop US Arms to Mexico, over [53,000 firearms](#) from the US were recovered in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador from 2015-2022. This is likely only a fraction of the firearms smuggled into those countries.

Action Options:

- [Call your federal representative and senators](#), urging them to support the ARMAS Act as a way to reduce gun violence in other countries by controlling guns that are smuggled out of the United States.

- Read about the ARMAS Act here:  
<https://quixote.org/summary-of-weapons-trafficking-legislation>.

---

## *Day 5 - Tuesday June 9th, 2026*

Pray:

### **Novena Against Gun Violence**

*by Michele Bisailon, DHS*

Loving God, You created for us a world of beauty, order and endless possibilities. But today ours is a world often in chaos: war, famine, drought, so many “isms,” lack of respect for life and for one another. In this country we face these issues day after day. One of these is uppermost in our minds these days—the horror of gun violence which continues to ravage our nation, our society, our people, even the youngest of our children.

Spirit God, we give you all names: Holy, Sanctifier, Paraclete, Advocate. Yet you are so much more: Challenger, Nudger, whirling Wind and engulfing Fire, Mover, Enabler, Lover, Breath of Life.

Be that for us, we pray. Instill in us your gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, reverence and awe. Pentecost us. Enable us to be as daring as the newly inspired apostles—to be bold in our defense of the right of all persons to feel safe wherever we are, unafraid of being forever silenced by those who are armed with weapons and anger and sometimes even hatred.

Give us the courage to speak the Word. Give us the audacity to take the actions needed to end this needless violence.

In the name of our Creator God, in the name of the Word of Life, and in the name of the Fire of Love. Amen.

Reflect:

According to Everytown, states with strong laws see less gun violence. Indeed, the “states that have failed to put basic protections into place— ‘national failures’ on Everytown’s scale—have a rate of gun deaths **more than two and a half times higher** than the states that are national gun safety leaders.”

Action Options:

- See where your state ranks in terms of gun laws at Everytown ([link here](#)) or Gifford ([link here](#)).
- Call your **state** representative and senator urging them to take action to change the reality of gun laws in your state or thank them if they have been an active part of creating stronger gun laws in your state.

---

## *Day 6 - Wednesday June 10th, 2026*

Pray:

### **Novena Against Gun Violence**

*by Michele Bisailon, DHS*

Loving God, You created for us a world of beauty, order and endless possibilities. But today ours is a world often in chaos: war, famine, drought, so many “isms,” lack of respect for life and for one another. In this country we face these issues day after day. One of these is uppermost in our minds these days—the horror of gun violence which continues to ravage our nation, our society, our people, even the youngest of our children.

Spirit God, we give you all names: Holy, Sanctifier, Paraclete, Advocate. Yet you are so much more: Challenger, Nudger, whirling Wind and engulfing Fire, Mover, Enabler, Lover, Breath of Life.

Be that for us, we pray. Instill in us your gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, reverence and awe. Pentecost us. Enable us to be as daring as the newly inspired apostles—to be bold in our defense of the right of all persons to feel safe

wherever we are, unafraid of being forever silenced by those who are armed with weapons and anger and sometimes even hatred.

Give us the courage to speak the Word. Give us the audacity to take the actions needed to end this needless violence.

In the name of our Creator God, in the name of the Word of Life, and in the name of the Fire of Love. Amen.

Reflect:

This [Pew Research survey](#) found that in 2023 72 percent of gun owners reported the main reason they own a gun is for protection. In 1999, only [26 percent of gun owners](#) cited that as the main reason. Despite this, Everytown found that “[defensive gun use is exceedingly rare](#), often deployed against unarmed perpetrators, and often accompanied by underappreciated personal and social risks, including loss of life and property.”

Action Options:

- If you know someone who owns a gun, have a conversation with them about why they own a gun, listening to understand not to prove them wrong.
- If you don't know anyone with a gun, spend some time thinking about what societal factors lead people to own guns.
- Check out a nonviolent organization for a different perspective on responding to our violent culture.
  - [PCUSA](#), [Pace E Bene](#), [Catholic Nonviolence Initiative](#)

---

*Day 7 - Thursday June 11th, 2026*

Pray:

**Novena Against Gun Violence**

*by Michele Bisailon, DHS*

Loving God, You created for us a world of beauty, order and endless possibilities. But today ours is a world often in chaos: war, famine, drought, so many “isms,” lack of respect for life and for one another. In this country we face these issues day after day.

One of these is uppermost in our minds these days—the horror of gun violence which continues to ravage our nation, our society, our people, even the youngest of our children.

Spirit God, we give you all names: Holy, Sanctifier, Paraclete, Advocate. Yet you are so much more: Challenger, Nudger, whirling Wind and engulfing Fire, Mover, Enabler, Lover, Breath of Life.

Be that for us, we pray. Instill in us your gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, reverence and awe. Pentecost us. Enable us to be as daring as the newly inspired apostles—to be bold in our defense of the right of all persons to feel safe wherever we are, unafraid of being forever silenced by those who are armed with weapons and anger and sometimes even hatred.

Give us the courage to speak the Word. Give us the audacity to take the actions needed to end this needless violence.

In the name of our Creator God, in the name of the Word of Life, and in the name of the Fire of Love. Amen.

Reflect:

According to Everytown, “many Americans are stunned to learn that [nearly every day in the United States, a child under 18](#) finds a loaded gun and unintentionally shoots themselves or someone else, often a sibling or another young person. The reality is that guns in the home, especially when not securely stored, can increase the risk of harm, and even death, for all family members.” So far in 2026, the Gun Violence Archive has verified over [485 unintentional shooting incidents](#). A new study found that an estimated [6.7 million children](#) live in a home where at least one firearm is loaded and unlocked.

Action Options:

- On the federal level, activists working to end gun violence have been trying to pass Ethan’s Law (HR 1564), read about it here: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/1564/text/ih>.
- Read about [Youth Suicide and Guns](#) from Pax Chrisit’s Gun Violence Prevention Working Group.

---

## Day 8 - Friday June 12th, 2026

Pray:

### Novena Against Gun Violence

by Michele Bisailon, DHS

Loving God, You created for us a world of beauty, order and endless possibilities. But today ours is a world often in chaos: war, famine, drought, so many “isms,” lack of respect for life and for one another. In this country we face these issues day after day. One of these is uppermost in our minds these days—the horror of gun violence which continues to ravage our nation, our society, our people, even the youngest of our children.

Spirit God, we give you all names: Holy, Sanctifier, Paraclete, Advocate. Yet you are so much more: Challenger, Nudger, whirling Wind and engulfing Fire, Mover, Enabler, Lover, Breath of Life.

Be that for us, we pray. Instill in us your gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, reverence and awe. Pentecost us. Enable us to be as daring as the newly inspired apostles—to be bold in our defense of the right of all persons to feel safe wherever we are, unafraid of being forever silenced by those who are armed with weapons and anger and sometimes even hatred.

Give us the courage to speak the Word. Give us the audacity to take the actions needed to end this needless violence.

In the name of our Creator God, in the name of the Word of Life, and in the name of the Fire of Love. Amen.

Reflect:

Unfortunately, gun violence and intimate partner violence “[are inextricably linked](#)” in the United States. According to Everytown’s research, “[e]very month, an average of [more than 70 women are shot and killed](#) by an intimate partner.” Moreover, “[n]early **seven in ten** intimate partner homicides in the United States are committed with a

firearm, and [77 percent of these intimate partner firearm homicide victims](#) are women. This violence is not limited to just the intimate partner, but can also include children, other relatives, new partners, and strangers.

Action Option:

- Are there local community groups that address violence against women, domestic violence shelters, or community violence prevention? Consider donating time or money to those organizations.
- Some examples:
  - [Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation](#)
  - [Jewish Women International](#)

---

## *Day 9 - Saturday June 13th, 2026*

Pray:

### **Novena Against Gun Violence**

*by Michele Bisailon, DHS*

Loving God, You created for us a world of beauty, order and endless possibilities. But today ours is a world often in chaos: war, famine, drought, so many “isms,” lack of respect for life and for one another. In this country we face these issues day after day. One of these is uppermost in our minds these days—the horror of gun violence which continues to ravage our nation, our society, our people, even the youngest of our children.

Spirit God, we give you all names: Holy, Sanctifier, Paraclete, Advocate. Yet you are so much more: Challenger, Nudger, whirling Wind and engulfing Fire, Mover, Enabler, Lover, Breath of Life.

Be that for us, we pray. Instill in us your gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, reverence and awe. Pentecost us. Enable us to be as daring as the newly inspired apostles—to be bold in our defense of the right of all persons to feel safe wherever we are, unafraid of being forever silenced by those who are armed with weapons and anger and sometimes even hatred.

Give us the courage to speak the Word. Give us the audacity to take the actions needed to end this needless violence.

In the name of our Creator God, in the name of the Word of Life, and in the name of the Fire of Love. Amen.

Reflect:

While a few are well publicized, Everytown reports that “more than [25,000 hate crimes in the US involve a firearm](#)—69 a day.” According to FBI data from 2022, “the [vast majority](#) of reported hate crimes are directed against communities of color, religious minorities, and LGBTQ+ people.” One problem is that most misdemeanors, including hate crime misdemeanors, do not prohibit gun possession creating a loophole where people can still access guns even with a hate crime conviction. ([Source: Everytown Research & Policy](#))

Action Option:

- Make plans this month invite friends and neighbors to watch a movie on gun violence such as:
  - [Beyond The Silence: A Stand Against Gun Violence](#)
  - [Run. Hide. Fight. – Safe In Schools](#)
  - [All the Empty Rooms](#) (Netflix)

---

Thank you for praying with us during National Gun Violence Awareness Month.

If you would like to be connected with Nuns Against Gun Violence or if this resource was helpful for you, contact us at <https://nunsagainstgunviolence.org/contact>