

Pieta Prayer Book



DEDICATION

The Blessed Virgin said: "You love me and make others love me." This revised 2005 edition of the Pieta Prayer Book is dedicated to thee, dear Lady of Ephesus, as an act of love to honor thine Assumption. "I am all thine, my Queen and Mother, and all that I have is thine".

INTRODUCTION

This prayer book is an effort to present beautiful truths and devotions of our Roman Catholic Faith, in order that those who use these prayers devoutly may obtain greater grace to better serve God. The book draws particularly on that gigantic source of God's goodness and mercy — a source which is virtually untapped. Furthermore, there are utilized some texts that come from private revelations which also can spur us on to receive available graces by emphasizing even a deeper devotion to God. "When it's a question of private revelations the Pope is the SOLE judge for the entire Roman Catholic Church!"

(Pope Leo X, 5th Council of Lateran, 1513)

INDULGENCES

Indulged prayers and devotions are a gift from the Church to aid us in our spiritual journey. A plenary indulgence is a full pardon for punishments owing for sin, sacramentally confessed, and makes possible immediate entrance into heaven after death. The requirements for gaining a plenary indulgence are sacramental confession, Communion and prayers for the Pope's intentions such as an Our Father and a Hail Mary. We must also have an attitude of love and penitence, with no attachment to any sin. If this disposition is in any way less than complete, or if the three prescribed conditions are not fulfilled, the indulgence is only partial. This form of

indulgence may only be gained once a day, and may be offered only for the deceased or for yourself. Prayers with this privilege are indicated thus ** in this book.

A partial Indulgence is a partial pardon for penance owing. The faithful should at least have a contrite heart to gain the partial indulgence. Prayers with this privilege are indicated thus *. The Enchiridion of Indulgences has been followed for these marked prayers. Older prayers are labeled thus, "indulged by Pope (Name)."

Scripture says: "Pray without ceasing." St. Lawrence Justinian puts prayer in the proper light. He writes: "In prayer the soul cleanses itself from sin, charity is nourished, faith is strengthened, hope is made secure, the spirit rejoices, the soul grows tender, the heart is purified, truth discovers itself, temptation is overcome, sadness takes to flight, the senses are renewed, failing virtue is made good, tepidity disappears, the rust of sin is rubbed away. In it are brought forth flashes of heavenly desire, and in these fires the flame of divine love burns up." May the Pieta Prayer Book serve all souls who desire to advance their spiritual life and live in union with God.

**The Fifteen St. Bridget Prayers
Revealed by Our Lord to
Saint Bridget of Sweden
in the Church of St. Paul at Rome**

These prayers published under sanction of the Decree of November 18, 1966, published in the Acta Apostolicae Sedis, Vol. 58, No. 16, December 29, 1966.

St. Birgitta of Sweden (1303-1373)
A Woman Who Changed the World

A saint for our time



BRIDE OF CHRIST

"Birgitta, I am speaking not only to you but to all Christians. You will be My bride...and it shall be through you that I will speak to the world. My spirit will dwell in you until your death."

PRAYERS ARE APPROVED

Pope Urban VI (1378-1389) encouraged the multiplication of written copies of the Revelations of St. Bridget, for there were no printing presses at that time. The Magnificent Prayers were copied from a book printed in Toulouse in 1740, and published by Fr. Adrien Parvilliers of the Society of Jesus, Missionary Apostolic of the Holy Land. He had approbation, permission and recommendation to spread the devotion.

The books containing these prayers have been approved by a great number of prelates, among them His Eminence Cardinal F. J. Giraud of Cambria in 1845, and Archbishop Florian of Toulouse in 1863. Blessed Pope Pius IX on May 31, 1862, blessed The Revelations of St. Bridget. The great Congress of Malines recommended the prayers on August 22, 1863. Pope Benedict XV (1914-1922) expressed himself as follows on the Revelations of St. Bridget: "The approbation of such revelations implies nothing more than, after mature examination, it is permissible to publish them for the unit of the faithful. Though they don't merit the same credence as the truths of religion, one can however, believe them out of human faith, conforming to the rules of prudence by which they are probable, and supported by sufficient motives that one might believe in them piously."

(Les Petits Bollandistes, tome XII)

SAINT BRIDGET OF SWEDEN

On the 14th of June, 1303, the moment Bridget was born, Benedict, the curate of Rasbo, prayed for the happy deliverance of Ingeborde. Suddenly he found himself enveloped by a luminous cloud out of which Our Lady appeared and said: "A child has been born at Birger; her voice will be heard by the entire world."

Imprimatur: April 24, 1903, Sagii

St. Brigitte or St. Bridget, daughter of Birgir, royal blood prince of Sweden, was born of highly pious parents. Having lost her virtuous mother soon after birth, little Bridget was brought up by one of her highly virtuous aunts. She could not speak before the age of three, but as soon as she spoke, she began praising God. In early childhood serious discourses pleased her, and grace powerfully filled her heart so that only pious readings attracted her.

At the age of ten she was particularly touched by a sermon she heard on the Passion of Our Lord. The following night she believed that she saw Our Lord nailed to the cross and all covered with blood and wounds. At the same time she heard a voice saying: *"Look upon Me, My daughter."* *"O Dear Lord,"* asked St. Bridget, *"who has treated You so cruelly?"* Our Lord replied: *"Those who despise Me and are insensible to My Love for them."* That mysterious dream left so deep an impression on her that, from then on, she continually meditated on the sufferings of Our Lord Jesus Christ, which drove her to tears.

At the age of 15, through obedience, she was married to Prince Ulf, a very pious young man, and they had eight children. One of her daughters became St. Catherine of Sweden.

St. Bridget's example more than her instructions sanctified her large family. Her revelations and other celestial favors made her all the more fervent and humble. She died in Rome in 1373 after having returned from a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. She practiced mental prayer and meditated often on the life and sufferings of Our Lord Jesus Christ. She founded the Brigidines.

For a long time St. Bridget wanted to know the number of blows Our Lord received during His Passion. He one day appeared to her and said: **"I received 5480 blows on My Body. If you wish to honor them in some way, say 15**

Our Fathers and 15 Hail Marys with the following prayers (which He taught her) for a whole year. When the year is up, you will have honored each one of My Wounds."

Visitors to the Church of St. Paul at Rome can see the crucifix, above the Tabernacle in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, sculptured by Pierre Cavallini, before which St. Bridget knelt when she received these fifteen prayers from Our Lord. The following inscription was placed in the church to commemorate the event: "Pendentis, Pendente Dei verba accepit aure accipit et verbum corde Brigitta Deum. Anno Jubilei MCCCCL" (Translation: "Bridget not only receives the words of God hanging in the air, but takes the work of God into her heart. Jubilee Year 1350.")

Promises

1. I will deliver 15 souls of his lineage from purgatory.
2. 15 souls of his lineage will be confirmed and preserved in grace.
3. 15 sinners of his lineage will be converted.
4. Whoever recites these prayers will attain the first degree of perfection.
5. 15 days before his death I will give him My Precious Body in order that he may escape eternal starvation; I will give him My Precious Blood to drink lest he thirst eternally.
6. 15 days before his death he will feel a deep contrition for all his sins and will have a perfect knowledge of them.
7. I will place before him the sign of My Victorious Cross for his help and defense against the attacks of his enemies.
8. Before his death I shall come with My dearest beloved Mother.
9. I shall graciously receive his soul, and will lead it into eternal joys.
10. And having led it there I shall give him a special draught from the fountain of My Deity, something I will not for

those who have not recited My prayers.

11. Let it be known that whoever may have been living in a state of mortal sin for 30 years, but who will recite devoutly, or have the intention to recite these Prayers, the Lord will forgive him all his sins.
 12. I shall protect him from strong temptations.
 13. I shall preserve and guard his 5 senses.
 14. I shall preserve him from a sudden death.
 15. His soul will be delivered from eternal death.
 16. He will obtain all he asks for from God and the Blessed Virgin.
 17. If he has lived all his life doing his own will and he is to die the next day, his life will be prolonged.
 18. Every time one recites these Prayers he gains 100 days indulgence.
 19. He is assured of being joined to the supreme Choir of Angels.
 20. Whoever teaches these Prayers to another, will have continuous joy and merit which will endure eternally.
 21. There where these Prayers are being said or will be said in the future, God is present with His grace.
- The 21 St. Bridget Promises, while traditionally associated with the St. Bridget Prayers, are not covered by an imprimatur.*
- In Jan. of 1954 the Holy Office issued a warning that the supernatural origin of these promises has not been proven.

The Church has always recommended meditations on the Passion of Our Lord. The Blessed Virgin Mary said to St. Bridget: "The consideration of the Passion of my Son ought to be frequently in man's thoughts." St. Bonaventure said: "Let him who desires to attain union with God keep the eyes of his soul ever fixed on Him who hangs dying on the Cross. It's from those wounds of the Saviour that man draws power to suffer not merely with patience but with joy."

FIFTEEN ST. BRIDGET PRAYERS

First Prayer

Our Father — Hail Mary. (page 78)

O Jesus Christ! Eternal Sweetness to those who love Thee, joy surpassing all joy and all desire, salvation and hope of all sinners, Who hast proved that Thou hast no greater desire than to be among men, even assuming human nature at the fullness of time for the love of men! Recall all the sufferings Thou hast endured from the instant of Thy conception, and especially during Thy Passion, as it was decreed and ordained from all eternity in the Divine Plan.

Remember, O Lord, that during the Last Supper with Thy disciples, having washed their feet, Thou gavest them Thy Most Precious Body and Blood, and while at the same time Thou didst sweetly console them, Thou didst foretell them Thy coming Passion.

Remember the sadness and bitterness which Thou didst experience in Thy Soul as Thou Thyself bore witness saying: "My Soul is sorrowful, even unto death."

Remember all the fear, anguish and pain that Thou didst suffer in Thy delicate Body before the torment of the Crucifixion when, after having prayed three times, bathed in a sweat of blood, Thou wast betrayed by Judas, Thy disciple, arrested by the people of a nation Thou hadst chosen and elevated, accused by false witnesses, unjustly judged by three judges during the flower of Thy youth and during the solemn Paschal season.

Remember that Thou wast despoiled of Thy garments and clothed in those of derision; that Thy Face and Eyes were veiled; that Thou wast buffeted, crowned with thorns, a reed placed in Thy Hands; that Thou was crushed with blows and overwhelmed with affronts and outrages.

In memory of all these pains and sufferings which Thou didst endure before Thy Passion on the Cross, grant me before my death true contrition, a sincere and entire confession, worthy satisfaction and the remission of all my sins. Amen.

Second Prayer

Our Father — Hail Mary.

O Jesus! True liberty of angels, Paradise of delights! Remember the horror and sadness which Thou didst endure when Thy enemies, like furious lions, surrounded Thee, and by thousands of insults, spits, blows, lacerations and other unheard-of-cruelties, tormented Thee at will.

In consideration of these torments and insulting words, I beseech Thee, O my Saviour, to deliver me from all my enemies, visible and invisible, and to bring me, under Thy protection, to the perfection of eternal salvation. Amen.

Third Prayer

Our Father — Hail Mary.

O Jesus! Creator of heaven and earth Whom nothing can encompass or limit, Thou Who dost enfold and hold all under Thy loving power! Remember the very bitter pain Thou didst suffer when the Jews nailed Thy Sacred Hands and Feet to the Cross by blow after blow with big blunt nails, and not finding Thee in a pitiable enough state to satisfy their rage, they enlarged Thy Wounds, and added pain to pain, and with indescribable cruelty stretched Thy Body on the Cross, pulled Thee from all sides, thus dislocating Thy Limbs.

I beg of Thee, O Jesus, by the memory of this most loving suffering of the Cross, to grant me the grace to fear Thee and to love Thee. Amen.

Fourth Prayer

Our Father — Hail Mary.

O Jesus! Heavenly Physician, raised aloft on the Cross to

heal our wounds with Thine! Remember the bruises which Thou didst suffer and the weakness of all Thy Members which were distended to such a degree that never was there pain like unto Thine. From the crown of Thy Head to the soles of Thy Feet there was not one spot on Thy Body that was not in torment; and yet, forgetting all Thy sufferings, Thou didst not cease to pray to Thy heavenly Father for Thy enemies, saying: "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do."

Through this great mercy, and in memory of this suffering, grant that the remembrance of Thy most bitter Passion may effect in me a perfect contrition and the remission of all my sins. Amen.

Fifth Prayer

Our Father — Hail Mary.

O Jesus! Mirror of eternal splendor! Remember the sadness which Thou experienced when, contemplating in the light of Thy Divinity the predestination of those who would be saved by the merits of Thy Sacred Passion, Thou didst see at the same time, the great multitude of reprobates who would be damned for their sins, and Thou didst complain bitterly of those hopeless, lost and unfortunate sinners.

Through this abyss of compassion and pity, and especially through the goodness which Thou displayed to the good thief when Thou saidst to him: "This day, thou shalt be with Me in paradise." I beg of Thee, O Sweet Jesus, that at the hour of my death, Thou wilt show me mercy. Amen.

Sixth Prayer

Our Father — Hail Mary.

O Jesus! Beloved and most desirable King! Remember the grief Thou didst suffer when, naked and like a common criminal, Thou was fastened and raised on the Cross, when all

Thy relatives and friends abandoned Thee, except Thy beloved Mother, who remained close to Thee during Thy agony and whom Thou didst entrust to Thy faithful disciple when Thou saidst to Mary: "Woman, behold thy son!" and to St. John: "Son, behold thy Mother!"

I beg of Thee, O my Saviour, by the sword of sorrow which pierced the soul of Thy holy Mother, to have compassion on me in all my afflictions and tribulations, both corporal and spiritual, and to assist me in all my trials, and especially at the hour of my death. Amen.

Seventh Prayer

Our Father — Hail Mary.

O Jesus! Inexhaustible Fountain of compassion, Who by a profound gesture of love said from the Cross: "I thirst!", suffered from the thirst for the salvation of the human race.

I beg of Thee, O my Saviour, to inflame in my heart the desire to tend toward perfection in all my acts, and to extinguish in me the concupiscence of the flesh and the ardor of worldly desires. Amen.

Eighth Prayer

Our Father — Hail Mary.

O Jesus! Sweetness of hearts, delight of the spirit! By the bitterness of the vinegar and gall which Thou didst taste on the Cross for love of us, grant me the grace to receive worthily Thy Precious Body and Blood during my life and at the hour of my death, that they may serve as a remedy and consolation for my soul. Amen

Ninth Prayer

Our Father — Hail Mary.

O Jesus! Royal virtue, joy of the mind! Recall the pain Thou didst endure when, plunged in an ocean of bitterness at the

approach of death, insulted, outraged by the Jews, Thou didst cry out in a loud voice that Thou was abandoned by Thy Father, saying: "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken me?"

Through this anguish, I beg of Thee, O my Saviour, not to abandon me in the terrors and pains of my death. Amen.

Tenth Prayer

Our Father — Hail Mary.

O Jesus! Who art the beginning and end of all things, life and virtue! Remember that for my sake Thou was plunged in an abyss of suffering from the soles of Thy Feet to the crown of Thy Head.

In consideration of the enormity of Thy Wounds, teach me to keep, through pure love, Thy Commandments, whose way is wide and easy for those who love Thee. Amen.

Eleventh Prayer

Our Father — Hail Mary.

O Jesus! Deep abyss of mercy! I beg of Thee, in memory of Thy Wounds which penetrated to the very marrow of Thy Bones and to the depth of Thy being, to draw me, a miserable sinner overwhelmed by my offenses, away from sin and to hide me from Thy Face justly irritated against me. Hide me in Thy Wounds until Thy anger and just indignation shall have passed away. Amen.

Twelfth Prayer

Our Father — Hail Mary.

O Jesus! Mirror of truth, symbol of unity, link of charity! Remember the multitude of wounds with which Thou was covered from Head to Foot, torn and reddened by the spilling of Thy adorable Blood. O Great and Universal Pain which Thou didst suffer in Thy virginal Flesh for love of us!

Sweetest Jesus! What is there that Thou couldst have done for us which Thou has not done?

May the fruit of Thy Sufferings be renewed in my soul by the faithful remembrance of Thy Passion, and may Thy Love increase in my heart each day, until I see Thee in eternity, Thou Who art the treasury of every real good and every joy, which I beg Thee to grant me, O Sweetest Jesus, in heaven. Amen.

Thirteenth Prayer

Our Father — Hail Mary.

O Jesus! Strong Lion, Immortal and Invincible King! Remember the pain which Thou didst endure! When all Thy strength, both moral and physical, was entirely exhausted, Thou didst bow Thy Head, saying: "It is consummated!"

Through this anguish and grief, I beg of Thee, Lord Jesus, to have mercy on me at the hour of my death when my mind will be greatly troubled and my soul will be in anguish. Amen.

Fourteenth Prayer

Our Father — Hail Mary.

O Jesus! Only Son of the Father, Splendor and Figure of His Substance! Remember the simple and humble recommendation Thou didst make of Thy Soul to Thy Eternal Father, saying: "Father, into Thy Hands I commend My Spirit!" And with Thy Body all torn, and Thy Heart broken, and the bowels of Thy Mercy open to redeem us, Thou didst expire.

By this Precious Death, I beg of Thee, O King of Saints, to comfort me and help me to resist the devil, the flesh and the world, so that being dead to the world I may live for Thee alone. I beg of Thee, at the hour of my death to receive me, a pilgrim and an exile returning to Thee. Amen.

Fifteenth Prayer

Our Father — Hail Mary.

O Jesus! True and fruitful Vine! Remember the abundant outpouring of Blood which Thou didst so generously shed from Thy Sacred Body, as juice from grapes in a wine press.

From Thy Side, pierced with a lance by a soldier, blood and water issued forth until there was not left in Thy Body a single drop; and finally, like a bundle of myrrh lifted to the top of the Cross, Thy delicate Flesh was destroyed, the very Substance of Thy Body withered, and the Marrow of Thy Bones dried up.

Through this bitter Passion and through the outpouring of Thy Precious Blood, I beg of Thee, O Sweet Jesus, to receive my soul when I am in my death agony. Amen.

Conclusion

O Sweet Jesus! Pierce my heart so that my tears of penitence and love will be my bread day and night. May I be converted entirely to Thee; may my heart be Thy perpetual habitation; may my conversation be pleasing to Thee; and may the end of my life be so praiseworthy that I may merit heaven and there with Thy saints, praise Thee forever. Amen.

MY DAILY OFFERING

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer You my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world. I offer them for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart: the salvation of souls, reparation for sin, and the reunion of all Christians. I offer them for the intentions of our bishops and of all Apostles of Prayer, and in particular for those recommended by our Holy Father this month.

From The Apostleship of Prayer

AN ACT OF CONTRITION*

O my God, I am heartily sorry for all my sins. Because of them I deserve the eternal pains of hell, but most of all because I have offended Thee my God who art all-good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve with the help of Thy grace to confess my sins, to do penance, to avoid the proximate occasion of sin and never to sin anymore. Amen.

PRAYER TO GUARDIAN ANGEL*

Angel of God, my guardian dear,
To whom His love commits me here:
Ever this day be at my side,
To light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.

Indulged by Pope Pius VI, Oct. 2, 1795. Raccolta 452

Upon rising recite 7 Glory Be's to your guardian angel for guidance and 7 Glory Be's to the Holy Spirit for enlightenment.

(Message from the Blessed Virgin Mary, San Damiano, Italy, July 27, 1969.)

COME HOLY SPIRIT*

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Thy faithful and kindle in them the fire of Thy love.

V. Send forth Thy Spirit, and they shall be created;

R. And Thou shalt renew the face of the earth.

LET US PRAY.

O God, who didst teach the hearts of Thy faithful people by sending them the light of Thy Holy Spirit, grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in His holy comfort. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Sacred Congregation of Indulgences, May 8, 1907

Raccolta 287, 2004

O Holy Spirit, sweet Guest of my soul, abide in me and grant that I may ever abide in Thee.

Indulged Sacred Penitentiary, April 26, 1921

PRAYERS FOR THE POPE*

Let us pray for *N.* our pope.

May the Lord protect him and grant him length of days. Amen.

May the Lord be his shield and deliver him from all harm. Amen.

May the Lord give him happiness and peace all the days of his life. Amen

or

May the Lord preserve our Holy Father *N.*, give him life, and make him blessed upon earth and deliver him not to the will of his enemies.

Let us pray: O God, the Shepherd and Ruler of all the faithful, in Thy mercy look down upon Thy servant *N.*, who Thou has appointed to preside over Thy church, and grant we beseech Thee, that both by word and example he may edify those who are under his charge; so that, with the flock entrusted to him, he may attain life everlasting. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Kindly include in your daily prayer our president and government officials.

PRAYER FOR DAILY NEGLECTS

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Sacred Heart of Jesus, with all its love, all its sufferings and all its merits.

First — To expiate all the sins I have committed this day and during all my life. *Glory be ...!*

Second — To purify the good I have done badly this day and during all my life. *Glory be ...!*

Third — To supply for the good I ought to have done, and that I have neglected this day and during all my life. *Glory be ...!*

(A Poor Clare nun, who had just died, appeared to her abbess, who was praying for her, and said to her, "I went straight to heaven, for, by means of this prayer, recited every evening, I paid my debts.")

This prayer is *not* meant to replace confession.



In Millet's famous painting, a peasant boy and girl in France recite the Angelus at dark. The prayer originated during the time of the Crusades as a prayer for peace and tranquility for their country.

THE ANGELUS*

To Be Said at 6:00 a.m., Noon and 6:00 p.m.

- V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,
- R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. *Hail Mary... (page 78)*
- V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
- R. Be it done unto me according to Thy word. *Hail Mary...*
- V. And the Word was made flesh,
- R. And dwelt among us. *Hail Mary...*
- V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,
- R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts; that, we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

Indulged by Pope Benedict XIII, Sept. 14, 1724.

PRAYER TO DEFEAT THE WORK OF SATAN

O Divine Eternal Father, in union with Your Divine Son and the Holy Spirit, and through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg You to destroy the power of Your greatest enemy — the evil spirits.

Cast them into the deepest recesses of hell and chain them there forever! Take possession of Your Kingdom which You have created and which is rightfully Yours.

Heavenly Father, give us the reign of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

I repeat this prayer out of pure love for You, with every beat of my heart and with every breath I take. Amen.

Imprimatur: March 1973, †Richard H. Ackerman, Bishop of Covington

“God governs the world but prayer governs God.”

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL*

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the other evil spirits who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

(This powerful prayer of exorcism was composed by Pope Leo XIII. In a vision, he had been shown the fearful battle to be waged between Satan and St. Michael over the Church of the future. Now, as never before, the Church needs the intercession of St. Michael! Please say this prayer every day.)

Indulgenced by Pope Leo XIII, Sept 25, 1888. Raccolta #447, 2004



(This prayer was said to be founded in the fiftieth year of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. In the 1500's it was sent by a Pope to Emperor Charles when he was going into battle.)

ANCIENT PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

O St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires. O St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings through Jesus Christ, Our Lord; so that having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers. O St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms. I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine Head for me, and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, patron of departing souls, pray for me. Amen.

Imprimatur: Most Rev. George W. Ahr, Bishop of Trenton

Say for nine days as a novena.

According to oral tradition, whoever reads this prayer or hears it or carries it will never die a sudden death, nor be drowned, nor will poison take effect on them. They will not fall into the hands of the enemy nor be burned by fire, nor will they be defeated in battle.

ACT OF LOVE

Jesus, Mary, I love you. Save souls!

("This 'Act of Love' includes all souls; the souls in purgatory, the innocent, the suffering, the sinful, the dying, and even your own poor soul. Do not lose time! Every 'Act of Love' means a soul. ... and repairs a thousand blasphemies!") Words of Our Lord to Sr. Maria Consolata Betrone, Poor Clare Capuchin (1930-1946)

Imprimatur: † M. Cardinal Fossati, Archbishop of Turin, Italy, October 1, 1949.

EVENING PRAYER*

Visit, we beseech Thee, O Lord, this dwelling and drive far from it all the snares of the enemy. Let Thy holy angels dwell herein to keep us in peace, and may Thy blessing be always upon us. Through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who liveth and reignth with Thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen

THE PRAYER OR BLESSING AGAINST STORMS

Jesus Christ, a King of Glory, has come in peace.† God became man,† and the Word was made flesh.† Christ was born of a virgin.† Christ suffered.† Christ was crucified.† Christ died.† Christ rose from the dead.† Christ ascended into heaven.† Christ conquers.† Christ reigns.† Christ orders.† May Christ protect us from all storms and lightning.† Christ went through their midst in peace† and the Word was made flesh.† Christ is with us with Mary.† Flee, you enemy spirits, because the Lion of the Generation of Juda, the Root of David, has won.† Holy God!† Holy Powerful God!† Holy Immortal God!† Have mercy on us. Amen! (This prayer originated in a convent and church in Lisbon, Portugal. Pope Innocent III, 1198-1216, ordered it published.)

LITANY OF HUMILITY
(for private devotion only)

which His Eminence, Cardinal Merry del Val, was accustomed to recite daily after the celebration of Holy Mass.

O Jesus! Meek and humble of heart, hear me.
From the desire of being esteemed,
From the desire of being loved,
From the desire of being extolled,
From the desire of being honored,
From the desire of being praised,
From the desire of being preferred,
From the desire of being consulted,
From the desire of being approved,
Deliver me, Jesus.

From the fear of being humiliated,
From the fear of being despised,
From the fear of suffering rebukes,
From the fear of being calumniated,
From the fear of being forgotten,
From the fear of being ridiculed,
From the fear of being wronged,
From the fear of being suspected,
Deliver me, Jesus.

That others may be loved more than I,
That others may be esteemed more than I,
That in the opinion of the world, others may
increase, and I may decrease,
That others may be chosen and I set aside,
That others may be praised and I unnoticed,
That others may be preferred to me in everything,
That others become holier than I, provided that
I may become as holy as I should,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

Imprimatur: † James A. McNulty, Bishop of Paterson, N.J.



PRAYER TO THE SHOULDER WOUND OF CHRIST

O loving Jesus, meek Lamb of God, I, a miserable sinner, salute and worship the most Sacred Wound of Thy Shoulder on which Thou didst bear Thy heavy Cross, which so tore Thy Flesh and laid bare Thy Bones as to inflict on Thee an anguish greater than any other wound of Thy Most Blessed Body. I adore Thee, O Jesus most

sorrowful. I praise and glorify Thee, and give Thee thanks for this most sacred and painful Wound; beseeching Thee by that exceeding pain, and by the crushing burden of Thy heavy Cross to be merciful to me, a sinner, to forgive me all my mortal and venial sins, and to lead me on towards heaven along the Way of Thy Cross. Amen.

Imprimatur: †Thomas D. Beven, Bishop of Springfield

(It is related in the annals of Clairvaux that St. Bernard asked our Lord which was His greatest unrecorded suffering, and Our Lord answered: "I had on My Shoulder, while I bore My Cross on the Way of Sorrows, a grievous Wound, which was more painful than the others, and which is not recorded by men. Honor this Wound with thy devotion, and I will grant thee whatsoever thou dost ask through its virtue and merit. And in regard to all those who shall venerate this Wound, I will remit to them all their venial sins and will no longer remember their mortal sins.")

Pray for the Souls in Purgatory

The Holy Souls in purgatory are incapable of helping themselves. They depend on the works of mercy by the living and the mercy of Jesus and Mary to shorten their time in purgatory. Their souls are very dear to God's Heart. He is most generous to those who offer every good act, suffering, prayers, or Holy Mass for these souls. In gratitude they intercede for us.

(St. John Vianney once said: "The good God will render us back the good we do for them (poor souls) a hundred fold.")

On August 16, 1969, in San Damiano, Italy, Our Lady asked that we pray very much for the poor souls and that if we pray these prayers, we'll "deliver so many souls, so many souls!"

"Pray: 5 Apostle's Creed; 1 Hail, Holy Queen; 1 Our Father; 1 Hail Mary; 1 Glory Be; 1 Requiem; Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, and may they rest in peace. Amen."

Requiem Indulged by Pope Leo XIII, March 22, 1902

PRAYER OF ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT

Our Lord showed St. Gertrude the Great that the following prayer would release a vast number of souls from purgatory each time it is said.

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in purgatory. Amen.

Approval of His Eminence the Cardinal Patriarch of Lisbon, April 2, 1936.

(The prayer was extended to include living sinners by adding... For sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.)

Visiting a Cemetery*/*

An indulgence is granted the Christian faithful who devoutly visit a cemetery and pray, if only momentarily, for the dead. This indulgence is applicable only to the souls in purgatory. This indulgence is a *plenary* one from November 1 through November 8 and can be gained on each one of these days. On the other days of the year this indulgence is a *partial* one.

"It is, therefore, a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sin."

(2 Mach. 12:46)

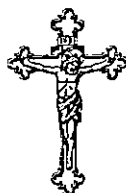
ANIMA CHRISTI*

Favorite prayer of St. Ignatius Loyola

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesus, hear me.
Within Thy wounds hide me.
Suffer me not to be separated from Thee.
From the malignant enemy, defend me.
In the hour of my death, call me.
And bid me come to Thee.
That with Thy saints I may praise Thee,
Forever and ever. Amen.

Indulged by Blessed Pope Pius IX, Jan. 9, 1854.

PRAYER BEFORE A CRUCIFIX**



Look down upon me, good and gentle Jesus, while before Thy face I humbly kneel, and with burning soul pray and beseech Thee to fix deep in my heart lively sentiments of faith, hope and charity, true contrition for my sins and a firm purpose of amendment, while I contemplate with great love and tender pity Thy Five Wounds, pondering over them within me and calling to mind the words which David Thy prophet said of Thee, my Jesus, "They have pierced my hands and my feet, they have numbered all My Bones." (Ps. 22: 17-18) Raccolta #201.

(On any Friday during Lent a plenary indulgence is granted the Christian faithful who, after communion, devoutly recite the above prayer before an image of Jesus Christ crucified. On other days of the year the indulgence is a *partial* one.)

Indulged by Pope Benedict XIV (1740-1758).

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION*

By a rescript of November 24, 1922, The Sacred Congregation of Indulgences approved the following formula for a spiritual communion:

O Jesus, I turn toward the holy tabernacle where You live hidden for love of me. I love You, O my God. I cannot receive You in Holy Communion. Come, nevertheless, and visit me with Your grace. Come spiritually into my heart. Purify it. Sanctify it. Render it like unto Your own. Amen.

Lord, I am not worthy that Thou shouldst enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

(Indulgenced if repeated 3 times: (129, The Raccolta, 1944)

Dear St. Philomena, pray for us for that purity of mind and heart which lead to the Perfect Love of God!

It was St. John Vianney who said: "A spiritual communion acts on the soul as blowing does on a cinder-covered fire which was about to go out. Whenever you feel your love of God growing cold, quickly make a spiritual communion."

"Go to the tabernacle in spirit when you are unable to do so physically, and there pour out your ardent desires, talk, pray, and embrace the Beloved of our souls, even more than if you had been permitted to receive Him sacramentally." — St. Padre Pio

Jan 14, 1966 in San Damiano, Italy, the Blessed Virgin Mary said: "Receive Jesus often in your heart, for you receive Him alive in the Eucharist and Jesus is merciful to those who receive Him."

Never Let A Day Pass Without Going to Holy Communion!

Our Lord said to Gabriel Bossis of France (1874-1950) that after receiving Holy Communion we should pray:

**“Most Sacred Heart of Jesus may the
whole world burn with love for You!”**

Each time we receive Holy Communion our venial sins are forgiven, and our place in heaven is raised forever; our stay in purgatory shortened.

Christ revealed to St. Gertrude the Great that each time one person receives Holy Communion something good happens to every being in heaven, on earth and in purgatory.

St. John Vianney said that a Communion well received is worth more the 20,000 NFF (money) given to the poor.

PRAYER TO OBTAIN THE GRACE OF ALL THE WORLD’S MASSES

Eternal Father, we humbly offer Thee our poor presence and that of the whole of humanity, from the beginning to the end of the world, at all the Masses that ever have or ever will be prayed. We offer Thee all the pains, sufferings, prayers, sacrifices, joys and relaxations of our lives, in union with those of our dear Lord Jesus here on earth. May the Most Precious Blood of Christ, all His Blood and Wounds and Agony save us, through the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary. Amen!

“Why Should I Go To Mass Every Day?”

“The Mass is the most perfect form of prayer!” (Pope Paul VI)

For each Mass we hear with devotion, Our Lord sends a saint to comfort us at death. (revelation of Christ to St. Gertrude the Great.)

St. Padre Pio, the stigmatic priest, said, “Every holy Mass, heard with devotion, produces in our souls marvelous effects, abundant spiritual and material graces which we, ourselves, do not know. It is easier for the earth to exist without the sun than without the holy Sacrifice of the Mass.”

St. John Vianney said that if we knew the value of the Mass, we would die of joy.

Your prayers are strongest at the Consecration in Holy Mass (raising of Host and Chalice).

Each time we look at The Most Blessed Sacrament our place in heaven is raised forever (revealed by Our Lord to St. Gertrude the Great)

“The Holy Mass would be of greater profit if people had it offered in their lifetime, rather than having it celebrated for the relief of their souls after death.” (Pope Benedict XV)

Once, St. Teresa of Avila was overwhelmed with God's Goodness and asked Our Lord: “How can I thank you?” Our Lord replied, “ATTEND ONE MASS”.

The Blessed Virgin Mary once told her faithful servant, Blessed Alain: “My Son so loves those who assist at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass that, if it were necessary, He would die for them as many times as they've heard Masses.”

(Page 107, last paragraph of “Explication Du Saint Sacrifice De Le Masse”, parle R.P. Martin do Cochem Friere -Mineur Capucin.)

Graces Derived from Assisting at Mass

- 1. The Mass is Calvary continued.**
 - 2. Every Mass is worth as much as the sacrifice of Our Lord's life, sufferings and death.**
 - 3. Holy Mass is the most powerful atonement for your sins.**
 - 4. At the hour of death, the Masses you have heard will be your greatest consolation.**
 - 5. Every Mass will go with you to judgment and plead for pardon.**
 - 6. At Mass, you can diminish more or less temporal punishment due to your sins, according to your fervor.**
 - 7. Assisting devoutly at Holy Mass, you render to the sacred humanity of our Lord the greatest homage.**
 - 8. He supplies for many of your negligences and omissions.**
 - 9. He forgives the venial sins which you have not confessed. The power of Satan over you is diminished.**
 - 10. You afford the souls in purgatory the greatest possible relief.**
 - 11. One Mass heard during your life will be of more benefit to you than many heard for you after your death.**
 - 12. You are preserved from dangers and misfortunes which otherwise might have befallen you. You shorten your purgatory.**
 - 13. Every Mass wins for you a higher degree of glory in heaven.**
 - 14. You receive the priest's blessing which Our Lord ratifies in heaven.**
 - 15. You kneel amidst a multitude of holy angels who are present at the adorable Sacrifice with reverential awe.**
 - 16. You are blessed in your temporal goods and affairs.**
- In eternity, we shall fully realize that it was certainly worthwhile to have assisted at Holy Mass daily.**

Pray for the priests that they may offer the mass with holy love and reverence.

THREE VERY BEAUTIFUL PRAYERS

Which are very useful to a **dying** person, and should be prayed often as an act of mercy.

It is related that there once was a Pope in Rome who was surrounded by many sins. The Lord God struck him with a fatal illness. When he saw that he was dying, he summoned Cardinals, Bishops and learned persons and said to them: "My dear friends! What comfort can you give me now that I must die, and when I deserve eternal damnation for my sins?" No one answered him. One of them, a pious curate named John, said, "Father, why do you doubt the Mercy of God?" The Pope replied, "What comfort can you give me now that I must die and fear that I'll be damned for my sins?" John replied, "I'll read three prayers over you; I hope you'll be comforted and that you'll obtain mercy from God." The Pope was unable to say more. The curate and all those present knelt and said the following prayers:

Our Father, (page 78.)

1. Lord Jesus Christ! Thou Son of God and Son of the Virgin Mary, God and Man! Thou Who in fear sweated blood for us on the Mount of Olives in order to bring peace and to offer Thy Most Holy Death to God, Thy Heavenly Father, for the salvation of this dying person ... If it be, however, that by his sins he merits eternal damnation, then may it be deflected from him. This, O Eternal Father, through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Dear Son, Who liveth and reigneth in union with Thee and The Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

2. Lord Jesus Christ! Thou Who meekly died on the trunk of the Cross for us, submitting Thy Will completely to Thy Heavenly Father in order to bring peace and to offer Thy

most Holy Death to Thy Heavenly Father in order to free ... (this person) ... and to hide from him what he has earned with his sins; grant this O Eternal Father! Through Our Lord Jesus, Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in union with the Holy Spirit now and forever. Amen.

3. Lord Jesus Christ! Thou Who remained silent to speak through the mouths of the prophets: I have drawn Thee to me through Eternal Love, which Love drew Thee from heaven into the body of the Virgin, which Love drew Thee from the body of the Virgin into the valley of this needful world, which Love kept Thee thirty-three years in this world. As a sign of great Love, Thou hast given Thy Holy Body as true food and Thy Holy Blood as true drink. As a sign of great Love, Thou has consented to be a prisoner and to be led from one judge to another. As a sign of great Love, Thou hast consented to be condemned to death, and hast consented to die and to be buried and truly risen, and to appear to Thy Holy Mother and all the holy apostles. As a sign of great Love, Thou hast ascended under Thy own strength and power, and sitteth at the right hand of God, Thy Heavenly Father. Thou has sent Thy Holy Spirit into the hearts of Thy apostles and the hearts of all who hope and believe in Thee. Through Thy sign of Eternal Love, open heaven today and take this dying person ... and all his forgiven sins into the realm of Thy Heavenly Father, that he may reign with Thee now and forever. Amen.

Meanwhile the Pope died. The curate persevered to the third hour. Then the Pope appeared to him in body and comforted him; his countenance as brilliant as the sun, his clothes as white as snow, and he said: "My dear brother! Whereas I was supposed to be a child of damnation, I've become a child of happiness. As you recited the first prayer, many of my sins fell from me as rain from heaven, and as

you recited the second prayer, I was purified, as a goldsmith purifies gold in a hot fire. I was still further purified as you recited the third prayer. Then I saw heaven open and the Lord Jesus standing at the right hand of God the Father, who said to me: "Come, all thy sins are forgiven thee; you'll be and remain in the realm of My Father forever. Amen!"

With these words my soul separated from my body and the angels of God led it to eternal joy.

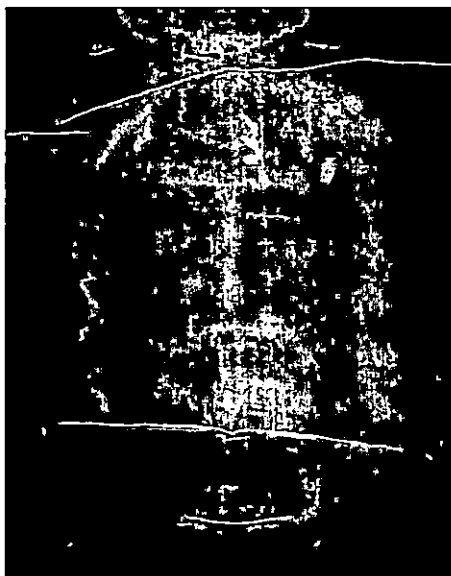
As the curate heard this he said: "O Holy Father! I can't tell these things to anyone, for they won't believe me." Then the Pope said, "Truly, I tell thee, the Angel of God stands with me and has written the prayers in letters of gold for the consolement of all sinners."

Then the Pope said that these prayers, if they are recited in the presence of a great sinner who is about to die, will aid them with many graces and even assist them in their suffering in purgatory so that they will be freed from any punishments that are due to their sins.

He also said that the person who hears them read should himself trust that the Lord preserves him from an unhappy death. The story tells us that he even had them taken into St. Peter's Basilica and placed on the altar as a sign of his great esteem for them. He especially desired that anyone who recited these prayers would have the hour of his death revealed to him in order to make a good preparation and avoid purgatory.

Sweet Heart of Jesus, be my love.

Indulged by Pope Leo XIII, May 21, 1892.



Face of Jesus
from the Holy Shroud of Turin

PRAYER TO THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS
by St. Therese of Lisieux

O Jesus, Who in Thy cruel Passion didst become the "Reproach of men and the Man of Sorrows", I worship Thy Divine Face.

Once it shone with the beauty and sweetness of Divinity; now for my sake It is become as the face of a "leper". Yet in that disfigured Countenance I recognize Thy Infinite Love, and I am consumed with the desire of loving Thee and of

making Thee loved by all mankind. The tears that streamed in such abundance from Thine Eyes are to me as precious pearls which I delight to gather, that with their infinite worth I may ransom the souls of poor sinners.

O Jesus, Whose Face is the sole beauty that ravishes my heart, I may not behold here upon earth the sweetness of Thy Glance nor feel the ineffable tenderness of Thy Kiss. Thereto I consent, but I pray Thee to imprint in me Thy Divine Likeness, and implore Thee to so inflame me with Thy Love that it may quickly consume me, and soon I may reach the vision of Thy Glorious Face in heaven! Amen.

Imprimatur: Joannes Henricus, Ep. Portus Magni, Oct 3, 1958.

Indulged by Pope St. Pius X (1903-1914)

"Jesus Christ, the human face of God and the divine face of Man." John Paul II



THE GOLDEN ARROW

May the most holy, most sacred, most adorable, most mysterious and unutterable Name of God be always praised, blessed, loved, adored and glorified in heaven, on earth and under the earth, by all the creatures of God, and by the Sacred Heart of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar. Amen

(This prayer was revealed by Our Lord to a Carmelite Nun, Sr. Mary of St. Peter of Tours in 1843. "This Golden Arrow will wound My Heart delightfully," He said, "and heal the wounds inflicted by blasphemy.")

Imprimatur: @ T. J. Toolen, Archbishop of Mobile-Birm.

Criticism Of Priests

Our Lord's revelations to Mutter Vogel

"One should **NEVER** attack a priest, even when he's in error. Rather, one should pray and do penance that I'll grant him My grace again. He alone fully represents Me, even when he doesn't live after My example!" (page 29, Mutter Vogel's Worldwide Love, St. Grignon Publishing House, Altötting, South Germany, June 29, 1929)

"When a priest falls, we should extend him a helping hand **THROUGH PRAYER AND NOT THROUGH ATTACKS!** I Myself will be his judge, **NO ONE BUT I!** Whoever voices judgment over a priest has voiced it over Me; child, never let a priest be attacked; take up his defense." (Feast of Christ the King, 1937) "Child, never judge your confessor; rather, pray much for him and offer every Thursday, through the hands of My blessed Mother, Holy Communion (for him)" (June 6, 1939) "Never again accept an out-of-the-way word about a priest, and speak no unkind word (about them) **EVEN IF IT WERE TRUE!** Every priest is My Vicar and My Heart will be sickened and insulted because of it! If you hear a judgment (against a priest) pray a Hail Mary." (June 28, 1939)

"If you see a priest who celebrates the Holy Mass unworthily, then say nothing about him; rather, tell it to Me alone! I stand beside Him on the altar! Oh pray much for my priests; that they'll love purity above all; that they'll celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass with pure hands and heart. Certainly, the Holy Sacrifice is one and the same even when it's celebrated by an unworthy priest, but the grace called down upon the people is not the same!" (Feb. 28, 1938)

A PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

Keep them, I pray Thee, dearest Lord,
Keep them, for they are Thine —
Thy priests whose lives burn out before
Thy consecrated shrine.
Keep them, for they are in the world,
Though from the world apart;
When earthly pleasures tempt, allure, —
Shelter them in Thy heart.
Keep them, and comfort them in hours
Of loneliness and pain,
When all their life of sacrifice
For souls seems but in vain.
Keep them, and O remember, Lord,
They have no one but Thee,
Yet they have only human hearts,
With human frailty.
Keep them as spotless as the Host,
That daily they caress;
Their every thought and word and deed,
Deign, dearest Lord, to bless.

Imprimatur: † D. Card. Dougherty, Arch. of Philadelphia

Our Father, Hail Mary. (page 78)
Mary, Queen of the Clergy, pray for them.

The Priesthood is a Masterpiece of Christ's Divine Love, Wisdom and Power.

In San Damiano, Italy on August 14, 1965, Jesus Christ told
Mama Rosa Quattrini: "Pray for the priests. Pray with might
and do not cease praying, for the devil wants their downfall.
Pray, My sons, you who are close to me."

AVE MARIS STELLA*

During a riot at Rome, a mob came to the house where St. Bridget lived; a leader talked of burning Bridget alive. She prayed to Our Lord to know if she should flee to safety. Jesus advised her to stay: "It doesn't matter if they plot thy death. My power will break the malice of thy enemies: if mine crucified Me, it is because I permitted it." Our Blessed Mother added: "Sing as a group the AVE MARIS STELLA and I'll guard you from every danger."

Hail thou star of the ocean
Portal of the sky,
Ever virgin Mother
Of the Lord Most High.

O! by Gabriel's Ave,
Uttered long ago,
Eva's name reversing,
Established peace below.

Break the captives' fetters,
Light on blindness pour,
All our ills expelling,
Every bliss implore.

Show thyself a Mother,
Offer Him our sighs,

Who for us incarnate
Did not thee despise.

Virgin of all virgins
To thy shelter take us,
Gentlest of the gentle
Chaste and gentle make us.

Still, as on we journey,
Help our weak endeavor,
Till with thee and Jesus
We rejoice forever.

Through the highest heaven,
To the almighty Three,
Father, Son, and Spirit,
One same glory be.
Amen.

Indulged by Pope Leo XIII, Jan. 27, 1888.



This picture of Our Lady was drawn by an Italian devotee of Mary. She drew it as a result of a spiritual experience that aided her in the detail of this portrait. She invokes a blessing through the intercession of Mary to each person who carries it, and another blessing for every time one looks at it and is brought to sentiments of love for the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Sweet Heart of Mary, be my salvation.

Indulged by Pope Pius IX, Sept. 30, 1852.

HAIL MARY OF GOLD

Hail Mary, White Lily of the glorious and always-serene Trinity!

Hail brilliant Rose of the garden of heavenly delights!

O you, by whom God wanted to be born and by whose milk the King of heaven wanted to be nourished! Nourish our souls with effusions of divine grace. Amen!

("At the hour when the soul which has thus greeted me quits the body, I'll appear to them in such splendid beauty that they'll taste, to their great consolation, something of the joys of paradise." The Blessed Virgin Mary to St. Gertrude the Great, Revelations, book III, chapter XVIII.)

Devotion to the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary

This message was confided by Our Lord to Berthe Petit, a humble Franciscan Tertiary, born on January 23, 1870, at Enghien, Belgium:

"Teach souls to love the heart of My Mother, pierced by the very sorrows which pierced Mine." (December 25, 1909)

At the Holy Hour (March 25, 1912), the Blessed Virgin spoke thus: "I have called myself the Immaculate Conception. To you I call myself Mother of the Sorrowful Heart. This title, willed by my Son, is dear to me above all others. Accordingly, as it is spread everywhere, there will be granted graces of mercy, spiritual renewal and salvation."

Mary, Queen of the Holy Angels, pray for us.

SALVE REGINA

Hail, Holy Queen*

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us; and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.

Sac. Cong of Indulgences April 5, 1786; Raccolta #332, 2004.

CONSECRATION TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN*

O Mary, my Queen, my Mother, I give myself entirely to thee and to show my devotion to thee, I consecrate to thee this day, my eyes, my ears, my mouth, my heart, my whole being without reserve. Wherefore, good Mother as I am thine own, keep me, guard me as thy property and possession. Amen.

Indulged by BL Pope Pius IX, August 5, 1851, when said with a Hail Mary in the morning and in the evening to overcome temptation. Raccolta #340, 2004.

PRAYER TO MARY

by Berthe Petit

Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, dwelling pure and holy, cover my soul with your maternal protection, so that being ever faithful to the voice of Jesus, it responds to His love and obeys His Divine Will.

I wish, O my Mother, to keep unceasingly before me your co-redemption in order to live intimately with your heart that is totally united to the Heart of your Divine Son.

Fasten me to this Heart by your own virtues and sorrows. Protect me always. Amen.

CANTICLE OF MARY

Magnificat*

Antiphon. – Who is she that cometh forth as the morning rising,
fair as the moon, bright as the Sun, terrible as an army set in
battle array?

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
Because He hath regarded the humility of His handmaid; for
 behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
Because He that is mighty, hath done great things to me; and holy
 is His name.
And His mercy is from generation unto generations, to them that
 fear Him.
He hath shown might in His arm: He hath scattered the proud in
 the conceit of their heart.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the
 humble.
He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich He hath
 sent empty away.
He hath received Israel His servant, being mindful of His mercy:
As He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed
 for ever. (Luke 1:46-55)

Antiphon. – Who is she that cometh forth as the morning rising,
fair as the moon, bright as the Sun, terrible as an army set in
battle array?

V. O Mary conceived without sin.

R. Pray for us who have recourse to Thee.

MARY, MEDIATRIX

O Lord Jesus Christ, our Mediator with the Father, Who hast
been pleased to appoint the Most Blessed Virgin, Thy
Mother, to be our mother also, and our mediatrix with Thee,
mercifully grant that whosoever comes to Thee seeking Thy
favors may rejoice to receive all of them through her. Amen.

Why Pray the *Daily* Rosary?*

At Fatima (1917) Our Lady said: "I am the Lady of the Rosary. Pray the rosary every day to obtain peace for the world. After each decade say the following prayer:

O my Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fire of hell, and lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of Thy mercy."

St. Francis de Sales said that the greatest method of praying is to Pray the Rosary.

St. Thomas Aquinas preached 40 straight days in Rome, Italy, on just the Hall Mary.

St. John Vianney, patron of priests, was seldom seen without a rosary in his hand.

"The rosary is the scourge of the devil." — Pope Adrian VI.

"The rosary is a treasure of graces." — Pope Paul V.

St. Padre Pio, the stigmatic priest, said:

"The rosary is the weapon."

Pope Leo XIII wrote 9 encyclicals on the rosary.

Blessed Pope John XXIII spoke 38 times about our Lady and the Rosary. He prayed 15 decades daily.

St. Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort wrote: "The rosary is the most powerful weapon to touch the Heart of Jesus, Our Redeemer, Who so loves His Mother."

Will you give 1% of each day to God? If so, pray the daily rosary.

"To recite the Rosary is nothing other than to contemplate with Mary the face of Christ."

Rosarium Virginis Mariae, Pope John Paul II, Oct. 16, 2002.

The Fifteen Promises of Mary to Christians Who Recite the Rosary*

(Given to St. Dominic and Blessed Alain)

1. Whoever shall faithfully serve me by the recitation of the rosary, shall receive signal graces.
2. I promise my special protection and the greatest graces to all those who shall recite the rosary.
3. The rosary shall be a powerful armour against hell. It will destroy vice, decrease sin, and defeat heresies.
4. It will cause virtue and good works to flourish; it will obtain for souls the abundant mercy of God; it will withdraw the hearts of men from the love of the world and its vanities, and will lift them to the desire of eternal things. Oh, that souls would sanctify themselves by this means!
5. The soul which recommends itself to me by the recitation of the rosary, shall not perish.
6. Whoever shall recite the rosary devoutly, applying himself to the consideration of its sacred mysteries shall never be conquered by misfortune. God will not chastise him in His justice, and he shall not perish by an unprovided death; if he be just he shall remain in the grace of God and become worthy of eternal life.
7. Whoever shall have a true devotion for the rosary shall not die without the sacraments of the Church.
8. Those who are faithful to recite the rosary shall have during their life and at their death the light of God and the fullness of His graces, and at the moment of death they shall participate in the merits of the saints in paradise.
9. I shall deliver from purgatory those who have been devoted to the rosary.
10. The faithful children of the rosary shall merit a high degree of glory in heaven.
11. You shall obtain all you ask of me by the recitation of the rosary.

12. All those who propagate the holy rosary shall be aided by me in their necessities.
13. I have obtained from my Divine Son that all the advocates of the rosary shall have for intercessors the entire celestial court during their life and at the hour of death.
14. All who recite the rosary are my beloved children, the brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ.
15. Devotion of my rosary is a great sign of predestination.

Imprimatur: †PATRICK J. HAYES, D.D., Archbishop of New York

54 DAY ROSARY NOVENA

(In 1884 at Naples, Italy, this novena was revealed by Our Lady to Fortua Agrelli, who was incurably sick and had been fervently praying the Rosary. The Blessed Mother promised to restore her health, and said to her: "Whoever wishes to receive favors from me should make three novenas of the prayers of the Rosary in petition and three in thanksgiving.")

To obtain a favor, pray consecutively 6 nine day rosary novenas (27 days of petition and 27 days of thanksgiving), alternating mysteries.

Imprimatur: Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, Sept. 30, 1954.

Nihil Obstat: John M.A. Fearn, STD, Censor Librorum

Our Lady asked at San Damiano that we offer our daily Rosary as follows: Monday - for the poor souls, *especially* for those of priests. Tuesday - for the youth. Wednesday - for the family. Thursday - to *thank* God for, and to *honor* the Most Blessed Sacrament. Friday - for priests and religious. Saturday - for the conversion of sinners. Sunday - for our Holy Father the Pope.

CONSECRATION TO JESUS CHRIST, THE INCARNATE WISDOM, THROUGH THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

by St. Louis De Montfort

O Eternal and Incarnate Wisdom! O sweetest and most adorable Jesus! True God and true man, only Son of the Eternal Father, and of Mary, always virgin! I adore Thee profoundly in the bosom and splendors of Thy Father during eternity; and I adore Thee also in the virginal bosom of Mary, Thy most worthy Mother, in the time of Thine Incarnation.

I give Thee thanks for that Thou hast annihilated Thyself, taking the form of a slave in order to rescue me from the cruel slavery of the devil. I praise and glorify Thee for that Thou hast been pleased to submit Thyself to Mary, Thy holy Mother, in all things, in order to make me Thy faithful slave through her. But Alas! Ungrateful and faithless as I have been, I have not kept the promises which I made so solemnly to Thee in my Baptism; I have not fulfilled my obligations; I do not deserve to be called Thy child, nor yet Thy slave; and as there is nothing in me which does not merit Thine anger and Thy repulse, I dare not come by myself before Thy most holy and august Majesty. It is on this account that I have recourse to the intercession of Thy most holy Mother, whom Thou hast given me for a mediatrix with Thee. It is through her that I hope to obtain of Thee contrition, the pardon of my sins, and the acquisition and preservation of wisdom.

Hail, then, O Immaculate Mary, living tabernacle of the Divinity, where the Eternal Wisdom willed to be hidden and to be adored by angels and by men! Hail, O Queen of heaven and earth, to whose empire everything is subject which is under God. Hail, O sure refuge of sinners, whose mercy

fails no one. Hear the desires which I have of the Divine Wisdom; and for that end, receive the vows and offerings which in my lowliness I present to thee. I, N., . . . a faithless sinner, renew and ratify today in thy hands the vows of my Baptism; I renounce forever Satan, his pomps and works; and I give myself entirely to Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Wisdom, to carry my cross after Him all the days of my life, and to be more faithful to Him than I have ever been before.

In the presence of all the heavenly court, I choose thee this day for my Mother and mistress. I deliver and consecrate to thee, as thy slave, my body and soul, my goods, both interior and exterior, and even the value of all my good actions, past, present and future; leaving to thee the entire and full right of disposing of me, and all that belongs to me, without exception, according to thy good pleasure, for the greater glory of God in time and in eternity.

Receive, O gracious Virgin, this little offering of my slavery, in honor of, and in union with, that subjection which the Eternal Wisdom deigned to have to thy maternity, in homage to the power which both of you have over this poor sinner, and in thanksgiving for the privileges with which the Holy Trinity has favored thee. I declare that I wish henceforth, as thy true slave, to seek thy honor and to obey thee in all things.

O admirable Mother, present me to thy dear Son as His eternal slave, so that as He has redeemed me by thee, by thee He may receive me! O Mother of mercy, grant me the grace to obtain the true Wisdom of God; and for that end receive among those whom thou lovest and teachest, or whom thou ledest, nourishest and protectest as thy children and thy slaves.

O faithful Virgin, make me in all things so perfect a disciple, imitator and slave of the Incarnate Wisdom, Jesus Christ thy Son, that I may attain, by thine intercession and by thine example, to the fullness of His age on earth and of His glory in heaven. Amen.

Indulged by Pope Pius X, Dec. 24, 1907. Raccolta #96, 2004

A plenary indulgence, under the usual conditions, on the feast of the Immaculate Conception and April 28.

Preces et Pia Opera, 75.

Nihil Obstat: Thomas W. Smiddy, S.T.D., Cen Lib.

Imprimatur: †Thomas Edmunds Molloy, Bishop of Brooklyn

GLORY BE TO JESUS AND MARY

A letter said to be written by the Blessed Virgin Mary to the City of Messina where St. Paul, the Apostle, preached the gospel, which has been preserved in the Reliquary of the great altar.

"I Mary, Virgin, servant of God, very humble Mother of Jesus Christ, Son of God, the Almighty and Eternal, to all who are in Messina, health and benediction in Our Lord! You have learned by the ambassadors who have been sent to you. You received the gospel and you acknowledged that the Son of God has become man, and has suffered the passion and death for the salvation of the world, and that He is Christ and also the true Messiah. I beseech you to persevere, promising to you and all your posterity, to assist you in the presence of my Son."

Mary, Virgin, very humble servant of God

(Great graces are given to those who carry a copy of this letter.)

CONSECRATING THE TWO LAST HOURS OF OUR LIFE TO THE MOST HOLY VIRGIN

by Rev. Fr. Ildefonso M. Izaguirre, O.P.

Prostrated at thy feet and humiliated by my sins, but full of confidence in thee, O Mary, I beg thee to accept the petition my heart is going to make. It is for my last moments. Dear Mother, I wish to request thy protection and maternal love so that in the decisive instant thou wilt do all thy love can suggest in my behalf.

To thee, O Mother of my soul, I consecrate THE LAST TWO HOURS of my life. Come to my side to receive my last breath and when death has cut the thread of my days, tell Jesus, presenting to Him my soul, "I LOVE IT". These words alone will be enough to procure for me the benediction of my God and the happiness of seeing thee for all eternity.

I put my trust in thee, my Mother, and hope it will not be in vain. O Mary! Pray for thy child and lead me to Jesus! Amen.

"Abandoning the Mother is but one step from abandoning the Son,"

St. Bonaventure said: "Whoever neglected Our Lady would perish in his sins and would be damned."

"O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee!"

This prayer which appears on the miraculous medal was given to St. Catherine Labouré Nov. 27, 1830.

Indulgenced by Pope Leo XIII on Dec. 15, 1883.

***"Whosoever
dies clothed
in this shall
never suffer
eternal fire."***

**Our Lady's
Scapular
Promise.**



***"Pray the
Rosary Daily
for unity and
peace."***

**Our Lady of
Fatima**

Mary's Garment

This is Mary's promise made July 16, 1251, to Saint Simon Stock.

On October 13, 1917, at the last apparition at Fatima, Our Blessed Mother appeared, dressed as Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. Silently she held out to the world the brown scapular - the sign of personal consecration - the sign of eternal salvation. Lucy of Fatima explained: *"The Scapular and the Rosary are inseparable."*

The devils revealed to Francis of Yepes, the brother of St. John of the Cross, that three things especially tormented them. The first is the Name of Jesus; the second, the name of Mary; and the third, the Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. "Take off that habit," they cried to him, "which snatches so many souls from us. All those clothed in it die piously and escape us."

Your SCAPULAR, then, should take on deep meaning for you. It is a rich present brought down from heaven by our Lady herself.

"Wear it devoutly and perseveringly," she says to each soul, "it is my garment. To be clothed in it means you are continually thinking of me, and I in turn, am always thinking of you and helping you to secure eternal life."

FLOS CARMELI

By St. Simon Stock

(This prayer has for seven centuries been called a prayer to the Blessed Mother which has never been known to fail in obtaining her powerful help.)

O beautiful Flower of Carmel, most fruitful vine, splendor of heaven, holy and singular, who brought forth the Son of God, still ever remaining a pure virgin, assist me in this necessity. O Star of the Sea, help and protect me! Show me that thou art my Mother.

**O Mary, conceived without sin,
Pray for us who have recourse to thee!**

**Mother and Ornament of Carmel, Pray for us!
Virgin, Flower of Carmel, Pray for us!
Patroness of all who wear the scapular, Pray for us!
Hope of all who die wearing the scapular, Pray for us!
St. Joseph, friend of the Sacred Heart, Pray for us!
St. Joseph, chaste spouse of Mary, Pray for us!
St. Joseph, our patron, Pray for us!
O sweet heart of Mary, be our salvation!**

"O consoling Mother, console us all, and make everyone understand that the secret of happiness lies in goodness, and in always following faithfully your Son, Jesus."

***L'Observatore Romano, John Paul II 4.28.80 .4
The Prayers of Pope John Paul II by Paul Thigpen, pg 222.***

INVOCATIONS TO HONOR THE HOLY WOUNDS OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

(May be said on the rosary beads or as a single prayer.)

On the large beads: Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Wounds of our Lord Jesus Christ to heal the wounds of our souls.

On the small beads: My Jesus, pardon and mercy through the merits of Thy Holy Wounds.

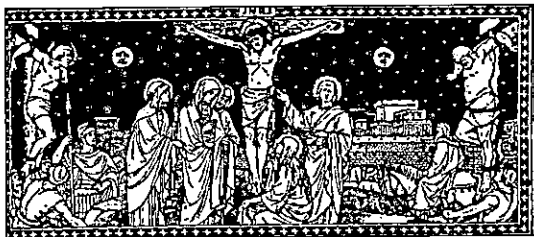
Indulgenced by Sacred Penitentiary, January 15, 1924.

*Imprimatur: Albertus G. Meyer, Archbishop of Milwaukee,
May 1, 1956.*

(Sister Mary Martha Chambon, a humble lay sister of the Visitation Order of Chambéry, France, who died in the odor of sanctity, March 21, 1907, received these two invocations from Our Lord Himself, as she affirmed, and with them a double mission to adore and invoke the Sacred Wounds unceasingly and to revive this devotion in the hearts of creatures.

Our Lord said:

"The soul who during life has honored and studied the Wounds of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and has offered them to the Eternal Father for the souls in purgatory, will be accompanied at the moment of death by the Holy Virgin and the angels; and Our Lord on the Cross, all brilliant in glory, will receive her and crown her...I will grant all that is asked of Me by the invocation of My Holy Wounds."



Stations of the Cross

A *plenary indulgence* is granted the Christian faithful who devoutly make the Stations of the Cross. This devout exercise of the Stations of the Cross helps renew our remembrance of the sufferings which our Divine Redeemer underwent on His journey from Pilate's praetorium, where He was condemned to death, to Mount Calvary, where for our salvation He died on the cross.

The norms for obtaining this plenary indulgence are the following:

1. This devout exercise must be performed before Stations of the Cross which have been lawfully erected.
2. Fourteen crosses are required in order to erect the Stations of the Cross. As an aid to devotion these crosses are customarily attached to fourteen tableaux or images representing the Jerusalem stations.
3. In accord with the more common custom, this devout exercise consists of fourteen pious readings to which are joined some vocal prayers. But in order to perform this devout exercise it is required only that one devoutly meditate upon the Passion and Death of the Lord. It is not required that one meditate upon each of the individual mysteries of the stations.
4. Movement from one station to the next is required. If the devout exercise is carried out publicly and such movement by all present cannot be done without some disorder, it is sufficient that the person who is leading the exercise move from station to station while the others remain in their places.
5. Persons who are legitimately prevented from fulfilling the above requirements can obtain this indulgence if they at least spend some time, e.g. fifteen minutes, in devout

reading and meditation upon the Passion and Death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

6. Equivalent to this devout exercise of the Stations of the Cross — even with regard to obtaining the indulgence — are those other devout exercises which have been approved by the competent authority and which call to mind the remembrance of the Lord's Passion and Death in a manner similar to the Stations of the Cross
7. In order to obtain this indulgence, the patriarchs can establish some other devout exercise in memory of the Passion and Death of our Lord Jesus Christ for those Eastern Christian faithful whose usages do not include this exercise of the Stations.

A SHORT WAY OF THE CROSS

As used by The Franciscan Fathers on their Missions

First Station: *Jesus Is Condemned to Death*

O Jesus! So meek and uncomplaining, teach me resignation in trials.

Second Station: *Jesus Carries His Cross*

My Jesus! This Cross should be mine, not Thine! My sins crucified Thee.

Third Station: *Our Lord Falls the First Time*

O Jesus! By this first fall, never let me fall into mortal sin.

Fourth Station: *Jesus Meets His Mother*

O Jesus! May no human tie, however dear, keep me from following the road of the Cross.

Fifth Station: *Simon, the Cyrenean, Helps Jesus Carry His Cross*

Simon unwillingly assisted Thee; may I with patience suffer all for Thee.



Sixth Station: *Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus*

**O Jesus! Thou didst imprint Thy sacred features upon
Veronica's veil; stamp them also indelibly upon my heart.**

Seventh Station: *The Second Fall of Jesus*

By Thy second fall, preserve me, dear Lord, from relapse into sin.

Eighth Station: *Jesus Consols the Women of Jerusalem*

My greatest consolation would be to hear Thee say: "Many sins are forgiven thee, because thou hast loved much."

Ninth Station: *Third Fall of Jesus*

O Jesus! When I am weary upon life's long journey, be Thou my strength and my perseverance.

Tenth Station: *Jesus Is Stripped of His Garments*

My soul has been robbed of its robe of innocence; clothe me, dear Jesus, with the garb of penance and contrition.

Eleventh Station: *Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross*

Thou didst forgive Thy enemies; my God, teach me to forgive injuries and forget them.

Twelfth Station: *Jesus Dies on the Cross*

Thou art dying, my Jesus, but Thy Sacred Heart still throbs with love for Thy sinful children.

Thirteenth Station: *Jesus Is Taken Down from the Cross*

Receive me into thy arms, O Sorrowful Mother, and obtain for me perfect contrition for my sins.

Fourteenth Station: *Jesus Is Laid in the Sepulcher*

When I receive Thee into my heart in Holy Communion, O Jesus, make it a fit abiding place for Thy adorable Body. Amen.

BROTHER ESTANISLAO (1903- 1927)

At the age of 18, a young Spaniard entered the Novitiate of The Brothers of the Christian Schools at Buggedo. He took the Vow of Regularity, Perfection and Pure Love. In October, 1926, he offered himself to Jesus through Mary. Soon after this heroic donation, he fell ill and was obliged to rest. He died saintly in March, 1927. He was, according to the Master of Novices, a Privileged Soul, who received messages from heaven. Confessors and theologians recognized these supernatural facts. His director asked him to write the promises made by Our Lord to those who have devotion to The Way of the Cross.

Although he is not yet beatified by the Church, one may still derive benefit by his reported messages from heaven which are the following:

1. I'll grant everything that's asked of Me with faith, when making The Way of The Cross.
2. I promise eternal life to those who pray, from time to time, The Way of The Cross.
3. I'll follow them everywhere in life and I'll help them, especially at the hour of death.
4. Even if they have more sins than blades of grass in the fields and grains of sand in the sea, all of them will be erased by The Way of The Cross. (Note: This promise doesn't eliminate the obligation to confess all mortal sins, and this, before we can receive Holy Communion.)
5. Those who pray the Way of The Cross often will have a special glory in heaven.

- 6 I'll deliver them from purgatory, indeed, if they go there at all, the first Tuesday or Friday after their death.
7. I'll bless them at each Way of The Cross, and My blessing will follow them everywhere on earth and, after their death, in heaven for all eternity.
8. At the hour of death, I won't permit the devil to tempt them; I'll lift all power from him in order that they'll repose tranquilly in My Arms.
9. If they pray it with true love, I'll make of each one of them a living ciborium in which it will please Me to pour My grace.
10. I'll fix My Eyes on those who pray The Way of The Cross often. My Hands will always be open to protect them.
11. As I am nailed to the Cross, so also will I always be with those who honor Me in making the Way of The Cross frequently.
12. They'll never be able to separate themselves from Me, for I'll give them the grace never again to commit a mortal sin.
13. At the hour of death, I'll console them with My Presence and we'll go together to heaven. Death will be sweet to all those who have honored Me during their lives by praying the Way of The Cross.
14. My Soul will be a protective shield for them, and will always help them, whenever they have recourse.

St. Alphonsus Liguori wrote:

"If you pray, you are positive of saving your soul. If you do NOT pray, you are just as positive of losing your soul."

THE TWENTY-FOUR "GLORY BE TO THE FATHER" NOVENA

Origin of the Novena to St. Therese of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face

Father Putigan, a Jesuit, began the novena to Saint Therese of the Child Jesus on December 3, 1925, asking the glorious saint for one great favor. For nine days he recited the "Glory be to the Father" twenty-four times, thanking the Holy Trinity for the favors and graces showered on Saint Therese during the twenty-four years of her life on earth. The priest asked, Saint Therese that, as a sign that his novena was heard, he would receive from someone a freshly plucked rose. On the third day of the novena, an unknown person sought out Father Putigan and presented him with a beautiful rose.

Father Putigan began the second novena on December 24 of the same year and, as a sign, asked for a white rose. On the fourth day of this novena, one of the sister-nurses brought him a white rose saying:

"Saint Therese sent you this."

Amazed, the priest asked,

"Where did you get this?"

"I was in the chapel," said the Sister, "and as I was leaving, I passed the altar above which hangs the beautiful picture of Saint Therese.

This rose fell at my feet. I wanted to put it back into the bouquet, but a thought came to me that I should bring it to you."

Father Putigan received the favors he had petitioned of the Little Flower of Jesus, and promised to spread the novena to increase devotion to her, and bring her more honor.

NOVENAS TO ST. THERESE

(The Twenty-four "Glory Be to the Father" novena can be said at any time. However, the ninth to the seventeenth of the month is particularly recommended, for on those days the petitioner joins in prayer with all those making the novena, thus forming one great prayer in common.)

The "Glory Be to the Father," (page 78), is said twenty-four times each of the nine days, in thanksgiving for all the blessing and favors given to St. Therese of the Child Jesus during the twenty-four years of her life. After each "Glory be to the Father" say; Saint Therese of the Child Jesus, pray for us.

or

O Little Therese of the Child Jesus, please pick for me a rose from the heavenly gardens and send it to me as a message of love.

O Little Flower of Jesus, ask God today to grant the favors I now place with confidence in your hands.... (*Mentions specific requests*)

St. Therese, help me to always believe as you did, in God's great love for me, so that I might imitate your "Little Way" each day. Amen

Pray the novena with great devotion and faith, and with confidence that the Lord will grant what you ask!

ACT OF FAITH

My God, grant that I may love Thee, and be the only reward of my love to love Thee always more and more.

Indulged by Pope Leo XIII, March 15, 1890.



Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus. Pray for us!

**A True Letter Of Our Saviour Jesus Christ,
Consecrating The Drops Of Blood Which Our Lord
Jesus Lost On His Way To Calvary.**

Copy of a letter of the oration found in the Holy Sepulcher of Our Lord Jesus Christ in Jerusalem, preserved in a silver box by His Holiness and by the Emperors and Empresses of the Christian Faith:

St. Elizabeth, Queen of Hungary, with St. Matilda and St. Bridget, wishing to know something of the Passion of Jesus Christ, offered fervent and special prayers, upon which there appeared to them Our Lord Jesus Christ Who spoke to each of them in the following manner:

"I descended from heaven to the earth in order to convert you.

In olden times, people were religious and their harvests were abundant. At present, on the contrary, they are scanty.

If you want to reap an abundant harvest, you must not work on Sunday, for on Sunday you must go to Church and pray to God to forgive your sins. He gave you six days in which to work and one for rest and devotion, and to tender your help to the poor and assist the Church.

Those people who brawl against My religion and cast slurs on this Sacred Letter shall be forsaken by Me.

On the contrary, those people who shall carry a copy of this letter with them shall be free from death by drowning and from sudden death. They shall be free from all contagious diseases and lightning; they shall not die without confession, and shall be free from their enemies and from the hand of wrongful authority, and from all their slanderers and false witnesses.

Women in peril at child-birth will, by keeping this oration about them, immediately overcome the difficulty. In the houses where this oration is kept, no evil thing will ever

happen; and forty days before the death of a person who has this oration about him or her, the Blessed Virgin will appear to him or her. So said St. Gregorius.

To all those faithful who shall recite for 3 years, each day 2 Our Fathers, Hail Marys and Glory Be to the Fathers, in honor of the drops of blood I lost, I will concede the following 5 graces:

- 1st. The plenary indulgence and remittance of your sins.
- 2nd. You will be free from the pains of purgatory.
- 3rd. If you should die before completing the said 3 years, for you it will be the same as if you had completed them.
- 4th. It will be upon your death the same as if you had shed all your blood for the holy faith.
- 5th. I will descend from heaven to take your soul and that of your relatives, until the fourth generation.

Be it known that the number of armed soldiers were 150; those who trailed Me while I was bound were 23. The executioners of justice were 83; the blows received on My head were 150; those on My stomach, 108; kicks on My shoulders, 80. I was led, bound with cords, by the hair, 24 times; spits in the face were 180; I was beaten on the body, 6666 times; beaten on the head, 110 times. I was roughly pushed, and at 12 o'clock was lifted up by the hair; pricked with thorns and pulled by the beard, 23 times; received 20 wounds on the head; thorns of marine junks, 72; pricks of thorns in the head, 110; mortal thorns in the forehead, 3. I was afterwards flogged and dressed as a mocked king; wounds in the body, 1000. The soldiers who led Me to the Calvary were 608; those who watched Me were 3, and those who mocked Me were 1008; the drops of blood which I lost were 28,430."

Benedetta DA S.S., Pope Leo XIII H, In Roma April 5, 1890.

Prayer to Jesus, King of All Nations

Jesus told His servant, "I come to you... to entrust to you a devotion that is in connection with My image as 'Jesus, King of All Nations'. This devotion is to be comprised of nine (9) Our Fathers, nine (9) Hail Marys and nine (9) Glory Be's. I desire that these be recited as sets of three (3). You will say one (1) Our Father, one (1) Hail Mary and one (1) Glory Be as one set. This is to be recited over the period of nine days, one set per day, thus forming a Novena in honor of Me as True King. I also desire the prayer I will now teach you to be recited as part of this Novena...Let souls approach Me with unlimited confidence!"

NOVENA PRAYER

O Lord our God, You alone are the Most Holy King and Ruler of all nations. We pray to You, Lord, in the great expectation of receiving from You, O Divine King, mercy, peace, justice and all good things.

Protect, O Lord our King, our families and the land of our birth. Guard us, we pray, Most Faithful One! Protect us from our enemies and from Your just judgment.

Forgive us, O Sovereign King, our sins against You. Jesus, You are a King of Mercy. We have deserved Your just judgment. Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us. We trust in Your great mercy.

O most awe-inspiring King, we bow before You and pray; May Your reign, Your kingdom, be recognized on earth! Amen.

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History of the Devotion to the Infant of Prague

Devotion to the Infant Jesus is as old as Christianity itself. It ever tends to keep the great mystery of Our Lord's birth vividly before us.

A special devotion to the Divine Child originated with the Carmelites in the city of Prague, Bohemia, in the beginning of the seventeenth century. Princess Polyxenia of Lobkowitz had received, as a wedding gift from her mother, a statue of the Divine Child, previously brought from Spain. After the death of her husband, the princess devoted herself to works of charity and was particularly helpful to the Carmelites in Prague. When, in 1628, the Carmelite Monastery had been reduced to poverty, owing to the ravages of war, the princess gave her precious statue to the Carmelites, saying:

"I GIVE YOU WHAT I PRIZE MOST HIGHLY IN THE WORLD. HONOR AND RESPECT THE CHILD JESUS AND YOU SHALL NEVER BE IN WANT."

Her gift was placed in the Carmelite oratory. The words of the princess proved prophetic, for as long as the Carmelites kept up their devotion to the Divine Infant of Prague, everything prospered with them. The Carmelites were later forced to flee from the city and in the confusion of the war they were unable to take with them their miraculous statue. The invaders seized it and threw it into a pile of rubbish. In 1635, peace came to Prague and the Carmelites returned. One of them, Venerable Cyril of the Mother of God, O.C.D. (1590-1675), who had previously received great spiritual help through his devotion to the Infant of Prague, sought the statue and found it amidst the rubbish. Overjoyed, he placed the statue again in the oratory. As Father Cyril was one day praying devotedly before the statue, he heard a voice saying:

"HAVE MERCY ON ME AND I WILL HAVE MERCY ON YOU. RETURN MY HANDS TO ME AND I SHALL GIVE YOU PEACE. THE MORE YOU HONOR ME, THE MORE I SHALL BLESS YOU." *Startled by these words, Father Cyril examined the statue and upon drawing aside the mantle covering it, he found that both hands of the statue were broken off. The hands were restored to the statue through the generosity of a client of the Divine Child. Once more peace and prosperity returned to the Carmelites.*

Devotion to the Divine Child had always been practiced by the Carmelites, for through their Mother, Mary, this Divine Child had come to the world. St. Teresa of Jesus practiced particular devotion to the Divine Child. St. Therese, the Little Flower, was also a most fervent venerator.

PRAYER TO THE INFANT OF PRAGUE

A Prayer for the Sick

O merciful Infant Jesus! I know of Thy miraculous deeds for the sick. How many diseases You cured during Your blessed life on earth, and how many venerators of Your miraculous image ascribe to You their recovery and deliverance from most painful and hopeless maladies. I know, indeed, that a sinner like me has merited his sufferings and has no right to ask for favors. But in view of the innumerable graces and the miraculous cures granted even to the greatest sinners through the veneration of Your holy Infancy, particularly in the statue of Prague or in representations of it, I exclaim with the greatest assurance: O most loving Infant Jesus, full of pity, You can cure me if You will! Do not

hesitate, O Heavenly Physician, if it be Your will that I recover from this present illness; extend Your most holy hands, and by Your power take away all pain and infirmity, so that my recovery may be due, not to natural remedies, but to You alone. If, however, You in Your inscrutable wisdom have determined otherwise, then at least restore my soul to perfect health, and fill me with heavenly consolation and blessing, that I may be like You, O Jesus, in my sufferings, and may glorify Your providence until, at the death of my body, You bestow on me eternal life. Amen.

**PRAYER TO THE SACRED HEAD
OF OUR BLESSED LORD,
AS THE SEAT OF DIVINE WISDOM**

Wisdom of the Sacred Head, guide me in all my ways.

O Love of the Sacred Heart, consume me with Thy fire.

Say three Glorias, in honor of the Divine Will, Memory and Understanding.

O Seat of Divine Wisdom and guiding Power, which governs all the motions and love of the Sacred Heart, may all minds know Thee, all hearts love Thee, and all tongues praise Thee, now and for evermore.

Imprimatur, Jacobus Canonicus Carr, Pro Epo Liverpoolitano.

(The prayers to The Sacred Head were given to a privileged soul, Teresa Helena Higginson (1844-1905) who received the stigmata in Wales on Good Friday, March 27, 1874.)



LITANY TO THE SACRED HEAD OF JESUS

(For private devotion only)

Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us

Lord, have mercy on us.

Jesus, graciously hear us.

God the Father of heaven, have mercy on us.

God the Son, Redeemer of the World, have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit, have mercy on us.

**Sacred Head of Jesus formed by the Holy Spirit
in the womb of the Virgin Mary**

After each invocation say:

"Guide us in all our ways."

**Sacred Head of Jesus, Substantially United to the Word
of God,**

Sacred Head of Jesus, Temple of Divine Wisdom,

Sacred Head of Jesus, Centre of Eternal Light,

**Sacred Head of Jesus, Tabernacle of Divine
Knowledge,**

Sacred Head of Jesus, Safeguard against error,

Sacred Head of Jesus, Sunshine of heaven and earth,

**Sacred Head of Jesus, Treasure of science and pledge
of faith,**

**Sacred Head of Jesus, radiant with beauty and justice
and love,**

Sacred Head of Jesus, full of Grace and Truth,

Sacred Head of Jesus, Living Witness of humility,

**Sacred Head of Jesus, reflecting the Infinite Majesty of
God,**

Sacred Head of Jesus, Center of the Universe,

**Sacred Head of Jesus, Object of the Father's joyous
satisfaction,**

**Sacred Head of Jesus, upon Which the Holy Spirit
Rested,**

**Sacred Head of Jesus, around Which the Glory of
Mt. Tabor shone,**

**Sacred Head of Jesus, Who had no place on earth on
which to rest,**

**Sacred Head of Jesus, Whom the fragrant anointing
of Magdalene consoled,**

Sacred Head of Jesus, bathed with the Sweat of
 Blood in Gethsemani,
 Sacred Head of Jesus, Who wept for our sins,
 Sacred Head of Jesus, crowned with thorns,
 Sacred Head of Jesus, outraged by the Indignities
 of the Passion,
 Sacred Head of Jesus, consoled by the loving
 gesture of Veronica,
 Sacred Head of Jesus, bowed to the earth which
 was redeemed at the moment of death on Calvary,
 Sacred Head of Jesus, Light of every being born on
 earth,
 Sacred Head of Jesus, our Guide and our Hope,
 Sacred Head of Jesus, Who knows all our needs,
 Sacred Head of Jesus, Who gives us all graces,
 Sacred Head of Jesus, That governs all the motions
 of the Sacred Heart,
 Sacred Head of Jesus, Whom we wish to adore and
 make known throughout the world,
 Sacred Head of Jesus, Who knows all the secrets of
 our hearts,
 Sacred Head of Jesus, Who enraptures angels and the
 saints,
 Sacred Head of Jesus, Whom one day we hope to
 behold unveiled forever,
 Jesus, we adore your Sacred Head; We surrender
 utterly to all the decrees of Your Infinite Wisdom.

Imprimatur: August 26, 1937, G. Puyo. V.B.

EFFICACIOUS NOVENA TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

I. O my Jesus, You said, "Truly I say to you: Ask and you shall receive; seek and you shall find; knock and it shall be opened to you." Behold, I knock, I seek and I ask for the grace of...(Name your request.)

***Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be to the Father (page 78)
Sacred Heart of Jesus, I put all my trust in Thee.***

II. O my Jesus, You said: "Truly I say to you: Whatsoever you shall ask the Father in My name, He will give it to you." Behold, in your name I ask the Father for the grace of ... (Name your request.)

***Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be to the Father.
Sacred Heart of Jesus, I put all my trust in Thee.***

III. O my Jesus, You said: "Truly I say to you: heaven and earth shall pass away but My words shall not pass away." Behold, I encouraged by Your infallible words, now ask for the grace of ... (Name your request.)

***Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be to the Father.
Sacred Heart of Jesus, I put all my trust in Thee.***

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, to whom one thing alone is impossible, namely, not to have compassion on the afflicted, have pity on us miserable sinners and grant us the grace which we ask of Thee, through the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, Your tender Mother and ours.

***Pray the Salve Regina* (page 39) and add:
St Joseph, foster father of Jesus, pray for us.***

***(This novena prayer was recited every day by St. Padre Pio
for all those who recommended themselves to his prayers.)***



Saint Michael The Archangel, Protect Us!

CHAPLET of ST. MICHAEL

Saint Michael, appearing one day to Antonia d'Astonac, a most devout Servant of God, told her that he wished to be honored by nine salutations corresponding to the nine Choirs of Angels, which should consist of one Our Father and three Hail Marys in honor of each of the angelic choirs.

Promises of St. Michael

Whosoever would practice this devotion in his honor, before receiving Holy Communion, would have an escort of nine angels chosen from each one of the nine choirs. In addition, for the daily recital of these nine salutations, he promised his continual assistance and that of all the holy angels during life, and, after death, deliverance from purgatory for themselves and their relations.

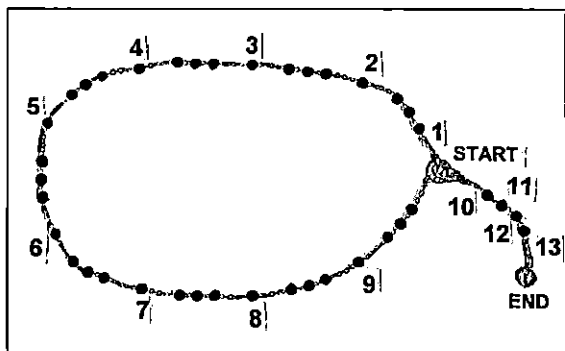
*Related from the life of Antonia d'Astonac,
Vol. III Chapter LXXIV.*

Make a sincere Act of Contrition (page 15), and pray the following invocation on the medal:

O God, come to my assistance.

O Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory be to the Father (page 78)



Follow the diagram: 1-9, say one Our Father and three Hail Marys after each of the following nine salutations in honor of the nine choirs of angels.

- 1. By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial Choir of Seraphim, may the Lord make us worthy to burn with the fire of perfect charity. Amen.**
- 2. By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial Choir of Cherubim, may the Lord vouchsafe to grant us grace to leave the ways of wickedness to run in the paths of Christian perfection. Amen.**
- 3. By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial Choir of Thrones, may the Lord infuse into our hearts a true and sincere spirit of humility. Amen.**
- 4. By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial Choir of Dominions, may the Lord give us grace to govern our senses and subdue our unruly passions. Amen.**
- 5. By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial Choir of Powers, may the Lord vouchsafe to protect our souls against the snares and temptations of the devil. Amen.**
- 6. By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial Choir of Virtues, may the Lord preserve us from evil and suffer us not to fall into temptation. Amen.**
- 7. By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial Choir of Principalities, may God fill our souls with a true spirit of obedience. Amen.**
- 8. By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial Choir of Archangels, may the Lord give us perseverance in faith and in all good works, in order that we gain the glory of paradise. Amen.**

9. By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial Choir of Angels, may the Lord grant us to be protected by them in this mortal life and conducted hereafter to eternal glory. Amen.

On the remaining 4 beads say, one Our Father each in honor of St. Michael, St. Gabriel, St. Raphael and your Guardian Angel.

The chaplet is concluded with the following prayers:

O glorious Prince St. Michael, chief and commander of the heavenly hosts, guardian of souls, vanquisher of rebel spirits, servant in the house of the Divine King, and our admirable conductor, thou who dost shine with excellence and superhuman virtue, vouchsafe to deliver us from all evil, who turn to thee with confidence, and enable us by thy gracious protection to serve God more and more faithfully every day.

V. Pray for us, O glorious St. Michael, Prince of the Church of Jesus Christ.

R. That we may be made worthy of His promises.

Almighty and Everlasting God, who by a prodigy of goodness and a merciful desire for the salvation of all men, hast appointed the most glorious Archangel, St. Michael, Prince of Thy Church, make us worthy, we beseech Thee, to be delivered by his powerful protection from all our enemies, that none of them may harass us at the hour of death, but that we may be conducted by him into the august presence of Thy Divine Majesty. This we beg through the merits of Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Indulged by Blessed Pope Pius IX.

Imprimatur: Constantis, Feb. 1897, ABEL, Episc. Const. et Abr.

THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

In 1935, The Lord said to St. Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938): "You will recite this chaplet on the beads of the rosary in the following manner:

First, pray one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and one Apostles' Creed (page 78). Then, on the Our Father beads say these words:

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Thy Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

On the Hail Mary beads pray:

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

In conclusion pray three times:

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world." (476)

For the conversion of sinners pray:

"O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You." (186, 187)

Three O'clock in the Afternoon The Hour of Mercy

"At three o'clock implore My mercy especially for sinners; and, if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony. This is the hour of great mercy for the whole world. I will allow you to enter into My mortal sorrow. In this hour, I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion." (1320)

Feast of Divine Mercy

The first Sunday after Easter is the Feast of Mercy. Jesus said, "On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to confession, receive Holy Communion, pray for the intentions of the Pope, recite the Our Father, Creed and a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus before the Blessed Sacrament (exposed or reposed) shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishments." A partial indulgence is granted to those who with a contrite heart pray to the merciful Lord Jesus an approved invocation, e.g. Merciful Jesus, I trust in You! (699)

Indulgenced by BI Pope John Paul II June 29, 2002.

Recitation of the Chaplet during Eucharistic Adoration

On the occasion of the Great Jubilee of the year 2000, the Holy Father, BI Pope John Paul II, by a personally signed parchment, imparted a Special Apostolic Blessing "to all the faithful, who during Adoration of Our Most Merciful Savior in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the altar will be praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet for the sick and for those throughout the world who will be dying in that hour." The Apostolic Blessing extends indefinitely for all who participate.

Printed with permission from the Diary of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, Divine Mercy in My Soul © 1987, Congregation of Marians of the Immaculate Conception, Stockbridge, MA 01263. Numbers refer to paragraphs in the diary.

*Nihil Obstat: George H. Pearce, S.M., Archbishop of Suva, Fiji.
Imprimatur: Joseph F. Maguire, Bishop, Springfield, MA, March 16, 1987*

CHAPLET OF FAITH

On each decade of the rosary pray:

The Apostles' Creed (page 78) on each large bead.

**On each of the small beads say: Jesus, Mary, I love you,
save souls, save the consecrated.**

At the end recite the Hail Holy Queen (page 39) five times.

*(This devotion was given to Mama Rosa Quattrini from the
Blessed Virgin Mary, July 14, 1967, in San Damiano, Italy.)*

PRAYER FOR THE UNITY OF CHRISTIANS*

**Almighty and eternal God,
You gather the scattered sheep
and watch over those You have gathered.**

Look kindly on all who follow Jesus, Your Son.

**You have marked them with the seal of one
baptism; now make them one in the fullness
of faith and unite them in the bond of love.**

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

(A private novena prayer)

**Mother, crowned, yet sorrowful, in your arms you bear
the little King, and show Him to the world as He beholds
the instruments of his redeeming death. Mother, ever
present help, speak to him of my intentions....**

**All Christian hearts are held within your care, and so we
turn to you in trust, to find the gentle help, more powerful
than human might and faithful beyond all our imagining.
Pray for us, Mother of Perpetual Succor, Mother of God.**

RADIATING CHRIST

By Venerable John Henry Cardinal Newman

February 21, 1801 - August 11, 1890.

Dear Jesus,

**Help me to spread Your fragrance wherever I go.
Flood my soul with Your Spirit and Life.
Penetrate and possess my being so utterly
That my life may only be a radiance of Yours.
Shine through me, and be so in me
That every soul I come in contact with
May feel Your Presence in my soul.
Let them look up, and see no longer me but only Jesus.
Stay with me,
And then I will begin to shine as You shine,
So to shine as to be a light to others.
The light, O Jesus, will be all from You.
None of it will be mine.
It will be You, shining on others through me.
Let me thus praise You
In the way in which You love best:
By shining on those around me.
Let me preach You without preaching,
Not by words but by example,
By the catching force,
The sympathetic influence of what I do,
The evident fullness of the love
My heart bears for You. Amen.**

(This prayer was a favorite of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997). She said it made a great difference in the lives of the Missionaries of Charity.)

"But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, then we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of His Son, Jesus, cleanses us from all sin." (1 John 1:7)

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty. Creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen

OUR FATHER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. 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.

GLORY BE

Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and every shall be, world without end. Amen

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Our Lady of Czestochowa

On the back cover is a portrait of Our Lady holding the child Jesus. This is Poland's most sacred icon. The portrait is located on the hill called Jasna Gora in Czestochowa. It is titled Our Lady of Czestochowa.

Oral tradition holds that St. Luke the Evangelist painted Our Lady during her lifetime on a cypress wood tabletop. In 326, when St. Helen went to Jerusalem in search of the True Cross, she found the portrait. Returning home, she gave the portrait to her son Constantine, and it remained in Constantinople for 500 years. Emperor Charlemagne, while visiting Constantinople, was offered a gift of his choice from the city, and he chose the portrait of Our Lady. He, in turn, presented it to Prince Leo of Ruthenia, where it remained for centuries.

Marauding Tartar tribes besieging the castle at Belz, had damaged the portrait with an arrow piercing the neck. So in 1382, Prince Ladislaus of Opole set out to transfer the picture for safekeeping. Stopping in Czestochowa to rest for the night, he placed the icon in a small church on the hill called Jasna Gora (Bright Hill). The next morning, the horses refused to move and Ladislaus discerned that this was where Mary wished the portrait to remain. On August 16, 1382, he entrusted the portrait to the white-robed Pauline Fathers from Hungary.

In 1430, the icon was damaged when the shrine at Jasna Gora was robbed. The image was restored, but the slashes and arrow damage always returned. For decorative purposes, the icon has 2 jeweled and beaded dresses and a gold crown, a gift from St. Pope Pius X, to replace one that was stolen. Many miracles have been attributed to Our Lady of Czestochowa. In 1655, the King of Poland proclaimed her the hereditary Queen of Poland.

Feast Day of Our Lady of Czestochowa: May 3.

