

MLR's Catholic Prayer Book



By

The Precious Blood of Jesus Christ;
The Grace of the God of the Holy Catholic Church;
The Mediation of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Our Lady of Good Counsel and Crusher of Heretics;
The Protection of Saint Joseph,
Patriarch of the Holy Family and Patron of the Holy Catholic Church;
The Guidance of the Good Saint Anne,
Mother of Mary and Grandmother of God;
The Intercession of the Archangels Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael;
The Intercession of All the Other Angels and Saints;
and the Cooperation of
Mary's Little Remnant
To Jesus through Mary

*Júdica me, Deus, et discérne causam meam de gente non sancta:
ab hómine iníquo, et dolóso érue me*

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam

“Pray, lest ye enter into temptation.

(St. Luke 22:40)

“Be instant in prayer; watching in it with thanksgiving.”

(Colossians 4:2)

“Let nothing hinder thee from praying.”

(Ecclesiasticus 18:22)

“Lex orandi, lex credendi, lex vivendi.”

(As we pray, so we believe, so we live.)



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MORNING PRAYERS

1) The Morning Offering (said privately)

O my God, in union with the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer thee the precious Body and Blood of Jesus from all the Catholic altars throughout the world, joining with this Holy Eucharist the offering of my every thought, word, and action of this day. O my Jesus, I desire today to gain every merit I can and I offer them, together with myself, to Mary Immaculate that she may best apply them to the interests of thy most Sacred Heart.

Most Precious Body and Blood of Jesus, save us!
Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us! Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us!

2) RJMI Morning Prayer (said privately)

O my Lord God, I would like to thank thee above all things, simply for thyself, for thy great goodness and wonderful kindness; and then for the great goodness and wonderful kindness of thy greatest masterpiece, thy mother and my holy mother, Mary; and then for the great goodness and wonderful kindness of all the angels and saints in heaven.

I would like to thank thee, Lord God, for all the graces and other helps thou hast given me, first and foremost for the sanctification of my own soul, and then for the sanctification and salvation of others, and then for my temporal needs, for every breath and step I take.

And I pray that thou wilt grant me a perfect and pure fear (*bow your head*), love, faith, hope, and trust in thee and enable me to carry my cross this day in complete and total resignation to thy holy will, and to do so joyfully as proof that I am not complaining.

And I pray that thou wilt protect me from all sins and faults during this day. And if I should commit a sin or fault, make me aware of it forthwith so that I may confess it, amend my life, and do works of satisfaction for it so that I may become perfect and holy as thou art perfect and holy. From my secret sins cleanse me, O Lord, and from those of others spare thy servant. Let not my heart turn aside to wicked deeds to make excuses for sins.

I pray, O Lord, that thou wilt protect me from the devils and damned humans when they attempt to possess, obsess, or tempt me. And if they attempt to do so, may it be the greatest cause of pain and agony to them. Protect me from any curses anyone tries to throw upon me, and may the curses go back upon their own heads sevenfold.

I would like to thank thee, O Lord, for allowing my Guardian Angel to protect me from the attacks of the devils and damned humans and my own concupiscence during my dreams last night so that first and foremost the ungodly dreams don't take root in me, and then for protecting me from pollution.¹ And may thou grant me the same protection during this day.

¹ If pollution (the spilling of the male seed) occurred in sleep, then pray, "O Lord, please let me know if this pollution occurred because of a current sin I am guilty of and hence needs to be confessed; or if it occurred to keep me humble and aware of my own weakness, or for penance due to my sins, or to gain grace for others." If you fell into sin in a dream, you are not guilty. But you should still pray this prayer.

I now pray the St. Michael prayer and the St. Benedict prayer to punish, torture, and torment all the devils, damned humans, and living humans who attacked Catholics and men of good will in the previous day, directly and indirectly, exteriorly and interiorly. And may these prayers be a great source of pain and agony to them. (*Pray the Exorcism Prayer of St. Michael the Archangel and the Exorcism Prayer of St. Benedict.*)

3) Spiritual Communion and Corpus et Sanguinis Christi (said privately)

If you did not receive Holy Communion, then pray the Spiritual Communion. After Holy Communion or spiritual communion, pray the Corpus et Sanguinis Christi.

My Jesus, I believe that thou art really present in the most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love thee above everything else, and I long to receive thee into my soul. I cannot now receive thee in Holy Communion, but I beg thee to come to me at least spiritually. I embrace thee as already there and unite myself entirely to thee. Grant that I may never be separated from thee!

Body of Christ, save me;
Blood of Christ, inebriate me;
Divinity of Christ, sanctify me;
Water from the side of Christ, wash me;
Passion of Christ, strengthen me;
Oh my 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 death, call me
And bid me come unto thee
So that with thy saints I may praise thee,
Forever and ever. Amen.

4) Morning Prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Angelus

Beginning the day after the Octave Day of Pentecost until Resurrection Day; prayed daily in the morning, at noon, and at night.

L. The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

R. And she conceived by the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary...

L. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to thy word. Hail Mary...

L. And the Word was made flesh. (*here genuflect or bow your head*)

R. And dwelt amongst us. Hail Mary...

L. 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, so that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ thy Son was made known by the message of an angel may by his Passion and his cross be brought to the glory of his resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

L. [God, Mary, or Saint of the Day]

R. [Have mercy on us or pray for us]

The Regina Coeli

Beginning Resurrection Day through the Octave Day of Pentecost; prayed daily in the morning, at noon, and at night.

L. O Queen of heaven, rejoice!

R. Alleluia!

L. For he whom thou didst merit to bear.

R. Alleluia!

L. Hath risen as he said.

R. Alleluia!

L. Pray for us to God.

R. Alleluia!

L. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary.

R. Alleluia!

L. For the Lord hath risen indeed.

R. Alleluia!

LET US PRAY: O God, who through the resurrection of thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, didst vouchsafe to give joy to the world, grant, we beseech thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, his mother, we may attain to the joys of everlasting life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

L. [God, Mary, or Saint of the Day]

R. [Have mercy on us or pray for us]

5) Prayers for Protection at the Beginning of the Day

L. Angels and saints of God.

R. Pray for us and intercede for us!

L. St. Joseph the Carpenter.

R. Pray for us and intercede for us.

L. That we may work diligently and cheerfully in the service of our Lord.

L. ✠May God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, through God the Son, Jesus Christ, grant us protection during this day through the special protection and intercession of our holy mother Mary, St. Michael, St. Gabriel, St. Raphael, our Guardian Angels, St. Joseph, good St. Anne, St. John the Baptist, Ss. Peter and Paul, St. Benedict, St. Patrick, St. Christopher, and all the angels and saints that can be of assistance to us during this day. (RJMI)

6) St. Patrick's Breastplate

L. I arise today through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity, through belief in the threeness, through confession of the oneness of the three divine persons in one God.

R. I arise today through the strength of Christ's birth with his baptism, through the strength of his crucifixion with his burial, through the strength of his resurrection with his ascension, through the strength of his descent for the Judgment of Doom.

L. I arise today through the strength of the love of cherubim, in obedience of angels, in the service of archangels, in hope of resurrection to meet with reward, in prayers of patriarchs,

in predictions of prophets, in preaching of apostles, in faith of confessors, in innocence of holy virgins, in deeds of righteous men.

R. I arise today through the strength of heaven, light of sun, radiance of moon, splendor of fire, speed of lightning, swiftness of wind, depth of sea, stability of earth, firmness of rock.

L. I arise today through God's strength to pilot me, God's might to uphold me, God's wisdom to guide me, God's eye to look before me, God's ear to hear me, God's word to speak for me, God's hand to guard me, God's way to lie before me, God's shield to protect me, God's host to save me from snares of devils, from temptations of vices, from everyone who shall wish me ill, afar and anear, alone and in multitude.

R. I summon today all these powers between me and those evils, against every cruel merciless power that may oppose my soul and body, against incantations of false prophets, against black laws of pagandom, against false laws of heretics, against craft of idolatry, against spells of witches and smiths and wizards, against every knowledge that corrupts man's soul and body.

L. Christ to shield me today against poison, against burning, against drowning, against wounding, so that there may come to me abundance of reward.

R. Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

L. I arise today through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity, through belief in the threeness, through confession of the oneness of the three divine persons in one God.

All. Salvation is of the Lord. Salvation is of the Lord. Salvation is of Christ. May thy salvation, O Lord, be ever with us. Amen.

7) Pray Prime *(see Divine Office)*

NIGHT PRAYERS

1. Examination of conscience regarding thoughts and actions of the day
2. Compline for the day *(see Divine Office)*
3. Prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary *(see Morning Prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary above)*
4. Evening Prayer of Thanksgiving

Evening Prayer of Thanksgiving

L. Thank you, Lord God, for this peaceful and prosperous day. Thank you, Blessed Mother, St. Michael, St. Gabriel, St. Raphael, our Guardian Angels, St. Joseph, the good St. Anne, St. John the Baptist, Ss. Peter and Paul, St. Benedict, St. Patrick, St. Christopher, and all the angels and saints that have been of assistance to us during this day; and may the Lord grant us a peaceful night. (RJMI)

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INTRODUCTION

Abbreviations

P.T. – Pascal Time (Resurrection Season)

Ant. - Antiphon

Prayers all Catholics must do

- The Morning Prayers and Night Prayers.²²
- Pray one Rosary (5 decades) and one Angelic Chaplet a week.
- On Maundy Day, pray the Holy Hour any time between 12 midnight and 6am.
- On Good Sixth Weekday, pray the Stations of the Cross and the Seven Penitential Psalms.
- On a first seventh weekday of a month, do or attend at least one long exorcism prayer during the year.
- Read the *Roman Martyrology* for the current day from the RJMI revised *Roman Martyrology* accessed on the Pastoral Menu. Before you read it, say, “May the blood of the martyrs descend upon us and grant us a blessing from the lord in this [*say the Day and Month; for example, on this 1st day of the 12 th month.*]” *And after the ending say*, “**L.** And in many other places, many holy martyrs, confessors, and virgins, **R.** Thanks be to God.”
- Attend Mass on the Lord’s Day and other days of obligation if possible. If a Catholic Mass is not available, pray the Mass prayers instead: the Introit, Collect, Lesson, Epistle, the prayers after the Epistle and before the Gospel, the Gospel, Creed, Offertory, Secret, Communion, and Postcommunion.
- It is also good, and even necessary, to speak spontaneously to God, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the angels and saints, regarding your needs, desires, and other petitions and regarding your feelings and in thanksgivings and acts of love and devotion.

Do not expect to be lifted up to the third heaven every time you pray. Pray as a duty, as a military duty, even when you feel no inspiration or are distracted, as God will see that you are praying for love of him and not for the reward of feeling good. Most times you pray, you will not be lifted up and many times you will be distracted, but pray anyway and you will see the great results. God will come to you and inspire you in his good time, when and where he sees fit. Most times God will inspire you when you are reading the scriptures or studying the faith. But he will

even inspire you when you are recreating or doing every day activities.

(For other things all Catholic must do, see RJMI article [Things Catholics Must Believe and Do.](#))

For those who want to follow some or all of the Rule of Mary’s Little Remnant

See RJMI book [The Rule of Mary’s Little Remnant.](#)

Prayers and Creed to memorize

Our Father

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

Hail Mary

L. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. **R.** Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Glory Be

L. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. **R.** As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forever and ever. Amen.

Apostles’ Creed

L. I believe in God the Father almighty 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 the underworld; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead. **R.** I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the remission of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Act of Contrition

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended thee; and I detest all my sins because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of Gehenna, but most of all because they offend 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 works of satisfaction, and to amend my life. Amen.

²² See in this book [Morning Prayers](#), p. 5 and [Night Prayers](#), p. 6.

Confiteor

I confess to Almighty God, to Blessed Mary ever Virgin, to blessed Michael the Archangel, to blessed John the Baptist, to the holy apostles Peter and Paul, to all the saints, and to you, brethren, that I have sinned exceedingly in thought, word, and deed, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault. Therefore I beseech Blessed Mary ever Virgin, blessed Michael the Archangel, blessed John the Baptist, the holy apostles Peter and Paul, all the saints, and you, brethren, to pray to the Lord our God for me.

Exorcism Prayer of St. Michael

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection 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 Gehenna Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Prayer before Meals

Bless us, O Lord, and these thy gifts which we are about to receive from thy bounty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.
(Invoke God or the saint(s) of the day, followed by your special patron saint(s).)

N. _____, have mercy on us or pray for us. Hail Mary...

Prayer after Meals

We give thee thanks, almighty God, for these gifts which we have received from thy bounty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

On the words Hell, the Underworld, and Gehenna

Another word for the underworld is hell, which includes 1) the place where the damned reside (also known as Gehenna); 2) the place where the Old Testament Elect resided during the Old Testament era (known as the Limbo of the Fathers or Abraham's Bosom), and 3) the place where the saved go to have their venial sins remitted or to expiate punishment due to their sins called Purgatory. Because the word "hell" is commonly associated with the hell of the damned, I use the word Gehenna when referring to the hell of the damned. And I use the word underworld when it means either all the places in the underworld or one of the two places, Limbo of the Fathers or Purgatory, depending on the context of the other words used. (For more information, RJMI article [On the Word "Hell" as Used in Some Bibles.](#))

For non-members of the Catholic Church

While catechumens are Catholic, they are not members of the Catholic Church.³ Only members of the Catholic Church (also known as the faithful) have God as their Father and Mary as their Mother. Therefore, let those who are non-members of the Catholic Church keep in mind that when you say a prayer that says God is your Father and Mary is your Mother, that God will only be your Father and Mary your Mother when you become a member of the Catholic Church.

The poor souls in purgatory can only be helped by the prayers, alms, penances, and other good works of the faithful. Therefore, let non-members of the Catholic Church keep in mind that while you can pray for the poor souls, it will not help them, but it will gain you grace for your devotion. And the poor souls will be able to pray for you.

The faithful can only pray in communion with the faithful, and catechumens can only pray in communion with catechumens. Hence if catechumens are present when the faithful are praying, the catechumens must remain silent and pray in their hearts.

On prayers for the pope or spiritual ruler

Normally when the Holy See is vacant, prayers for the pope are omitted. But in these end times, when the Holy See has been vacant for an extended period of time, substitute the prayers for the pope with prayers for the spiritual ruler of the Catholic Church, if there be one, if God has risen up one such a ruler. This is what God did during the Old Covenant era when he rose up Abraham, Moses, a judge, or Esdras to rule his Church.

When to strike your breast and bow your head

Strike your breast with your clinched fist one time during responses to short invocations of God. For example, when you say "have mercy on us" or "Jesus deliver us." in the litanies and other prayers: "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. Holy Trinity, one God, have mercy on us." Or "From all evil, Jesus deliver us." "From all sin, Jesus deliver us."

Strike your breast three times during the Confiteor when you say "Through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault." (Mea culpa, mea culpa, mea maxima culpa.)

Strike your breast three times during the Hail Holy Queen when you says "O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary."

Bow your head when reciting the "Glory Be" prayer

³ See RJMI article [Catechumens, Religious Communion, and RJMI's Former Heresies.](#)

When to kiss the Miraculous Medal

If you are wearing the Miraculous Medal, kiss it every time you say, “O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.

When someone leads the prayers

If you are praying alone, then pray all the prayers.

When someone is leading the prayers, the part said by the leader is marked with **L.**, and the part said by the followers is marked with **R.**

For example, when the Our Father, Hail Mary, or Glory Be is listed, the leader prays the first part, and the responders pray the second part.

Our Father: **L.** Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

R. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and let us not fall into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Hail Mary: **L.** Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. **R.** Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Glory Be: **L.** Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. **R.** As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forever and ever. Amen.

If there is no **L.** or **R.**, then all present pray, the leader and the followers.

And the “Let Us Pray” is always said by the leader, and the following prayer is prayed by all (the leaders and followers) unless otherwise noted with a **L.**, which means it is said only by the leader. For example,

The “Let Us Pray” in the following prayer is said by the leader and the rest is said by all:

LET US PRAY: Grant, we beseech thee, O Lord God, that by the glorious intercession of Blessed Mary, ever virgin, we thy servants may enjoy purity of heart, soundness of mind, health of body, and be delivered from present sorrows and enter into that joy which hath no end. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

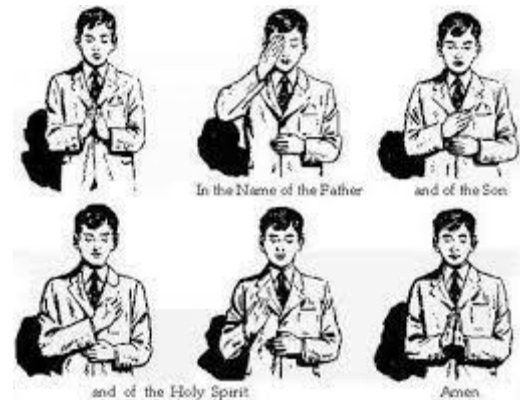
This following prayer is said only by the leader:

L. Let us pray: O my beloved Savior, at sight of thy most holy face disfigured by suffering, at sight of thy Sacred Heart so full of love, I cry out: “Lord Jesus, imprint on my heart thy sacred wounds so that I may read therein sorrow and love: sorrow, to endure every sorrow for thee; love, to love nothing more than thee.

How to bless yourself

The sign of the cross is made by touching the right or left hand sequentially to the forehead, the middle of the chest, and both shoulders (from left to right for Western Catholics, and from right to left for the Eastern Catholics), accompanied by the Trinitarian formula: at the forehead “In the name of the Father”; at the middle of the chest “and of the Son”; across the shoulders “and of the Holy Spirit.” If you only have one hand, then you have to bless with that hand.

Western Catholics:



Eastern Catholics:

The Eastern Catholics touch the right shoulder first and then the left.

When to bless yourself

- 1) You can bless yourself for protection at any time.
- 2) Regarding prayers, bless yourself when you see a “✠”. And bless yourself when you start a single prayer or a continuous set of prayers.

Invocations

In the case of invocations directed to God, the response is “Have mercy on us”; for Mary and the angels and saints, the response is “Pray for us”; for an object (such as the Holy Cross), the response is “Bless us and protect us.” The leader says the first part, and the responders pray the second part.

On revisions and additions

Many of the revisions contained in this prayer book were essential since prayers reflect what we believe. Hence I removed parts of prayers that were heretical or were ambiguous and thus easily taken in the heretical sense, and I added parts that profess dogmas that should have been

professed but were purposely omitted. And many new prayers were added. The result is a pure, holy, and clean prayer book resting upon the Rock of Peter, the Rock of the Catholic Church. The following examples show a few out of hundreds of the changes and some of the additions that were made:

The Holy Hour: Opening Prayer to the Blessed Sacrament

Original	Revised
My Lord Jesus Christ, it is thy great love for men that keeps thee day and night in this Sacrament, full of pity and love, expecting, inviting, and welcoming <u>all who visit thee</u> .	My Lord Jesus Christ, it is thy great love for men that keeps thee day and night in this Sacrament, full of pity and love, expecting, inviting, and welcoming <u>those who visit thee in Catholic churches</u> .

The Holy Hour: Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Original	Revised
Title Consecration of <u>the Human Race</u> to the Sacred Heart of Jesus	Title Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Be thou <u>King</u> of those who are deceived by <u>erroneous</u> opinions or whom <u>discord</u> keeps aloof, and call them back to the harbor of truth and unity of faith <u>so that soon there may be but one flock and one Shepherd</u> Give peace and order to <u>all nations</u> ...	<u>Have mercy</u> , O Lord, on those who are deceived by <u>heretical</u> opinions or whom <u>schism</u> keeps aloof, and call them back to the harbor of truth and unity of faith, <u>to thy one flock and one Shepherd, that they may hail thee as Christ the King</u> Grant peace and order to all <u>Catholic nations</u> ...

The Holy Hour: The Third Sorrowful Mystery: Jesus Is Crowned with Thorns

Original	Revised
May this divine lesson <u>subdue</u> our pride.	May this divine lesson <u>abolish</u> our pride.

The Holy Hour: Veneration of the Thorn-Crowned Head of the Savior

Original	Revised
Lord Jesus, imprint on my heart thy sacred wounds so that I may read therein sorrow and love: sorrow, to endure every sorrow for thee; love, <u>to despise every love for thee</u> .	Lord Jesus, imprint on my heart thy sacred wounds so that I may read therein sorrow and love: sorrow, to endure every sorrow for thee; love, <u>to love nothing more than thee</u> .

The Holy Hour: To the Wound of the Sacred Side

Original	Revised
O my Jesus, ...I pray that my soul may enter once and for all into that most loving heart, eager and ready to receive the <u>greatest sinners</u> ...	O my Jesus, ...I pray that my soul may enter once and for all into that most loving heart, eager and ready to receive the greatest sinners <u>who repent</u> ...

The Holy Hour: Prayer for an Increase of Holy Communions

Original	Revised
O sweet Jesus, who camest into the world to give to all the life of thy grace and who to preserve and sustain it didst will to be the remedy of our daily infirmities and our daily food, humbly we pray thee, by thy Heart all on fire for love of us, to pour out thy Holy Spirit upon all so that those who are unhappily in mortal sin may be converted to thee and recover the life of grace which they have lost, and those who by thy gift still live this divine life may every day, when they are able, approach devoutly to thy holy table, where in daily Holy Communion, receiving every day the antidote to their daily venial sins and nourishing the life of grace in their hearts and purifying more and more their souls, they may come at last to the enjoyment with thee of eternal beatitude. Amen.	O sweet Jesus, who came into the world to give to souls the life of sanctifying grace, and who to preserve and sustain us didst will to be the remedy of our daily infirmities and to be our food, humbly we pray thee, by thy heart all on fire for love of us, pour out thy Holy Spirit upon those who are unhappily in deadly sin so that they may be converted to thee, confess their sins, receive the life of sanctifying grace, and receive thee in Holy Communion along with all others who are in the state of grace. May they approach devoutly to thy holy altar, whereby receiving thee in Holy Communion they may obtain the remission of their venial sins and punishment due to their sins, the nourishing of the life of grace in their hearts, the purifying more and more of their souls, and at last the attainment of everlasting life. Amen.

The Holy Hour: Closing Prayer to the Blessed Sacrament

Original	Revised
Bless me, dear Lord, before I go. And bless not me alone, O Lord, but all as well who are here present, and all who could not come, especially the sick and the dying. Bless our homes and all our children. Bless all our life and the hour of our death.	Bless me, dear Lord, before I go; and bless all the faithful and catechumens who are here and those who could not come, especially the sick and the dying. Bless our homes and our Catholic children, and bless our life and the hour of our death. Grant the grace of conversion to our non-Catholic family members and friends and to other non-Catholics.

The Holy Hour: Ending Versicle and Response

Original	Revised
Sweet Heart of Mary, <u>be my salvation</u> ; Sweet Heart of Jesus, <u>be my love</u> .	Sweet Heart of Jesus, <u>be my salvation</u> ; Sweet Heart of Mary, <u>be my love</u> .

Act of Faith

Original	Revised
O my God! I firmly believe all the sacred truths which thy holy Catholic Church believes and teaches because thou hast revealed them, who canst neither <u>deceive</u> nor be deceived.	O my God, I firmly believe all the sacred truths which thy Holy Catholic Church believes and teaches because thou hast revealed them, who canst neither <u>lie</u> nor be deceived.

Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Original	Revised
Heart of Jesus, king and center of <u>all</u> hearts, Heart of Jesus, of whose <u>fullness</u> we have all received,	Heart of Jesus, king and center of <u>our</u> hearts, Heart of Jesus, of whose <u>goodness</u> we have all received,

Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Original	Revised
LET US PRAY: Grant, we beseech thee, O Lord God, that we thy servants <u>may enjoy perpetual health of mind and body</u> , and by the glorious intercession of Blessed Mary, ever Virgin, may be delivered from present sorrows and enter into that joy which hath no end. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.	LET US PRAY: Grant, we beseech thee, O Lord God, that by the glorious intercession of Blessed Mary, ever virgin, we thy servants <u>may enjoy purity of heart, soundness of mind, health of body</u> , and be delivered from present sorrows and enter into that joy which hath no end. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Litany of the Saints

Original	Revised
From anger, hatred, and all ill will,	From <u>unrighteous</u> anger, hatred, and ill will,

Little Crown of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Original	Revised
Grant that for love of thee <u>I may despise all earthly consolations</u> and ever cling to those of heaven...	Grant that for the love of thee <u>I may put heavenly consolations above those of earth</u> ...

Replaced the word “all” when it meant or could have meant universal salvation

The word “all” was replaced by an appropriate word when it meant or could have meant universal salvation because God will not save all men but only a few. While it is good to ask God to have mercy on all men, it is heresy to ask God to save all men or to pray that all men will be saved.

The heart comes before the mind, and the soul before the body

The word “heart” was put before the word “mind” when mind was mentioned first. The word “heart” replaced the word “mind” when applicable because the heart moves the mind and not the mind the heart.

The word “soul” was put before the word “body” when body was mentioned first. The word “soul” replaced the word “mind” when applicable because the soul is more important than the body.

ABRIDGED DIVINE OFFICES



Instructions

It is customary to pray the Office standing, but for penance it can be prayed kneeling.

Alleluia *is said at all the Hours throughout the year except from Ash Day to Holy Seventh Weekday when it is replaced by* Praise be to thee, O Lord, King of eternal glory.

If you pray the Office alone, recite all the prayers yourself.

All prayers without **L.** or **R.** are recited together except for the psalms. The verses in the psalms are separated by a space and should be alternately recited by the leader and responders. The leader begins each psalm and always leads the Glory Be.

Whenever there is a ✠, bless yourself. For the “Opening Prayer” for the Offices, make the cross over your lips with your right thumb. For the prayer “Convert us, O God...” during Compline, make the cross over your heart with your right thumb.

Whenever the Apostles’ Creed, Our Father, Hail Mary, or Glory Be is said, the leader recites the first part and the responders recite the second part.

Prayers after the Divine Office

MLR Ending Prayers

All. I am all thine and all that I have is thine, O most loving Jesus, through Mary, thy most holy Mother. Amen.

L. Most holy and adorable face of Jesus, have mercy on us and on our suffering brothers in purgatory. Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, **R.** and let perpetual light shine upon them. **L.** And may they rest in peace.

R. Amen.

L. Eternal Father, I offer thee the most adorable face of thy dearly beloved Son for the honor and glory of thy name, the conversion of sinners, the perseverance of the just, the relief of the suffering souls in purgatory, and the salvation of the dying. **R.** Amen.

The following prayers are to be said standing.

All. St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection 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 Gehenna Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

All. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us! Most Precious Blood of Jesus, save us! Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us! St. Joseph, pray for us! Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, I love thee, save souls!

All. Our Lady of Conquistadora, pray for us! Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us! Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, pray for us!

In the following prayer at the words “he shall crush thy head,” lift your foot and press your heel into the ground as if to crush Satan with your heel.

L. Genesis 3:15:

All. I will put enmities between thee and the woman, and thy seed and her seed; he shall crush thy head, and thou shalt lie in wait for his heel.

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

Beginning and Ending Prayers for the Offices

Prime

Beginning

✠ **O** PEN my mouth, O Lord, to bless thy holy name; cleanse also my heart from all vain, evil and distracting thoughts; enlighten my

understanding, inflame my will, that I may worthily recite this Office with attention and devotion and deserve to be heard in the presence of thy divine majesty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Lord, in union with that divine intention with which thou didst praise God on earth, I offer to thee this Hour.

Our Father...

Hail Mary...

L. ✠ O God, come to my assistance.

R. O Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory Be...

Alleluia *or* Praise be to thee, O Lord, King of eternal glory.

Hymn

NOW in the sun's new dawning ray,

Lowly of heart, our God, we pray

That he from harm may keep us free

In all the deeds this day shall see.

May fear of him our tongues restrain

Lest strife unguarded speech should stain.

His favoring care our guardian be

Lest our eyes feed on vanity.

May every heart be pure from sin

And folly find no place therein,

That when the light of day is gone,

And night in course shall follow on,

We, free from cares the world affords,

May chant the praise that is our Lord's.

All laud to God the Father be;

All praise, Eternal Son, to thee;

All glory, as is ever meet,

To God the holy Paraclete.

Amen.

Continue at Day 1, p. 31; 2, p. 35; 3, p. 36; 4, p. 37; 5, p. 39; 6, p. 40; 7, p. 42.

Ending

Little Chapter

(1 Timothy 1:17)

L. To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever.

R. Thanks be to God.

L. O Christ, the Son of the living God, have mercy on us.

R. O Christ, the Son of the living God, have mercy on us.

L. Thou who sittest at the right hand of the Father.

R. Have mercy on us.

L. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

R. O Christ, the Son of the living God, have mercy on us.

L. Arise, O Christ, and help us.

R. And deliver us for thy name's sake.

L. Lord, have mercy on us.

R. Christ, have mercy on us.

L. Lord, have mercy on us.

Our Father...

Apostles' Creed...

L. To thee, O Lord, have I cried.

R. And early shall my prayer come before thee.

L. Let my mouth be filled with thy praise.

R. That I may sing of thy glory and of thy greatness all the day long.

L. O Lord, turn thy face from my sins.

R. And blot out all my iniquities.

L. Create in me a clean heart, O God.

R. And renew a right spirit within me.

L. Thrust me not away from thy face.

R. And take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

L. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation.

R. And strengthen me with a perfect spirit.

L. Deliver me, O Lord, from the evil man.

R. And rescue me from the unjust man.

L. Deliver me from my enemies, O my God.

R. And defend me from those who rise up against me.

L. Deliver me from those who work iniquity.

R. And save me from men of blood.

L. So will I sing a psalm to thy name forever and ever.

R. That I may pay my vows from day to day.

L. Hear us, O God our salvation.

R. Who art the hope of all the ends of the earth and in the sea afar off.

L. O God, come to my assistance.

R. O Lord, make haste to help me.

L. O holy God, O holy mighty one, O holy immortal one.

R. Have mercy on us.

L. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

R. And let all that is within me bless his holy name.

L. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

R. And forget not all his benefits.

L. Who forgiveth thee all thy iniquities.

R. Who healeth all thy infirmities.

L. Who redeemeth thy life from destruction.

R. Who crowneth thee with mercy and compassion.

L. Who satisfieth thy desire with good things.

R. Thy youth shall be renewed like the eagle's.

L. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

Confiteor...

L. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

L. May the almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, ✠ absolution, and remission of our sins.

R. Amen.

L. Vouchsafe, O Lord, this day.

R. To keep us without sin.

L. Have mercy on us, O Lord.

R. Have mercy on us.

L. Let thy mercy, O Lord, descend upon us.

R. As we have hoped in thee.

L. O Lord, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto thee.

L. The Lord be with thee.

R. And with thy spirit.

L. Let us pray.

O LORD God almighty, who hast brought us to the beginning of this day, defend us in the same by thy power, that we may not fall this day into any sin but that all our thoughts, words, and works may be directed to the fulfillment of thy will. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. **R.** Amen.

L. The Lord be with thee.

R. And with thy spirit.

L. Let us bless the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

The Martyrology is read here.

L. Precious in the sight of the Lord.

R. Is the death of his saints.

Prayer

L. May holy Mary and all the saints intercede for us with the Lord, that we may receive help and salvation from him who liveth and reigneth forever and ever.

R. Amen.

The following versicle and response are said three times:

L. ✠ O God, come to my assistance.

R. O Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory Be...

L. Lord, have mercy on us.

R. Christ, have mercy on us.

L. Lord, have mercy on us.

Our Father...

L. Look down upon thy servants and upon their works and direct their children.

R. And let the brightness of the Lord our God be upon us; and direct thou the works of our hands over us, yea, the work of our hands do thou direct.

Glory Be...

L. Let us pray.

O LORD God, King of heaven and earth, vouchsafe this day to direct and sanctify, to rule and govern our hearts and bodies, our thoughts, words, and deeds in thy law and in the works of thy commandments, that now and ever we may by thy help attain salvation and freedom, O Savior of the world, who livest and reignest forever and ever. Amen.

L. Pray, Father, a blessing. May the almighty Lord order our days and actions in his peace.

R. Amen.

Short Lesson

(2 Thessalonians 3:5)

L. May the Lord direct our hearts and bodies in the charity of God and the patience of Christ. But thou, O Lord, have mercy on us.

R. Thanks be to God.

L. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

L. Bless ye.

R. God.

L. May the Lord bless us and defend us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life ✠ and may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

Our Father...

[Go to Prayers after the Divine Office, p. 25.](#)

Vespers

Beginning

✠ **O** PEN my mouth, O Lord, to bless thy holy name; cleanse also my heart from all vain, evil and distracting thoughts; enlighten my understanding, inflame my will, that I may worthily recite this Office with attention and devotion and deserve to be heard in the presence of thy divine majesty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Lord, in union with that divine intention with which thou didst praise God on earth, I offer to thee this Hour.

Our Father...

Hail Mary...

L. ✠ O God, come to my assistance.

R. O Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory Be...

Alleluia *or* Praise be to thee, O Lord, King of eternal glory.

[Continue at Day 1, p. 32.](#)

Ending

L. Let my prayer be directed, O Lord.

R. As incense in thy sight.

Ant. The Lord has regarded.

Canticle of the Blessed Virgin (Magnificat)

(Luke 1:46-55)

✠ **M**Y 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 generation to them that fear him.

He hath shewed 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 away empty.

He hath received Israel his servant, being mindful of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed forever.

Glory Be...

Ant. The Lord has regarded my lowliness, and he who is mighty has done great things to me.

MAY the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, and all the saints intercede for us with the Lord.

L. The Lord hath made his saints wonderful.

R. And he heard them when they called upon him.

L. Let us pray.

DEFEND us, we beseech thee, O Lord, from all dangers of soul and body; and through the intercession of the blessed and glorious Mary, ever virgin, Mother of God; of St. Joseph; of thy holy apostles Peter and Paul; and of all the saints, in thy loving-kindness grant us safety and peace, that all adversities and errors being overcome thy Church may serve thee in security and freedom. Through Our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

L. The Lord be with thee.

R. And with thy spirit.

L. Let us bless the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

L. ✠ May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

Our Father...

Go to [MLR Ending Prayers](#), p. 25.

Compline

Beginning

✠ **O**PEN my mouth, O Lord, to bless thy holy name; cleanse also my heart from all vain, evil and distracting thoughts; enlighten my understanding, inflame my will, that I may worthily recite this Office with attention and devotion and deserve to be heard in the presence of thy divine majesty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Lord, in union with that divine intention with which thou didst praise God on earth, I offer to thee this Hour.

L. Pray, Lord, a blessing. ✠ May the Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

R. Amen.

Short Lesson (1 Peter 5:8-9)

L. Brethren, be sober, be watchful! For your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, goes about seeking someone to devour. Resist him steadfast in the faith. But thou, O Lord, have mercy on us.

R. Thanks be to God.

L. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who hath made heaven and earth.
Our Father...

Confiteor...

L. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

L. May the almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, ✠ absolution, and remission of our sins.

R. Amen.

L. ✠ Convert us, O God our salvation. *(with your right thumb, make the sign of the cross over your heart)*

R. And turn away thy anger from us.

L. ✠ O God, come to my assistance.

R. O Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory Be...

Alleluia *or* Praise be to thee, O Lord, King of eternal glory.

[Continue at Day 1](#), p. 34; [2](#), p. 35; [3](#), p. 37; [4](#), p. 38; [5](#), p. 39; [6](#), p. 41; [7](#), p. 43, [Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary](#), p. 47.

Ending

Hymn (Te Lucis)

BEFORE the ending of the day,

Creator of the world, we pray

That with thy wonted favor thou

Wouldst be our guard and keeper now.

From all ill dreams defend our eyes,

From nightly fears and fantasies;

Tread under foot our ghostly foe,

That no pollution we may know.

O Jesus, this we ask be done

With the Father and the Spirit, three in one,

Who with thee in the Trinity

Doth live and reign eternally.

Amen.

Little Chapter (Jeremias 14:9)

L. But thou, O Lord, art among us and thy name is called upon by us; forsake us not.

R. Thanks be to God.

L. Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

R. Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

L. For thou hast redeemed us, O Lord, God of truth.

R. I commend my spirit.

L. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

R. Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

L. Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of thy eye.

R. Protect us under the shadow of thy wings.

Ant. Save us.

Canticle of Simeon

(Luke 2:29-32)

NOW thou dost dismiss thy servant, O Lord, according to thy word in peace

Because my eyes have seen thy salvation

Which thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples,

A light to the revelation of the Gentiles and the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory Be...

Ant. Save us, O Lord, while we are awake and guard us when we sleep, that we may watch with Christ and rest in peace.

L. Lord, have mercy on us.

R. Christ, have mercy on us.

L. Lord, have mercy on us.

Our Father...

Apostles' Creed...

L. Blessed art thou, O Lord, God of our fathers.

R. And to be praised and glorified above all forever.

L. Let us bless the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

R. Let us praise and exalt him above all forever.

L. Blessed art thou, O Lord, in the firmament of heaven.

R. And to be praised and glorified and exalted above all forever.

L. May the Lord, the almighty and merciful, bless and keep us.

R. Amen.

L. Vouchsafe, O Lord, this night.

R. To keep us without sin.

L. Have mercy on us, O Lord.

R. Have mercy on us.

L. Let thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us.

R. As we have hoped in thee.

L. O Lord, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto thee.

L. The Lord be with thee.

R. And with thy spirit.

L. Let us pray.

VISIT, we beseech thee, O Lord, this house and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let thy holy angels dwell herein, who may keep us in peace; and let thy blessing be always upon us. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

L. The Lord be with thee.

R. And with thy spirit.

L. Let us bless the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

L. May the almighty and merciful Lord, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

R. Amen.

Seasonal Antiphons of the Blessed Virgin Mary

I

From the First Lord's Day in Advent through 1/13:

Antiphon in English

Loving mother of the Redeemer, accessible door to heaven and star of the sea, come quickly to the aid of thy people, fallen indeed but striving to stand again. To nature's astonishment thou wast the mother of thy holy Creator without ceasing to be a virgin and heard from Gabriel that greeting "Hail." Have pity on us repentant sinners.

Antiphon in Latin

Alma Redemptoris Mater, / quæ pervia cæli porta manes, / et stella maris, / succurre cadenti, / surgere qui curat, populo: / tu quæ genuisti, / natura mirante, / tuum sanctum Genitorem / Virgo prius / ac posterius, / Gabrielis ab ore / Sumens illud Ave, / peccatorum miserere.

Through 12/24:

L. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

R. And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

L. Let us pray.

Pour forth, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts, so that we to whom the incarnation of Christ thy Son was made known by the message of an angel may by his Passion and his cross be brought to the glory of his resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

L. ✠ May the divine assistance remain with us always.

R. Amen.

Go to [Closing Prayer for Compline](#), p. 30.

From 12/25:

L. Even after giving birth thou remained a virgin.

R. Mother of God, intercede for us.

L. Let us pray.

O God, who through the fruitful virginity of Blessed Mary offers all men the riches of everlasting salvation, we entreat thee to let us feel the intercession of her who gave us the author of life, our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son. Amen.

L. ✠ May the divine assistance remain with us always.

R. Amen.

Go to [Closing Prayer for Compline](#), p. 30.

II

From 1/14 until Resurrection Day:

Antiphon in English

Hail, Queen of heaven; hail, Mistress of the angels;

Hail, root of Jesse; hail, the gate through which the Light rose over the earth.

Rejoice, Virgin most renowned and of unsurpassed beauty. Farewell, Lady most comely. Prevail upon Christ to pity us.

Antiphon in Latin

Ave, Regina Caelorum, / ave, Domina Angelorum: / salve, radix, salve, porta / ex qua mundo lux est orta: / gaude, Virgo gloriosa, / super

omnes speciosa, / vale, o valde decora, / et pro nobis / Christum exora.

L. Let me praise thee, most holy Virgin.

R. Give me strength against thy enemies.

L. Let us pray.

O God of mercy, be the support of our weakness. We shall celebrate in a fitting manner the memory of the holy Mother of God; thus by her intercession, may we become perfect and holy. Through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.

L. ✠ May the divine assistance remain with us always.

R. Amen.

Go to [Closing Prayer for Compline](#), p. 30.

III

From Resurrection Day through the Octave Day of Pentecost:

Antiphon in English

L. O Queen of Heaven, rejoice!

R. Alleluia!

L. For he whom thou didst merit to bear.

R. Alleluia!

L. Hath risen as he said.

R. Alleluia!

L. Pray for us to God.

R. Alleluia!

L. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary.

R. Alleluia!

L. For the Lord hath risen indeed.

R. Alleluia!

Antiphon in Latin

Regina cæli, lætare, alleluia. / Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia. /

Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia. / Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.

L. Gaude et lætare, Virgo Maria, alleluia.

R. Quia surrexit Dominus vere, alleluia.

L. Let us pray.

O God, who through the resurrection of thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, didst vouchsafe to give joy to the world, grant, we beseech thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, his mother, we may attain to the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

L. ✠ May the divine assistance remain with us always.

R. Amen.

Go to [Closing Prayer for Compline](#), p. 30.

IV

From the day after the Octave Day of Pentecost until the First Lord's Day in Advent:

Antiphon in English

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy; hail, 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.

L. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Antiphon in Latin

Salve, Regina, / Mater misericordiæ, / vita, dulcedo, et spes nostra, salve. / Ad te clamamus, / exsules filii Hevæ, / Ad te suspiramus, / gementes et

flentes / in hac lacrimarum valle. / Eia, ergo, advocata nostra, / illos tuos / misericordes oculos / ad nos converte. / Et Jesum, / benedictum fructum ventris tui, / nobis / post hoc exsilium / ostende. / O clemens, / O pia, / O dulcis / Virgo Maria.

L. Ora pro nobis, sancta Dei Genitrix.

R. Ut digni efficiamur promissionibus Christi.

L. Let us pray.

All powerful, eternal God, who chose the glorious virgin mother Mary to be a fit dwelling place for thy Son, may we celebrate her memory with joy. Grant that through her motherly intercession we may be preserved from evil in this world and from everlasting death. Through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.

L. ✠ May the divine assistance remain with us always.

R. Amen.

Go to [Closing Prayer for Compline](#), p. 30.

Closing Prayer for Compline

TO the most holy and undivided Trinity, to the manhood of our crucified Lord Jesus Christ, to the fruitful virginity of the most blessed and glorious Mary ever virgin, to the entire assembly of the saints, be ascribed everlasting praise, honor, power, and glory by every creature, and to us be granted the remission of our sins, God, forever and ever. Amen.

L. Blessed is the womb of the Virgin Mary, which bore the Son of the eternal Father.

R. And blessed are the breasts which nourished Christ the Lord.

Our Father...

Hail Mary...

Go to [MLR Ending Prayers](#), p. 25.

Lord's Day Offices

Lord's Day Prime

Go to [Beginning of Prime](#), p. 25.

Ant. Alleluia.

Psalm 117

GIVE praise to the Lord for he is good, for his mercy endureth forever.

2 Let Israel now say that he is good, that his mercy endureth forever.

3 Let the house of Aaron now say, that his mercy endureth forever.

4 Let them that fear the Lord now say, that his mercy endureth forever.

5 In my trouble I called upon the Lord, and the Lord heard me and enlarged me.

6 The Lord is my helper. I will not fear what man can do unto me.

7 The Lord is my helper, and I will look over my enemies.

8 It is good to confide in the Lord rather than to have confidence in man.

9 It is good to trust in the Lord rather than to trust in princes.

10 All nations compassed me about, and in the name of the Lord I have been revenged on them.

11 Surrounding me they compassed me about, and in the name of the Lord I have been revenged on them.

12 They surrounded me like bees, and they burned like fire among thorns, and in the name of the Lord I was revenged on them.

13 Being pushed I was overturned that I might fall, but the Lord supported me.

14 The Lord is my strength and my praise, and he is become my salvation.

15 The voice of rejoicing and of salvation is in the tabernacles of the just.

16 The right hand of the Lord hath wrought strength, the right hand of the Lord hath exalted me, the right

hand of the Lord hath wrought strength.

17 I shall not die but live and shall declare the works of the Lord.

18 The Lord chastising hath chastised me, but he hath not delivered me over to death.

19 Open ye to me the gates of justice; I will go in to them and give praise to the Lord.

20 This is the gate of the Lord, the just shall enter into it.

21 I will give glory to thee because thou hast heard me and art become my salvation.

22 The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner.

23 This is the Lord's doing, and it is wonderful in our eyes.

24 This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us be glad and rejoice therein.

25 O Lord, save me. O Lord, give good success.

26 Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the Lord. We have blessed you out of the house of the Lord.

27 The Lord is God and he hath shone upon us. Appoint a solemn day with shady boughs, even to the horn of the altar.

28 Thou art my God, and I will praise thee; thou art my God, and I will exalt thee. I will praise thee because thou hast heard me and art become my salvation.

29 O praise ye the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endureth forever.

Glory Be...

Psalm 118, i

BLESSED are the undefiled in the way who walk in the law of the Lord.

2 Blessed are they that search his testimonies, that seek him with their whole heart.

3 For they that work iniquity have not walked in his ways.

4 Thou hast commanded thy commandments to be kept most diligently.

5 O, that my ways may be directed to keep thy justifications.

6 Then shall I not be confounded when I shall look into all thy commandments.

7 I will praise thee with uprightness of heart when I shall have learned the judgments of thy justice.

8 I will keep thy justifications. O, do not thou utterly forsake me.

9 By what doth a young man correct his way? By observing thy words.

10 With my whole heart have I sought after thee; let me not stray from thy commandments.

11 Thy words have I hidden in my heart that I may not sin against thee.

12 Blessed art thou, O Lord. Teach me thy justifications.

13 With my lips I have pronounced all the judgments of thy mouth.

14 I have been delighted in the way of thy testimonies, as in all riches.

15 I will meditate on thy commandments, and I will consider thy ways.

16 I will think of thy justifications. I will not forget thy words.

Glory Be...

Psalm 118, ii

GIVE bountifully to thy servant; enliven me, and I shall keep thy words.

18 Open thou my eyes, and I will consider the wondrous things of thy law.

19 I am a sojourner on the earth; hide not thy commandments from me.

20 My soul hath coveted to long for thy justifications at all times.

21 Thou hast rebuked the proud; they are cursed who decline from thy commandments.

22 Remove from me reproach and contempt because I have sought after thy testimonies.

23 For princes sat and spoke against me, but thy servant was employed in thy justifications.

24 For thy testimonies are my meditation and thy justifications my counsel.

25 My soul hath cleaved to the pavement; quicken thou me according to thy word.

26 I have declared my ways, and thou hast heard me; teach me thy justifications.

27 Make me to understand the way of thy justifications, and I shall be exercised in thy wondrous works.

28 My soul hath slumbered through heaviness; strengthen thou me in thy words.

29 Remove from me the way of iniquity, and out of thy law have mercy on me.

30 I have chosen the way of truth; thy judgments I have not forgotten.

31 I have stuck to thy testimonies, O Lord, put me not to shame.

32 I have run the way of thy commandments when thou didst enlarge my heart.

Glory Be...

The Athanasian Creed

Prayed only on the Lord's Day.

WHOSOEVER willet to be saved needs above all to hold the Catholic faith. Which faith except every one do keep whole and undefiled, he will without doubt perish everlastingly. Now the Catholic faith is this, that we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in unity, neither confounding the Persons nor dividing the substance. For there is one Person of the Father, another of the Son, and another of the Holy Spirit. But the divine nature of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit is one, their glory equal, their majesty co-eternal. Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit; the Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, and the Holy Spirit uncreated; the Father infinite, the Son infinite, and the Holy Spirit infinite; the Father eternal, the Son eternal,

and the Holy Spirit eternal. And yet they are not three eternals but one eternal. As also they are not three uncreated nor three infinities but one uncreated and one infinite. So likewise the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, and the Holy Spirit almighty. And yet they are not three almighties but one almighty. So the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God. And yet they are not three Gods but one God. So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, and the Holy Spirit is Lord. And yet they are not three Lords but one Lord. For as we are compelled by Christian truth to acknowledge every Person by himself to be God and Lord, so are we forbidden by the Catholic religion to say there be three Gods or three Lords. The Father is made of none, neither created nor begotten. The Son is of the Father alone, not made nor created but eternally begotten. The Holy Spirit is of the Father and the Son, not made nor created nor begotten but eternally proceeding. So there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits. And in this Trinity is nothing before or after, nothing is greater or less. But all three Persons are co-eternal and co-equal with one another. So that in all things, as is aforesaid, the unity in Trinity and the Trinity in unity is to be worshipped. He therefore that willet to be saved, let him think thus of the Trinity.

But it is necessary for everlasting salvation that he also believe faithfully the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ. The right faith therefore is that we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is God and man. He is God eternally begotten of the substance of the Father, and he is man born of the substance of his mother in time. Perfect God, perfect man, consisting of a rational soul and a human body; equal to the Father according to his Godhead, inferior to the Father according to his humanity. Who although he be God and man, yet he is not two but one Christ; one, however, not by conversion of the divinity into flesh but by taking of the manhood into God; one altogether, not by confusion of substance but by unity of Person. For as the rational

soul and body are one man, so God and man are one Christ, who suffered for our salvation, descended into the underworld, rose the third day from the dead, and ascended into heaven. He sitteth at the right hand of the Father, God almighty, from whence he shall come to judge the living and the dead. At his coming all men shall rise with their bodies and shall give account for their own works. And they that have done good shall go into life everlasting; but they that have done evil, into everlasting fire. This is the Catholic faith, which except a man believe faithfully and firmly he cannot be saved.

Glory Be...

Ant. Alleluia, praise the Lord, for his mercy endureth forever, alleluia, alleluia.

Go to [Ending of Prime](#), p. 26.

Lord's Day Vespers

Go to [Beginning of Vespers](#), p. 27.

Ant. 1 The Lord said.

Psalm 109

THE Lord said to my Lord: Sit thou at my right hand until I make thy enemies thy footstool.

2 The Lord will send forth the sceptre of thy power out of Sion; rule thou in the midst of thy enemies.

3 With thee is the principality; in the day of thy strength, in the brightness of the saints, from the womb before the day star, I begot thee.

4 The Lord hath sworn, and he will not repent. Thou art a priest forever according to the order of Melchisedech.

5 The Lord at thy right hand hath broken kings in the day of his wrath.

6 He shall judge among nations, he shall fill ruins, he shall crush the heads in the land of many,

7 He shall drink of the torrent in the way; therefore shall he lift up the head.

Glory Be...

Ant. The Lord said to my Lord: Sit thou at my right hand.

Ant. 2 Great are the works of the Lord.

Psalm 110

I WILL praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart, in the council of the just and in the congregation.

2 Great are the works of the Lord, sought out according to all his will.

3 His work is praise and magnificence, and his justice continueth forever and ever.

4 He hath made a remembrance of his wonderful works, being a merciful and gracious Lord.

5 He hath given food to them that fear him. He will be mindful forever of his covenant.

6 He will shew forth to his people the power of his works

7 That he may give them the inheritance of the Gentiles. The works of his hands are truth and judgment.

8 All his commandments are faithful, confirmed for ever and ever made in truth and equity.

9 He hath sent redemption to his people, he hath commanded his covenant forever. Holy and terrible is his name.

10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. A good understanding to all that do it. His praise continueth for ever and ever.

Glory Be...

Ant. Great are the works of the Lord, sought out according to all his will.

Ant. 3 He that feareth the Lord.

Psalm 111

BLESSED is the man that feareth the Lord; he shall delight exceedingly in his commandments.

2 His seed shall be mighty upon earth; the generation of the righteous shall be blessed.

3 Glory and wealth shall be in his house, and his justice remaineth for ever and ever.

4 To the righteous a light is risen up in darkness; he is merciful and compassionate and just.

5 Acceptable is the man that sheweth mercy and lendeth; he shall order his words with judgment

6 Because he shall not be moved for ever.

7 The just shall be in everlasting remembrance; he shall not fear the evil hearing. His heart is ready to hope in the Lord.

8 His heart is strengthened; he shall not be moved until he look over his enemies.

9 He hath distributed; he hath given to the poor; his justice remaineth for ever and ever; his horn shall be exalted in glory.

10 The wicked shall see and shall be angry; he shall gnash with his teeth and pine away; the desire of the wicked shall perish.

Glory Be...

Ant. He that feareth the Lord shall delight exceedingly in his commandments.

Ant. 4 Blessed be the name.

Psalm 112

PRAISE the Lord, ye children, praise ye the name of the Lord.

2 Blessed be the name of the Lord, from henceforth now and forever.

3 From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same, the name of the Lord is worthy of praise.

4 The Lord is high above all nations and his glory above the heavens.

5 Who is as the Lord our God who dwelleth on high

6 And looketh down on the low things in heaven and in earth?

7 Raising up the needy from the earth and lifting up the poor out of the dunghill,

8 That he may place him with princes, with the princes of his people,

9 Who maketh a barren woman to dwell in a house, the joyful mother of children.

Glory Be...

Ant. Blessed be the name of the Lord forever.

Ant. 5 But our God.

Psalm 113

WHEN Israel went out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a barbarous people,

2 Judea was made his sanctuary, Israel his dominion.

3 The sea saw and fled. Jordan was turned back.

4 The mountains skipped like rams, and the hills like the lambs of the flock.

5 What ailed thee, O thou sea, that thou didst flee, and thou, O Jordan, that thou wast turned back?

6 Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams, and ye hills, like lambs of the flock?

7 At the presence of the Lord the earth was moved, at the presence of the God of Jacob,

8 Who turned the rock into pools of water and the stony hill into fountains of waters.

9 Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to thy name give glory.

10 For thy mercy and for thy truth's sake lest the gentiles should say: Where is their God?

11 But our God is in heaven; he hath done all things whatsoever he would.

12 The idols of the gentiles are silver and gold, the works of the hands of men.

13 They have mouths and speak not, they have eyes and see not,

14 They have ears and hear not, they have noses and smell not,

15 They have hands and feel not, they have feet and walk not, neither shall they cry out through their throat.

16 Let them that make them become like unto them and all such as trust in them.

17 The house of Israel hath hoped in the Lord; he is their helper and their protector.

18 The house of Aaron hath hoped in the Lord; he is their helper and their protector.

19 They that fear the Lord hath hoped in the Lord; he is their helper and their protector.

20 The Lord hath been mindful of us and hath blessed us. He hath blessed the house of Israel, he hath blessed the house of Aaron,

21 He hath blessed all that fear the Lord, both little and great.

22 May the Lord add blessings upon you, upon you and upon your children.

23 Blessed be you of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

24 The heaven of heaven is the Lord's, but the earth he has given to the children of men.

25 The dead shall not praise thee, O Lord, nor any of them that go down to the underworld.

26 But we that live bless the Lord, from this time now and forever.

Glory Be...

Ant. But our God is in heaven; he hath done all things whatsoever he would.

Little Chapter (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)

L. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort, who comforteth us in all our tribulations

R. Thanks be to God.

Hymn

O BLEST Creator of the light,
Who mak'st the day with radiance bright,

And o'er the forming world didst call
The light from chaos first of all,

Whose wisdom joined in meet array

The morn and eve and named them
Day,

Night comes with all its darkling
fears;

Regard thy people's prayers and tears

Lest sunk in sin and whelmed with
strife

They lose the gift of endless life;

While thinking but the thoughts of
time,

They weave new chains of woe and
crime.

But grant them grace, that they may
strain

The heavenly gate and prize to gain;

Each harmful lure aside to cast,

And purge away each error past;

O Jesus, this we ask be done

With the Father and the Spirit, three
in one,

Who with thee in the Trinity

Doth live and reign eternally.

Amen.

[Go to Ending of Vespers, p. 27.](#)

Lord's Day Compline

[Go to Beginning of Compline, p. 28.](#)

Ant. Have mercy.

Psalm 4

WHEN I called upon him, the God of my justice heard me; when I was in distress, thou hast enlarged me. Have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

3 O ye sons of men, how long will you be dull of heart? Why do you love vanity and seek after lying?

4 Know ye also that the Lord hath made his holy one wonderful. The Lord will hear me when I shall cry unto him.

5 Stand in awe and sin not; commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still.

6 Offer up the sacrifice of justice and trust in the Lord; many say, Who will sheweth us good things?

7 The light of thy countenance, O Lord, is signed upon us. Thou hast given gladness in my heart.

8 By the fruit of their corn, their wine and oil, they are multiplied.

9 In peace in the selfsame I will sleep, and I will rest,

10 For thou, O Lord, singularly hast settled me in hope.

Glory Be...

Psalm 90

HE that dwelleth in the aid of the most High shall abide under the protection of the God of Jacob.

2 He shall say to the Lord: Thou art my protector and my refuge, my God, in him will I trust.

3 For he hath delivered me from the snare of the hunters and from the sharp word.

4 He will overshadow thee with his shoulders, and under his wings thou shalt trust.

5 His truth shall compass thee with a shield. Thou shalt not be afraid of the terror of the night,

6 Of the arrow that flieth in the day, of the business that walketh about in the dark, of invasion, or of the noonday devil.

7 A thousand shall fall at thy side and ten thousand at thy right hand, but it shall not come nigh thee.

8 But thou shalt consider with thy eyes and shalt see the reward of the wicked.

9 Because thou, O Lord, art my hope, thou hast made the most High thy refuge.

10 There shall no evil come to thee, nor shall the scourge come near thy dwelling.

11 For he hath given his angels charge over thee to keep thee in all thy ways.

12 In their hands they shall bear thee up lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

13 Thou shalt walk upon the asp and the basilisk, and thou shalt trample under foot the lion and the dragon.

14 Because he hoped in me, I will deliver him. I will protect him because he hath known my name.

15 He shall cry to me, and I will hear him. I am with him in tribulation, I will deliver him, and I will glorify him.

16 I will fill him with length of days, and I will shew him my salvation.

Glory Be...

Psalm 133

BEHOLD, now bless ye the Lord all ye servants of the Lord, who stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God.

2 In the nights lift up your hands to the holy places and bless ye the Lord.

3 May the Lord out of Sion bless thee, he that made heaven and earth.

Glory Be...

Ant. Have mercy on me, O Lord, and hear my prayer.

Go to [Ending of Compline, p. 28.](#)

Second Weekday Offices

Second Weekday Prime

Go to [Beginning of Prime, p. 25.](#)

Ant. The innocent in hands.

Psalm 23

THE earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof, the world and all they that dwell therein.

2 For he hath founded it upon the seas and hath prepared it upon the rivers.

3 Who shall ascend into the mountain of the Lord or who shall stand in his holy place?

4 The innocent in hands and clean of heart who hath not taken his soul in vain nor sworn deceitfully to his neighbour.

5 He shall receive a blessing from the Lord and mercy from God his Saviour.

6 This is the generation of them that seek him, of them that seek the face of the God of Jacob.

7 Lift up your gates, O ye princes, and be ye lifted up, O eternal gates, and the King of Glory shall enter in.

8 Who is this King of Glory? The Lord who is strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

9 Lift up your gates, O ye princes, and be ye lifted up, O eternal gates, and the King of Glory shall enter in.

10 Who is this King of Glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of Glory.

Glory Be...

Psalm 18, i

THE heavens shew forth the glory of God, and the firmament declareth the work of his hands.

3 Day to day uttereth speech and night to night sheweth knowledge.

4 There are no speeches nor languages where their voices are not heard.

5 Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth and their words unto the ends of the world.

6 He hath set his tabernacle in the sun; and he, as a bridegroom coming out of his bride chamber, hath rejoiced as a giant to run the way.

7 His going out is from the end of heaven and his circuit even to the end thereof. And there is no one that can hide himself from his heat.

Glory Be...

Psalm 18, ii

THE law of the Lord is unspotted, converting souls. The testimony of the Lord is faithful, giving wisdom to little ones.

9 The justices of the Lord are right, rejoicing hearts. The commandment of the Lord is lightsome, enlightening the eyes.

10 The fear of the Lord is holy, enduring for ever and ever. The judgments of the Lord are true, justified in themselves,

11 More to be desired than gold and many precious stones and sweeter than honey and the honeycomb.

12 For thy servant keepeth them, and in keeping them there is a great reward.

13 Who can understand sins? From my secret ones, cleanse me, O Lord,

14 But from willful sin keep your servant; let them not have dominion over me. Then shall I be blameless, and innocent of grievous sin.

15 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

Glory Be...

Ant. The innocent in hands and clean of heart shall ascend into the mountain of the Lord.

Go to [Ending of Prime, p. 26.](#)

Second Weekday Compline

Go to [Beginning of Compline, p. 28.](#)

Ant. Save me.

Psalm 6

OLORD, rebuke me not in thy indignation nor chastise me in thy wrath.

3 Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am weak. Heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled.

4 And my soul is troubled exceedingly. But thou, O Lord, how long?

5 Turn to me, O Lord, and deliver my soul. O save me for thy mercy's sake.

6 For there is no one in death that is mindful of thee, and who shall confess to thee in the underworld?

7 I have laboured in my groanings. Every night I will wash my bed, I will water my couch with my tears.

8 My eye is troubled through indignation. I have grown old amongst all my enemies.

9 Depart from me all ye workers of iniquity for the Lord hath heard the voice of my weeping.

10 The Lord hath heard my supplication, the Lord hath received my prayer.

11 Let all my enemies be ashamed and be very much troubled, let them be turned back and be ashamed very speedily.

Glory Be...

Psalm 7, i

O LORD my God, in thee have I put my trust. Save me from all them that persecute me and deliver me

3 Lest at any time he seize upon my soul like a lion while there is no one to redeem me nor to save.

4 O Lord my God, if I have done this thing, if there be iniquity in my hands,

5 If I have rendered to them that repaid me evils, let me deservedly fall empty before my enemies.

6 Let the enemy pursue my soul and take it and tread down my life on the earth and bring down my glory to the dust.

7 Rise up, O Lord, in thy anger and be thou exalted in the borders of my enemies. And arise, O Lord my God, in the precept which thou hast commanded.

8 And a congregation of people shall surround thee and for their sakes return thou on high.

9 The Lord judgeth the people. Judge me, O Lord, according to my justice and according to my innocence in me.

10 The wickedness of sinners shall be brought to nought, and thou shalt direct the just. The searcher of hearts and reins is God.

Glory Be...

Psalm 7, ii

JUST is my help from the Lord who saveth the upright of heart.

12 God is a just judge, strong and patient, is he angry every day?

13 Except you will be converted, he will brandish his sword. He hath bent his bow and made it ready.

14 And in it he hath prepared the instruments of death. He hath made ready his arrows for them that burn.

15 Behold the wicked man hath been in labour with injustice. He hath conceived sorrow and brought forth iniquity.

16 He hath opened a pit and dug it, and he is fallen into the hole he made.

17 His sorrow shall be turned on his own head, and his iniquity shall come down upon his crown.

18 I will give glory to the Lord according to his justice, and will sing to the name of the Lord the most High.

Glory Be...

Ant. Save me, O Lord, for thy mercy's sake.

[Go to Ending of Compline, p. 28.](#)

Third Weekday Offices

Third Weekday Prime

[Go to Beginning of Prime, p. 25.](#)

Ant. My God.

Psalm 24, i

TO thee, O Lord, have I lifted up my soul.

2 In thee, O my God, I put my trust; let me not be ashamed.

3 Neither let my enemies laugh at me, for none of them that wait on thee shall be confounded.

4 Let them be shamed who vainly transgress. Shew, O Lord, thy ways to me and teach me thy paths.

5 Direct me in thy truth and teach me; for thou art God, my Saviour, and on thee have I waited all the day long.

6 Remember, O Lord, thy bowels of compassion and thy mercies that are from the beginning of the world.

7 The sins of my youth and my ignorances do not remember. According to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O Lord.

Glory Be...

Psalm 24, ii

THE Lord is sweet and righteous; therefore he will give a law to sinners in the way.

9 He will guide the mild in judgment; he will teach the meek his ways.

10 All the ways of the Lord are mercy and truth to them that seek after his covenant and his testimonies.

11 For thy name's sake, O Lord, thou wilt pardon my sin, for it is great.

12 Who is the man that feareth the Lord? He hath appointed him a law in the way he hath chosen.

13 His soul shall dwell in good things, and his seed shall inherit the land.

14 The Lord is a firmament to them that fear him, and his covenant shall be made manifest to them.

Glory Be...

Psalm 24, iii

MY eyes are ever towards the Lord, for he shall pluck my feet out of the snare.

16 Look thou upon me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

17 The troubles of my heart are multiplied; deliver me from my necessities.

18 See my abjection and my labour,
and forgive me all my sins.

19 Consider my enemies for they are
multiplied and have hated me with an
unjust hatred.

20 Keep thou my soul and deliver me.
I shall not be ashamed, for I have
hoped in thee.

21 The innocent and the upright have
adhered to me because I have waited
on thee.

22 Deliver Israel, O God, from all his
tribulations.

Glory Be...

Ant. In thee, O my God, I put my
trust; let me not be ashamed.

Go to [Ending of Prime, p. 26.](#)

Third Weekday Compline

Go to [Beginning of Compline, p. 28.](#)

Ant. Thou, O Lord.

Psalm 11

SAVE me, O Lord, for there is now
no saint. Truths are decayed from
among the children of men.

3 They have spoken vain things,
every one to his neighbour. With
deceitful lips and with a double heart
have they spoken.

4 May the Lord destroy all deceitful
lips and the tongue that speaketh
proud things.

5 Who have said: We will magnify
our tongue. Our lips are our own.
Who is Lord over us?

6 By reason of the misery of the
needy and the groans of the poor,
now will I arise, saith the Lord. I will
set him in safety. I will deal
confidently in his regard.

7 The words of the Lord are pure
words, as silver tried by the fire,
purged from the earth, refined seven
times.

8 Thou, O Lord, wilt preserve us and
keep us from this generation forever.

9 The wicked walk on every side
when the vilest men are exalted.

Glory Be...

Psalm 12

HOW long, O Lord, wilt thou forget
me unto the end? How long dost thou
turn away thy face from me?

2 How long shall I take counsels in
my soul, sorrow in my heart all the
day?

3 How long shall my enemy be
exalted over me?

4 Consider and hear me, O Lord my
God. Enlighten my eyes that I never
sleep in death,

5 Lest at any time my enemy say: I
have prevailed against him. They that
trouble me will rejoice when I am
moved,

6 But I have trusted in thy mercy. My
heart shall rejoice in thy salvation. I
will sing to the Lord who giveth me
good things. Yea, I will sing to the
name of the Lord the most High.

Glory Be...

Psalm 15

PRESERVE me, O Lord, for I have
put my trust in thee.

2 I have said to the Lord, thou art my
God, for thou hast no need of my
goods.

3 To the saints who are in his land, he
hath made wonderful all my desires
in them.

4 Their infirmities were multiplied.
Afterwards they made haste. I will
not gather together their meetings for
blood offerings, nor will I be mindful
of their names by my lips.

5 The Lord is the portion of my
inheritance and of my cup. It is thou
that wilt restore my inheritance to me.

6 The lines are fallen unto me in
goodly places, for my inheritance is
goodly to me.

7 I will bless the Lord who hath given
me understanding. Moreover, my
reins also have corrected me even till
night.

8 I set the Lord always in my sight,
for he is at my right hand that I be not
moved.

9 Therefore, my heart hath been glad
and my tongue hath rejoiced.
Moreover, my flesh also shall rest in
hope.

10 Because thou wilt not leave my
soul in the underworld, nor wilt thou
give thy holy one to see corruption.

11 Thou hast made known to me the
ways of life. Thou shalt fill me with
joy with thy countenance. At thy right
hand are delights even to the end.

Glory Be...

Ant. Thou, O Lord, wilt preserve us
and keep us forever.

Go to [Ending of Compline, p. 28.](#)

Fourth Weekday Offices

Fourth Weekday Prime

Go to [Beginning of Prime, p. 25.](#)

Ant. Thy mercy.

Psalm 25

JUDGE me, O Lord, for I have
walked in my innocence; and I have
put my trust in the Lord and shall not
be weakened.

2 Prove me, O Lord, and try me; burn
my reins and my heart.

3 For thy mercy is before my eyes,
and I am well pleased with thy truth.

4 I have not sat with the council of
vanity, neither will I go in with the
doers of unjust things.

5 I have hated the assembly of the
malignant; and with the wicked, I will
not sit.

6 I will wash my hands among the
innocent and will compass thy altar,
O Lord,

7 That I may hear the voice of thy
praise and tell of all thy miraculous
works.

8 I have loved, O Lord, the beauty of
thy house and the place where thy
glory dwelleth.

9 Take not away my soul, O God,
with the wicked nor my life with
bloody men,

10 In whose hands are iniquities; their right hand is filled with bribes.

11 But as for me, I have walked in my innocence: redeem me and have mercy on me.

12 My foot hath stood in the direct way; in the churches I will bless thee, O Lord.

Glory Be...

Psalm 51

WHY dost thou glory in malice, thou that art mighty in iniquity?

4 All the day long thy tongue hath devised injustice, as a sharp razor thou hast wrought deceit.

5 Thou hast loved malice more than goodness and iniquity rather than to speak righteousness.

6 Thou hast loved all the words of ruin, O deceitful tongue.

7 Therefore will God destroy thee forever; he will pluck thee out and remove thee from thy dwelling place and thy root out of the land of the living.

8 The just shall see and fear and shall laugh at him, and say:

9 Behold the man that made not God his helper but trusted in the abundance of his riches and prevailed in his vanity.

10 But I, as a fruitful olive tree in the house of God, have hoped in the mercy of God for ever, yea for ever and ever.

11 I will praise thee forever, because thou hast done it, and I will wait on thy name for it is good in the sight of thy saints.

Glory Be...

Psalm 52

THE fool said in his heart: There is no God.

2 They are corrupted, and become abominable in iniquities; there is none that doth good.

3 God looked down from heaven on the children of men to see if there

were any that did understand or did seek God.

4 All have gone aside, they are become unprofitable together, there is none that doth good, no not one.

5 Shall not all the workers of iniquity know who eat up my people as they eat bread?

6 They have not called upon God; there have they trembled for fear where there was no fear. For God hath scattered the bones of them that please men; they have been confounded because God hath despised them.

7 Who will give out of Sion the salvation of Israel? When God shall bring back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice and Israel shall be glad.

Glory Be...

Ant. Thy mercy, O Lord, is before my eyes; and I am well pleased with thy truth.

Go to [Ending of Prime](#), p. 26.

Fourth Weekday Compline

Go to [Beginning of Compline](#), p. 28.

Ant. The Angel of the Lord shall encamp.

Psalm 33, i

I WILL bless the Lord at all times, his praise shall be always in my mouth.

3 In the Lord shall my soul be praised; let the meek hear and rejoice.

4 O magnify the Lord with me, and let us extol his name together.

5 I sought the Lord and he heard me, and he delivered me from all my troubles.

6 Come ye to him and be enlightened, and your faces shall not be confounded.

7 This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him and saved him out of all his troubles.

8 The angel of the Lord shall encamp round about them that fear him and shall deliver them.

9 O taste and see that the Lord is sweet; blessed is the man that hopeth in him.

10 Fear the Lord all ye his saints, for there is no want to them that fear him.

11 The rich have wanted and have suffered hunger, but they that seek the Lord shall not be deprived of any good.

Glory Be...

Psalm 33, ii

COME, children, hearken to me, I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

13 Who is the man that desireth life, who loveth to see good days?

14 Keep thy tongue from evil and thy lips from speaking guile.

15 Turn away from evil and do good; seek after peace and pursue it.

16 The eyes of the Lord are upon the just and his ears unto their prayers.

17 But the countenance of the Lord is against them that do evil things, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

18 The just cried and the Lord heard them and delivered them out of all their troubles.

19 The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart, and he will save the humble of spirit.

20 Many are the afflictions of the just, but out of them all will the Lord deliver them.

21 The Lord keepeth all their bones, not one of them shall be broken.

22 The death of the wicked is very evil, and they that hate the just shall be guilty.

23 The Lord will redeem the souls of his servants, and none of them that trust in him shall offend.

Glory Be...

Psalm 60

HEAR, O God, my supplication; be attentive to my prayer,

3 To thee have I cried from the ends of the earth; when my heart was in anguish, thou hast exalted me on a rock. Thou hast conducted me.

4 For thou hast been my hope, a tower of strength against the face of the enemy.

5 In thy tabernacle I shall dwell forever; I shall be protected under the covert of thy wings.

6 For thou, my God, hast heard my prayer; thou hast given an inheritance to them that fear thy name.

7 Thou wilt add days to the days of the king, his years even to generation and generation.

8 He abideth forever in the sight of God. His mercy and truth who shall search?

9 So will I sing a psalm to thy name for ever and ever that I may pay my vows from day to day.

Glory Be...

Ant. The Angel of the Lord shall encamp round about them that fear him, and shall deliver them.

Go to [Ending of Compline](#), p. 28.

Fifth Weekday Offices

Fifth Weekday Prime

Go to [Beginning of Prime](#), p. 25.

Ant. In a place of pasture.

Psalm 22

THE Lord ruleth me, and I shall want nothing.

2 He hath set me in a place of pasture. He hath brought me up on the water of refreshment.

3 He hath converted my soul. He hath led me on the paths of justice for his own name's sake.

4 For though I should walk in the midst of the shadow of death, I will

fear no evils, for thou art with me. Thy rod and thy staff, they have comforted me.

5 Thou hast prepared a table before me against them that afflict me. Thou hast anointed my head with oil; and my chalice which inebriateth me, how goodly is it!

6 And thy mercy will follow me all the days of my life. And that I may dwell in the house of the Lord unto length of days.

Glory Be...

Psalm 71, i

GIVE to the king thy judgment, O God, and to the king's son thy justice: To judge thy people with justice and thy poor with judgment.

3 Let the mountains receive peace for the people and the hills justice.

4 He shall judge the poor of the people, and he shall save the children of the poor; and he shall humble the oppressor.

5 And he shall continue with the sun and before the moon throughout all generations.

6 He shall come down like rain upon the fleece and as showers falling gently upon the earth.

7 In his days shall justice spring up and abundance of peace till the moon be taken away.

8 And he shall rule from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth.

Glory Be...

Psalm 71, ii

BEFORE him the Ethiopians shall fall down, and his enemies shall lick the ground.

10 The kings of Tharsis and the islands shall offer presents; the kings of the Arabians and of Saba shall bring gifts.

11 And all kings of the earth shall adore him; all nations shall serve him.

12 For he shall deliver the poor from the mighty and the needy that had no helper.

13 He shall spare the poor and needy, and he shall save the souls of the poor.

14 He shall redeem their souls from usuries and iniquity, and their names shall be honourable in his sight.

15 And he shall live; and to him shall be given of the gold of Arabia, for him they shall always adore; they shall bless him all the day.

16 And there shall be a firmament on the earth on the tops of mountains, above Libanus shall the fruit thereof be exalted; and they of the city shall flourish like the grass of the earth.

17 Let his name be blessed for evermore. His name continueth before the sun. And in him shall all the tribes of the earth be blessed; all nations shall magnify him.

18 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone doth wonderful things.

19 And blessed be the name of his majesty forever, and the whole earth shall be filled with his majesty. So be it.

Glory Be...

Ant. In a place of pasture, the Lord hath set me.

Go to [Ending of Prime](#), p. 26.

Fifth Weekday Compline

Go to [Beginning of Compline](#), p. 28.

Ant. My helper.

Psalm 69

O GOD, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me.

3 Let them be confounded and ashamed that seek my soul.

4 Let them be turned backward and blush for shame that desire evils to me. Let them be presently turned away blushing for shame that say to me: 'Tis well, 'tis well.

5 Let all that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee; and let such as love thy salvation say always: The Lord be magnified.

6 But I am needy and poor; O God, help me. Thou art my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, make no delay.

Glory Be...

Psalm 70, i

IN thee, O Lord, I have hoped, let me never be put to confusion.

2 Deliver me in thy justice and rescue me. Incline thy ear unto me and save me.

3 Be thou unto me a God, a protector and a place of strength, that thou mayest make me safe. For thou art my firmament and my refuge.

4 Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the sinner and out of the hand of the transgressor of the law and of the unjust.

5 For thou art my patience, O Lord, my hope, O Lord, from my youth.

6 By thee have I been confirmed from the womb, from my mother's womb thou art my protector. Of thee I shall continually sing.

7 I am become unto many as a wonder, but thou art a strong helper.

8 Let my mouth be filled with praise that I may sing thy glory, thy greatness all the day long.

9 Cast me not off in the time of old age; when my strength shall fail, do not thou forsake me.

10 For my enemies have spoken against me; and they that watched my soul have consulted together,

11 Saying: God hath forsaken him. Pursue and take him, for there is none to deliver him.

12 O God, be not thou far from me. O my God, make haste to my help.

Glory Be...

Psalm 70, ii

LET them be confounded and come to nothing that detract my soul; let

them be covered with confusion and shame that seek my hurt.

14 But I will always hope, and will add to all thy praise.

15 My mouth shall proclaim your just deeds, day after day your acts of deliverance, though I cannot number them all,

16 I will enter into the powers of the Lord. O Lord, I will be mindful of thy justice alone.

17 Thou hast taught me, O God, from my youth, and till now I will declare thy wonderful works.

18 And unto old age and grey hairs, O God, forsake me not, until I shew forth thy arm to all the generation that is to come, thy power

19 And thy justice, O God, even to the highest great things thou hast done. O God, who is like to thee?

20 How great troubles hast thou shewn me, many and grievous; and turning, thou hast brought me to life and hast brought me back again from the depths of the earth.

21 Thou hast multiplied thy magnificence; and turning to me, thou hast comforted me.

22 For I will also confess to thee thy truth with the instruments of psaltery. O God, I will sing to thee with the harp, thou holy one of Israel.

23 My lips shall greatly rejoice when I shall sing to thee and my soul which thou hast redeemed.

24 Yea and my tongue shall meditate on thy justice all the day when they shall be confounded and put to shame that seek evils to me.

Glory Be...

Ant. My helper and my deliverer be thou, O Lord.

Go to [Ending of Compline](#), p. 28.

Sixth Weekday Offices

Sixth Weekday Prime

Go to [Beginning of Prime](#), p. 25.

Ant. Depart not from me.

Psalm 21, i

MY GOD, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me and art far from my help at the words of my cry?

3 My God, I call by day, but you do not answer; by night, but I have no relief.

4 But thou dwellest in the holy place, the praise of Israel.

5 In thee have our fathers hoped; they have hoped, and thou hast delivered them.

6 They cried to thee, and they were saved; they trusted in thee and were not confounded.

7 But I am a worm and no man, the reproach of men and the outcast of the people.

8 All they that saw me have laughed me to scorn; they have spoken with the lips and wagged the head.

9 He hoped in the Lord, let him deliver him; let him save him seeing he delighteth in him.

10 For thou art he that hast drawn me out of the womb, my hope from the breasts of my mother.

11 I was cast upon thee from the womb. From my mother's womb thou art my God,

12 Depart not from me. For tribulation is very near, for there is none to help me.

Glory Be...

Psalm 21, ii

MANY calves have surrounded me; fat bulls have besieged me.

14 They have opened their mouths against me, as a lion ravening and roaring.

15 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are scattered. My heart is become like wax melting in the midst of my bowels.

16 My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue hath cleaved to my jaws; and thou hast brought me down into the dust of death.

17 For many dogs have encompassed me; the council of the malignant hath besieged me. They have dug my hands and feet.

18 They have numbered all my bones. And they have looked and stared upon me.

19 They parted my garments amongst them, and upon my vesture they cast lots.

20 But thou, O Lord, remove not thy help to a distance from me; look towards my defense.

21 Deliver, O God, my soul from the sword, my only one from the hand of the dog.

22 Save me from the lion's mouth and my lowness from the horns of the wild oxen.

23 I will declare thy name to my brethren; in the midst of the church will I praise thee.

Glory Be...

Psalm 21, iii

YE that fear the Lord, praise him; all ye the seed of Jacob, glorify him.

25 Let all the seed of Israel fear him because he hath not slighted nor despised the supplication of the poor man. Neither hath he turned away his face from me, and when I cried to him he heard me.

26 With thee is my praise in a great church; I will pay my vows in the sight of them that fear him.

27 The poor shall eat and shall be filled, and they shall praise the Lord that seek him; their hearts shall live for ever and ever.

28 All the ends of the earth shall remember and shall be converted to the Lord. And all the kindreds of the Gentiles shall adore in his sight.

29 For the kingdom is the Lord's, and he shall have dominion over the nations.

30 All the fat ones of the earth have eaten and have adored; all they that go down to the earth shall fall before him.

31 And to him my soul shall live, and my seed shall serve him.

32 There shall be declared to the Lord a generation to come; and the heavens shall shew forth his justice to a people that shall be born, which the Lord hath made.

Glory Be...

Ant. Depart not from me, O Lord, for tribulation is very near, for there is none to help me.

Go to [Ending of Prime](#), p. 26.

Sixth Weekday Compline

Go to [Beginning of Compline](#), p. 28.

Ant. I cried to the Lord.

Psalm 76, i

I cried to the Lord with my voice, to God with my voice, and he gave ear to me.

3 In the days of my trouble I sought God with my hands lifted up to him in the night, and I was not deceived. My soul refused to be comforted.

4 I remembered God and rejoiced. I poured out my complaint and my soul fainted.

5 All mine enemies set a watch against me. I was troubled and spoke not.

6 I thought upon the days of old, and I had in my mind the ancient years.

7 And I meditated in the night with my own heart; and I was exercised, and I swept my spirit.

8 Will God then cast off forever? Or will he never be more favourable again?

9 Or will he cut off his mercy forever, from generation to generation?

10 Or will God forget to shew mercy? Or will he in his anger shut up his mercies?

11 And I said: This is my infirmity, but I will remember the years of the right hand of the most High.

12 I remembered the works of the Lord, for I will be mindful of thy wonders from the beginning.

13 And I will meditate on all thy works and will be employed in thy inventions.

Glory Be...

Psalm 76, ii

THY way, O God, is in the holy place. Who is the great God like our God?

15 Thou art the God that dost wonders. Thou hast made thy power known among the nations.

16 With thy arm thou hast redeemed thy people, the children of Jacob and of Joseph.

17 The waters saw thee, O God, the waters saw thee, and they were afraid; and the depths were troubled.

18 Great was the noise of the waters, the clouds sent out a sound. For thy arrows pass,

19 The voice of thy thunder in a wheel. Thy lightnings enlightened the world; the earth shook and trembled.

20 Thy way is in the sea and thy paths in many waters, and thy footsteps shall not be known.

21 Thou hast conducted thy people like sheep by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Glory Be...

Psalm 85

INCLINE thy ear, O Lord, and hear me for I am needy and poor.

2 Preserve my soul, for I am holy; save thy servant, O my God, that trusteth in thee.

3 Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I have cried to thee all the day.

4 Give joy to the soul of thy servant, for to thee, O Lord, I have lifted up my soul.

5 For thou, O Lord, art sweet and mild and plenteous in mercy to all that call upon thee.

6 Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the voice of my petition.

7 I have called upon thee in the day of my trouble because thou hast heard me.

8 There is none among the gods like unto thee, O Lord, and there is none according to thy works.

9 All the nations thou hast made shall come and adore before thee, O Lord, and they shall glorify thy name.

10 For thou art great and dost wonderful things; thou art God alone.

11 Conduct me, O Lord, in thy way, and I will walk in thy truth. Let my heart rejoice that it may fear thy name.

12 I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify thy name for ever.

13 For thy mercy is great towards me, and thou hast delivered my soul out of the depths of the underworld.

14 O God, the wicked are risen up against me, and the assembly of the mighty have sought my soul; and they have not set thee before their eyes.

15 And thou, O Lord, art a God of compassion and merciful, patient and of much mercy and true.

16 O look upon me and have mercy on me; give thy command to thy servant, and save the son of thy handmaid.

17 Shew me a token for good that they who hate me may see and be confounded because thou, O Lord, hast helped me and hast comforted me.

Glory Be...

Ant. I cried to the Lord with my voice, and God will not forget to show mercy.

Go to [Ending of Compline](#), p. 28.

Seventh Weekday Offices

Seventh Weekday Prime

Go to [Beginning of Prime](#), p. 25.

Ant. Lift up thyself, O Lord.

Psalm 93, i

OLORD God, to whom vengeance belongeth; O God, to whom vengeance belongeth, shew thyself.

Lord is the God to whom revenge belongeth, the God of revenge hath acted freely.

2 Lift up thyself thou that judgest the earth, render a reward to the proud.

3 How long shall sinners, O Lord, how long shall sinners glory?

4 Shall they utter and speak iniquity? Shall all speak who work injustice?

5 Thy people, O Lord, they have brought low, and they have afflicted thy inheritance.

6 They have slain the widow and the stranger, and they have murdered the fatherless.

7 And they have said: The Lord shall not see, neither shall the God of Jacob understand.

8 Understand, ye senseless among the people and you fools, be wise at last.

9 He that planted the ear, shall he not hear? Or he that formed the eye, doth he not see?

10 He that chastiseth nations, shall he not rebuke? He that teacheth man knowledge?

11 The Lord knoweth the thoughts of men, that they are vain.

Glory Be...

Psalm 93, ii

BLESSED is the man whom thou shalt instruct, O Lord, and shalt teach him out of thy law,

13 That thou mayest give him rest from the evil days till a pit be dug for the wicked.

14 For the Lord will not cast off his people, neither will he forsake his own inheritance,

15 Until justice be turned into judgment; and they that are near it are all the upright in heart.

16 Who shall rise up for me against the evildoers? Or who shall stand

with me against the workers of iniquity?

17 Unless the Lord had been my helper my soul had almost dwelt in the underworld.

18 If I said: My foot is moved. Thy mercy, O Lord, assisted me.

19 According to the multitude of my sorrows in my heart, thy comforts have given joy to my soul.

20 Doth the seat of iniquity stick to thee who framest labour in commandment?

21 They will hunt after the soul of the just and will condemn innocent blood.

22 But the Lord is my refuge and my God, the help of my hope.

23 And he will render them their iniquity; and in their malice he will destroy them, the Lord our God will destroy them.

Glory Be...

Psalm 107

MY heart is ready, O God, my heart is ready. I will sing and will give praise with my glory.

3 Arise my glory, arise psaltery and harp. I will arise in the morning early.

4 I will praise thee, O Lord, among the people, and I will sing unto thee among the nations.

5 For thy mercy is great above the heavens, and thy truth even unto the clouds.

6 Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens, and thy glory over all the earth,

7 That thy beloved may be delivered. Save with thy right hand and hear me.

8 God hath spoken in his holiness. I will rejoice. And I will divide Sichem, and I will mete out the vale of tabernacles.

9 Galaad is mine and Manasses is mine and Ephraim the protection of my head. Juda is my king,

10 Moab the pot of my hope. Over Edom I will stretch out my shoe. The aliens are become my friends.

11 Who will bring me into the strong city? Who will lead me into Edom?

12 Wilt not thou, O God, who hast cast us off? And wilt not thou, O God, go forth with our armies?

13 O grant us help from trouble, for vain is the help of man.

14 Through God we shall do mightily: and he will bring our enemies to nothing.

Glory Be...

Ant. Lift up thyself, O Lord, thou that judgest the earth. Render a reward to the proud.

Go to [Ending of Prime](#), p. 26.

Seventh Weekday Compline

Go to [Beginning of Compline](#), p. 28.

Ant. Let my prayer come in.

Psalm 87

O Lord, the God of my salvation, I have cried in the day and in the night before thee.

3 Let my prayer come in before thee; incline thy ear to my petition.

4 For my soul is filled with evils and my life hath drawn nigh to the underworld.

5 I am counted among them that go down to the pit. I am become as a man without help,

6 Free among the dead. Like the slain sleeping in the sepulchres, whom thou rememberest no more; and they are cast off from thy hand.

7 They have laid me in the lower pit, in the dark places and in the shadow of death.

8 Thy wrath is strong over me and all thy waves thou hast brought in upon me.

9 Thou hast put away my acquaintance far from me, they have set me an abomination to themselves. I was delivered up and came not forth.

10 My eyes languished through poverty. All the day I cried to thee, O

Lord. I stretched out my hands to thee.

11 Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? Or shall physicians raise to life and give praise to thee?

12 Shall anyone in the sepulchre declare thy mercy and thy truth in destruction?

13 Shall thy wonders be known in the dark and thy justice in the land of forgetfulness?

14 But I, O Lord, have cried to thee; and in the morning my prayer shall come before thee.

15 Lord, why castest thou off my prayer? Why turnest thou away thy face from me?

16 I am poor and in labours from my youth, and being exalted have been humbled and troubled.

17 Thy wrath hath come upon me, and thy terrors have troubled me.

18 They have come round about me like water all the day. They have compassed me about together.

19 Friend and neighbour thou hast put far from me and my acquaintances because of misery.

Glory Be...

Psalm 102, i

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and let all that is within me bless his holy name.

2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all he hath done for thee;

3 Who forgiveth all thy iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with mercy and compassion;

5 Who satisfieth thy desire with good things. Thy youth shall be renewed like the eagle's.

6 The Lord doth mercies and judgment for all that suffer wrong.

7 He hath made his ways known to Moses, his will to the children of Israel.

8 The Lord is compassionate and merciful, longsuffering and plenteous in mercy.

9 He will not always be angry, nor will he threaten forever.

10 He hath not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

11 For according to the height of the heaven above the earth, he hath strengthened his mercy towards them that fear him.

12 As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our iniquities from us.

Glory Be...

Psalm 102, ii

As a father hath compassion on his children, so hath the Lord compassion on them that fear him,

14 For he knoweth our frame, he remembereth that we are dust.

15 Man's days are as grass, as the flower of the field so shall he flourish.

16 For the spirit shall pass in him, and he shall not be; and he shall know his place no more.

17 But the mercy of the Lord is from eternity and unto eternity upon them that fear him, and his justice unto children's children,

18 To such as keep his covenant and are mindful of his commandments to do them.

19 The Lord hath prepared his throne in heaven, and his kingdom shall rule over all.

20 Bless the Lord, all ye his angels, you that are mighty in strength and execute his word, hearkening to the voice of his orders.

21 Bless the Lord, all ye his hosts, you ministers of his that do his will.

22 Bless the Lord, all his works, in every place of his dominion, O my soul, bless thou the Lord.

Glory Be...

Ant. Let my prayer come in before thee, O Lord.

Offices of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary (BVM) is prayed on the following feast days: the Annunciation, the Visitation, the Assumption, the Coronation of the BVM, the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the Nativity of the BVM, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, the Seven Sorrows of the BVM in Lent, the Most Holy Rosary, the Maternity of the BVM, and the Immaculate Conception.

Prime

✠ **O**PEN my mouth, O Lord, to bless thy holy name; cleanse also my heart from all vain, evil and distracting thoughts; enlighten my understanding, inflame my will, that I may worthily recite this Office with attention and devotion and deserve to be heard in the presence of thy divine majesty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Lord, in union with that divine intention with which thou didst praise God on earth, I offer to thee this Hour.

Our Father...

Hail Mary...

L. ✠ O God, come to my assistance.

R. O Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory Be...

Alleluia *or* Praise be to thee, O Lord, King of eternal glory.

Hymn

REMEMBER, O Creator Lord,
That in the Virgin's holy womb
Thou wast conceived, and of her flesh
Didst our mortality assume.
Mother of grace, O Mary blest,
To thee, sweet fount of love we fly;

Shield us through life, and take us hence

To thy dear bosom when we die.

O Jesu, born of Mary bright!

Immortal glory be to thee;

Praise to the Father infinite

And Holy Spirit eternally.

Amen.

Ant. One is my dove, my perfect one is but one.

Canticle of Canticles 6

My beloved is gone down into his garden, to the bed of aromatical spices to feed in the gardens and to gather lilies.

2 I to my beloved, and my beloved to me, who feedeth among the lilies.

3 Thou art beautiful, O my love, sweet and comely as Jerusalem, terrible as an army set in array.

4 Turn away thy eyes from me, for they have made me flee away. Thy hair is as a flock of goats that appear from Galaad.

5 Thy teeth as a flock of sheep which come up from the washing, all with twins and there is none barren among them.

6 Thy cheeks are as the bark of a pomegranate beside what is hidden within thee.

7 There are threescore queens, and fourscore concubines, and young maidens without number.

8 One is my dove, my perfect one is but one, she is the only one of her mother, the chosen of her that bore her. The daughters saw her and declared her most blessed, the queens and concubines, and they praised her.

9 Who is she that cometh forth as the morning rising, fair as the moon, bright as the sun, terrible as an army set in array?

Glory Be...

Canticle of Canticles 2

IAM the flower of the field and the lily of the valleys.

2 As the lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters.

3 As the apple tree among the trees of the woods, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under his shadow whom I desired, and his fruit was sweet to my palate.

4 He brought me into the cellar of wine, he set in order charity in me.

5 Stay me up with flowers, compass me about with apples, because I languish with love.

6 His left hand is under my head, and his right hand shall embrace me.

7 I adjure you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes and the harts of the field, that you stir not up nor make the beloved to awake till she please.

8 The voice of my beloved, behold he cometh leaping upon the mountains, skipping over the hills.

Glory Be...

Canticle of Canticles 4

HOW beautiful art thou, my love, how beautiful art thou! Thy eyes are doves' eyes besides what is hid within.

7 Thou art all fair, O my love, and there is not a spot in thee.

8 Come from Libanus, my spouse, come from Libanus, come; thou shalt be crowned from the top of Amana, from the top of Sanir and Hermon, from the dens of the lions, from the mountains of the leopards.

12 My sister, my spouse, is a garden enclosed, a garden enclosed, a fountain sealed up.

13 Thy plants are a paradise of pomegranates with the fruits of the orchard, cypress with spikenard,

14 Spikenard and saffron, sweet cane and cinnamon, with all the trees of Libanus, myrrh and aloes with all the chief perfumes,

15 The fountain of gardens, the well of living waters, which run with a strong stream from Libanus.

16 Arise, O north wind, and come, O south wind, blow through my garden

and let the aromatical spices thereof flow.

Glory Be...

Ant. As the lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters. As the apple tree among the trees of the woods, so is my beloved among the sons.

Little Chapter

(Canticle of Canticles 4:1, 7)

L. How beautiful art thou, my love, how beautiful art thou! Thy eyes are doves' eyes, besides what is hid within. Thou art all fair, O my love, and there is not a spot in thee.

R. Thanks be to God.

L. In thy comeliness, yea, in thy beauty.

R. In thy comeliness, yea, in thy beauty.

L. Go forth, ride prosperously, and reign.

R. Yea, in thy beauty.

L. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

R. In thy comeliness, yea, in thy beauty.

L. God shall help her with his countenance.

R. God is in the midst of her; therefore shall she not be removed.

L. Lord, have mercy on us.

R. Christ, have mercy on us.

L. Lord, have mercy on us.

Go to the [Ending of Prime](#) and continue at the "Our Father," p. 26.

Vespers

✠ **O** PEN my mouth, O Lord, to bless thy holy name; cleanse also my heart from all vain, evil and distracting thoughts; enlighten my understanding, inflame my will, that I may worthily recite this Office with attention and devotion and deserve to be heard in the presence of thy divine majesty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Lord, in union with that divine intention with which thou didst praise God on earth, I offer to thee this Hour.

Our Father...

Hail Mary...

L. ✠ O God, come to my assistance.

R. O Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory Be...

Alleluia *or* Praise be to thee, O Lord, King of eternal glory.

Ant. 1 As golden pillars upon bases of silver.

Ecclesiasticus 26

16 The grace of a diligent woman shall delight her husband and shall fat his bones.

17 Her discipline is the gift of God.

18 Such is a wise and silent woman, and there is nothing so much worth as a well instructed soul.

19 A holy and shamefaced woman is grace upon grace.

20 And no price is worthy of a holy soul.

21 As the sun when it riseth to the world in the high places of God, so is the beauty of a good wife for the ornament of her house.

22 As the lamp shining upon the holy candlestick, so is the beauty of the face in a ripe age.

23 As golden pillars upon bases of silver, so are the firm feet upon the soles of a steady woman.

24 As everlasting foundations upon a solid rock, so the commandments of God in the heart of a holy woman.

Glory Be...

Ant. As golden pillars upon bases of silver,

Ant. 2 so are the firm feet upon the soles of a steady woman.

Proverbs 31, i

W HO shall find a valiant woman? Far and from the uttermost coasts is the price of her.

11 The heart of her husband trusteth in her, and he shall have no need of spoils.

12 She will render him good and not evil all the days of her life.

13 She hath sought wool and flax and hath wrought by the counsel of her hands.

14 She is like the merchant's ship, she bringeth her bread from afar.

15 And she hath risen in the night and given a prey to her household and victuals to her maidens.

16 She hath considered a field and bought it; with the fruit of her hands she hath planted a vineyard.

Glory Be...

Ant. Who shall find a valiant woman? Far and from the uttermost coasts is the price of her.

Ant. 3 She hath opened her hand to the needy.

Proverbs 31, ii

S HE hath girded her loins with strength and hath strengthened her arm.

18 She hath tasted and seen that her traffic is good; her lamp shall not be put out in the night.

19 She hath put out her hand to strong things, and her fingers have taken hold of the spindle.

20 She hath opened her hand to the needy and stretched out her hands to the poor.

21 She shall not fear for her house in the cold of snow, for all her domestics are clothed with double garments.

22 She hath made for herself clothing of tapestry, fine linen and purple is her covering.

23 Her husband is honourable in the gates when he sitteth among the elders of the land.

Glory Be...

Ant. She hath opened her hand to the needy and stretched out her hands to the poor.

Ant. 4 She hath opened her mouth to wisdom.

Proverbs 31, iii

SHE made fine linen and sold it and delivered a girdle to the Chanaanite.

25 Strength and beauty are her clothing, and she shall laugh in the latter day.

26 She hath opened her mouth to wisdom and the law of clemency is on her tongue.

27 She hath looked well to the paths of her house and hath not eaten her bread idle.

28 Her children rose up and called her blessed, her husband also, and he praised her.

29 Many daughters have gathered together riches; thou hast surpassed them all.

30 The woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.

31 Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her husband be praised in the gates.

Glory Be...

Ant. She hath opened her mouth to wisdom, and the law of clemency is on her tongue.

Ant. 5 A holy woman.

Ecclesiasticus 26

THE grace of a diligent woman shall delight her husband and shall fat his bones.

17 Her discipline is the gift of God.

18 Such is a wise and silent woman, and there is nothing so much worth as a well instructed soul.

19 A holy and shamefaced woman is grace upon grace.

20 And no price is worthy of a holy soul.

21 As the sun when it riseth to the world in the high places of God, so is the beauty of a good wife for the ornament of her house.

22 As the lamp shining upon the holy candlestick, so is the beauty of the face in a ripe age.

23 As golden pillars upon bases of silver, so are the firm feet upon the soles of a steady woman.

Glory Be...

Ant. A holy woman is grace upon grace.

Little Chapter
(Isaias 7:14-15)

L. Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel. He shall eat butter and honey that he may know to refuse the evil and to choose the good.

R. Thanks be to God.

Hymn

HAIL, bright star of ocean,

God's own Mother blest,

Ever sinless Virgin,

Gate of heavenly rest.

Taking that sweet Ave

Which from Gabriel came,

Peace confirm within us,

Changing Eva's name.

Break the captives' fetters,

Light on blindness pour,

All our ills expelling,

Every bliss implore.

Show thyself a Mother;

May the Word divine,

Born for us thy Infant,

Hear our prayers through thine.

Virgin all excelling,

Mildest of the mild,

Freed from guilt, preserve us,

Pure and undefiled.

Keep our life all spotless,

Make our way secure,

Till we find in Jesus

Joy forevermore.

Through the highest heaven

To the almighty Three,

Father, Son, and Spirit,

One same glory be. Amen.

L. Grace is poured forth on thy lips.

R. Therefore God hath blessed thee forever.

Ant. O blessed Mother, and Virgin undefiled.

Canticle of the Blessed Virgin
(Magnificat)

(Luke 1:46-55)

✠ **M**Y 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 generation to them that fear him.

He hath shewed 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 away empty.

He hath received Israel his servant, being mindful of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed forever.

Glory Be...

Ant. O blessed Mother, and Virgin undefiled, O glorious Queen of the world, plead for us before the Lord.

MAY the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, and all the saints intercede for us with the Lord.

L. The Lord hath made his saints wonderful.

R. And he heard them when they called upon him.

L. Let us pray.

Grant, we beseech thee, O Lord God, that by the glorious intercession of Blessed Mary, ever virgin, we thy servants may enjoy purity of heart, soundness of mind, health of body, and be delivered from present sorrows and enter into that joy which hath no end. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

L. The Lord be with thee.

R. And with thy spirit.

L. Let us bless the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

L. ✠ May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

Our Father...

Go to [MLR Ending Prayers, p.25.](#)

Compline

Go to [Beginning of Compline, p. 28.](#)

Ant. He that made me, rested in my tabernacle.

Ecclesiasticus 24, i

WISDOM shall praise her own self and shall be honoured in God and shall glory in the midst of her people.

2 And shall open her mouth in the churches of the most High and shall glorify herself in the sight of his power.

3 And in the midst of her own people, she shall be exalted and shall be admired in the holy assembly.

4 And in the multitude of the elect she shall have praise; and among the blessed, she shall be blessed.

12 And he that made me, rested in my tabernacle.

13 And he said to me: Let thy dwelling be in Jacob and thy inheritance in Israel and take root in my elect.

14 And in the holy dwelling place, I have ministered before him.

15 And so was I established in Sion and in the holy city; likewise I rested and my power was in Jerusalem.

16 And I took root in an honourable people and in the portion of my God, his inheritance, and my abode is in the full assembly of saints.

Glory Be...

Ecclesiasticus 24, ii

I WAS exalted like a cedar in Libanus and as a cypress tree on mount Sion.

18 I was exalted like a palm tree in Cades and as a rose plant in Jericho,

19 As a fair olive tree in the plains and as a plane tree by the water in the streets, was I exalted.

20 I gave a sweet smell like cinnamon and aromatical balm. I yielded a sweet odour like the best myrrh.

21 And I perfumed my dwelling as storax and galbanum and onyx and aloes and as the frankincense not cut, and my odour is as the purest balm.

22 I have stretched out my branches as the turpentine tree, and my branches are of honour and grace.

23 As the vine I have brought forth a pleasant odour, and my flowers are the fruit of honour and riches.

24 I am the mother of fair love and of fear and of knowledge and of holy hope.

25 In me is all grace of the way and of the truth; in me is all hope of life and of virtue.

26 Come over to me all ye that desire me and be filled with my fruits.

27 For my spirit is sweet above honey, and my inheritance above honey and the honeycomb.

28 My memory is unto everlasting generations.

29 They that eat me, shall yet hunger, and they that drink me shall yet thirst.

30 He that hearkeneth to me, shall not be confounded, and they that work by me shall not sin.

31 They that explain me shall have life everlasting.

Glory Be...

Judith 13

AND they all adored the Lord and said to her: The Lord hath blessed thee by his power because by thee he hath brought our enemies to nought.

23 Blessed art thou, O daughter, by the Lord the most high God above all women upon the earth.

24 Blessed be the Lord who made heaven and earth, who hath directed thee to the cutting off the head of the prince of our enemies.

25 Because he hath so magnified thy name this day that thy praise shall not depart out of the mouth of men who shall be mindful of the power of the Lord forever, for that thou hast not spared thy life by reason of the distress and tribulation of thy people but hast prevented our ruin in the presence of our God.

Glory Be...

Ant. He that made me, rested in my tabernacle. And he said to me: Let thy dwelling be in Jacob and thy inheritance in Israel, and take root in my elect.

Go to [Ending of Compline, p. 28.](#)

Offices of the Dead

During the Offices of the Dead, do not begin or end as usual, but just pray what is listed in this Office. Also, the Glory Be is omitted throughout; and the Offices are not chanted.

Prime

L. Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord.

R. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

Psalms 87

O LORD, the God of my salvation, I have cried in the day and in the night before thee.

3 Let my prayer come in before thee; incline thy ear to my petition.

4 For my soul is filled with evils and my life hath drawn nigh to the underworld.

5 I am counted among them that go down to the pit. I am become as a man without help,

6 Free among the dead. Like the slain sleeping in the sepulchres, whom thou rememberest no more; and they are cast off from thy hand.

7 They have laid me in the lower pit, in the dark places and in the shadow of death.

8 Thy wrath is strong over me and all thy waves thou hast brought in upon me.

9 Thou hast put away my acquaintance far from me, they have set me an abomination to themselves. I was delivered up and came not forth:

10 My eyes languished through poverty. All the day I cried to thee, O Lord. I stretched out my hands to thee.

11 Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? Or shall physicians raise to life and give praise to thee?

12 Shall any one in the sepulchre declare thy mercy: and thy truth in destruction?

13 Shall thy wonders be known in the dark and thy justice in the land of forgetfulness?

14 But I, O Lord, have cried to thee; and in the morning my prayer shall come before thee.

15 Lord, why castest thou off my prayer? Why turnest thou away thy face from me?

16 I am poor and in labours from my youth, and being exalted have been humbled and troubled.

17 Thy wrath hath come upon me, and thy terrors have troubled me.

18 They have come round about me like water all the day. They have compassed me about together.

19 Friend and neighbour thou hast put far from me and my acquaintances because of misery.

L. Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord.

R. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

Psalm 27

UNTO thee will I cry, O Lord. O my God, be not thou silent to me lest if thou be silent to me I become like them that go down into the pit.

2 Hear, O Lord, the voice of my supplication when I pray to thee, when I lift up my hands to thy holy temple.

3 Draw me not away together with the wicked. And with the workers of iniquity destroy me not, who speak peace with their neighbour but evils are in their hearts.

4 Give them according to their works and according to the wickedness of their inventions. According to the works of their hands give thou to them; render to them their reward.

5 Because they have not understood the works of the Lord and the operations of his hands, thou shalt destroy them and shalt not build them up.

6 Blessed be the Lord, for he hath heard the voice of my supplication.

7 The Lord is my helper and my protector; in him hath my heart confided, and I have been helped. And my flesh hath flourished again, and with my will I will give praise to him.

8 The Lord is the strength of his people and the protector of the salvation of his anointed.

9 Save, O Lord, thy people, and bless thy inheritance, and rule them and exalt them forever.

L. Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord.

R. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

Psalm 31

BLESSED are they whose iniquities are forgiven and whose sins are covered.

2 Blessed is the man to whom the Lord hath not imputed sin and in whose spirit there is no guile.

3 Because I was silent my bones grew old whilst I cried out all the day long.

4 For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me. I am turned in my anguish whilst the thorn is fastened.

5 I have acknowledged my sin to thee, and my injustice I have not concealed. I said I will confess against myself my injustice to the Lord, and thou hast forgiven the wickedness of my sin.

6 For this shall every one that is holy pray to thee in a seasonable time. And yet in a flood of many waters, they shall not come nigh unto him.

7 Thou art my refuge from the trouble which hath encompassed me, my joy, deliver me from them that surround me.

8 I will give thee understanding, and I will instruct thee in this way in which thou shalt go. I will fix my eyes upon thee.

9 Do not become like the horse and the mule who have no understanding; with bit and bridle bind fast their jaws, who come not near unto thee.

10 Many are the scourges of the sinner, but mercy shall encompass him that hopeth in the Lord.

11 Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, ye just, and glory all ye right of heart.

L. Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord.

R. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

Our Father...

L. From the gates of the underworld.

R. Deliver their souls, O Lord.

L. May they rest in peace.

R. Amen.

L. O Lord, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come to thee.

L. The Lord be with thee.

R. And with thy spirit.

L. Let us pray.

O GOD, the Creator and Redeemer of all men, grant to the souls of thy servants departed (especially **N**.) remission of their sins and punishments due to their sins, that through our devout prayers they may obtain the pardon which they have always desired. Who livest and reignest, forever and ever. Amen.

L. Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord.

R. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

L. May they rest in peace.

R. Amen.

Compline

L. Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord.

R. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

Psalm 122

TO thee have I lifted up my eyes, who dwellest in heaven.

2 Behold as the eyes of servants are on the hands of their masters, as the eyes of the handmaid are on the hands of her mistress, so are our eyes unto the Lord our God until he have mercy on us.

3 Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us, for we are greatly filled with contempt.

4 For our soul is greatly filled. We are a reproach to the rich and contempt to the proud

L. Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord.

R. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

Psalm 141

I CRIED to the Lord with my voice, with my voice I made supplication to the Lord.

3 In his sight I pour out my prayer, and before him I declare my trouble.

4 When my spirit failed me, then thou knewest my paths. In this way wherein I walked, they have hidden a snare for me.

5 I looked on my right hand, and beheld and there was no one that would know me. Flight hath failed me, and there is no one that hath regard to my soul.

6 I cried to thee, O Lord. I said: Thou art my hope, my portion in the land of the living.

7 Attend to my supplication for I am brought very low. Deliver me from my persecutors for they are stronger than I.

8 Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise thy name. The just wait for me until thou reward me.

L. Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord.

R. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

Psalm 142

HEAR, O Lord, my prayer, give ear to my supplication in thy truth; hear me in thy justice.

2 And enter not into judgment with thy servant, for in thy sight no man living shall be justified.

3 For the enemy hath persecuted my soul. He hath brought down my life to the earth. He hath made me to dwell in darkness as those that have been dead of old.

4 And my spirit is in anguish within me; my heart within me is troubled.

5 I remembered the days of old, I meditated on all thy works, I meditated upon the works of thy hands.

6 I stretched forth my hands to thee; my soul is as earth without water unto thee.

7 Hear me speedily, O Lord, my spirit hath fainted away. Turn not away thy face from me lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit.

8 Cause me to hear thy mercy in the morning, for in thee have I hoped. Make the way known to me wherein I

should walk, for I have lifted up my soul to thee.

9 Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord, to thee have I fled.

10 Teach me to do thy will, for thou art my God. Thy good spirit shall lead me into the right land.

11 For thy name's sake, O Lord, thou wilt quicken me in thy justice. Thou wilt bring my soul out of trouble,

12 And in thy mercy thou wilt destroy my enemies. And thou wilt cut off all them that afflict my soul, for I am thy servant.

L. Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord.

R. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

Canticle of Simeon

NOW thou dost dismiss thy servant, O Lord, according to thy word in peace

Because my eyes have seen thy salvation

Which thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples,

A light to the revelation of the Gentiles and the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory Be...

L. Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord.

R. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

Our Father...

L. From the gates of the underworld.

R. Deliver their souls, O Lord.

L. May they rest in peace.

R. Amen.

L. O Lord, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come to thee.

L. The Lord be with thee.

R. And with thy spirit.

L. Let us pray.

O GOD, the Creator and Redeemer of all men, grant to the souls of thy

servants departed (especially *N.*) remission of their sins and punishment due to their sins, that through our devout prayers they may obtain the pardon which they have always desired. Who livest and reignest, forever and ever. Amen.

L. Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord.

R. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

L. May they rest in peace.

R. Amen.

Tenebrae

Maundy Day

Matins

This Office is said in the evening of Maundy Day.

General Instructions: On this and the two following nights, Matins and Lauds are said together. These three services are commonly called the Three Nights of Darkness. During Tenebrae, six candles are lighted on the altar and fifteen candles are lighted in a triangle-shaped candlestick called the Tenebrae Hearse (with seven candles on each side and one at the top). The Tenebrae Hearse is placed at the Epistle side of the altar. During the service, as the antiphon is repeated a second time after each psalm, the hearse candles are gradually extinguished, one at a time beginning with the lowest candle on the left and alternating either side of the candlestick in ascending order. Only the highest candle of the hearse is left burning after the psalms have all been said.

The Gloria Patri is everywhere omitted.

— STAND —

Our Father...

Hail Mary...

Apostles' Creed...

— SIT —

INOCTURN

Ant. 1 The zeal of thine house hath consumed me, and the rebukes of them that rebuked thee are fallen upon me.

Psalm 68

Save me, O God, for the waters are come in even unto my soul.

3 I stick fast in the mire of the deep, and there is no sure standing. I am come into the depth of the sea, and a tempest hath overwhelmed me.

4 I have laboured with crying; my jaws are become hoarse; my eyes have failed whilst I hope in my God.

5 They are multiplied above the hairs of my head who hate me without cause. My enemies are grown strong who have wrongfully persecuted me; then I restored that which I took not away.

6 O God, thou knowest my foolishness, and my offences are not hidden from thee.

7 Let not them be ashamed for me, who look for thee, O Lord, the Lord of hosts. Let them not be confounded on my account who seek thee, O God of Israel.

8 Because for thy sake I have borne reproach, shame hath covered my face.

9 I am become a stranger to my brethren and an alien to the sons of my mother.

10 For the zeal of thy house hath eaten me up, and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me.

11 And I covered my soul in fasting, and it was made a reproach to me.

12 And I made haircloth my garment, and I became a byword to them.

13 They that sat in the gate spoke against me, and they that drank wine made me their song.

14 But as for me, my prayer is to thee, O Lord, for the time of thy good pleasure, O God. In the multitude of thy mercy, hear me, in the truth of thy salvation.

15 Draw me out of the mire that I may not stick fast; deliver me from them that hate me and out of the deep waters.

16 Let not the tempest of water drown me, nor the deep swallow me up, and let not the pit shut her mouth upon me.

17 Hear me, O Lord, for thy mercy is kind. Look upon me according to the multitude of thy tender mercies.

18 And turn not away thy face from thy servant, for I am in trouble; hear me speedily.

19 Attend to my soul and deliver it; save me because of my enemies.

20 Thou knowest my reproach and my confusion and my shame.

21 In thy sight are all they that afflict me; my heart hath expected reproach and misery. And I looked for one that would grieve together with me, but there was none; and for one that would comfort me, and I found none.

22 And they gave me gall for my food; and in my thirst, they gave me vinegar to drink.

23 Let their table become as a snare before them and a recompense and a stumbling block.

24 Let their eyes be darkened that they see not and their back bend thou down always.

25 Pour out thy indignation upon them, and let thy wrathful anger take hold of them.

26 Let their habitation be made desolate, and let there be none to dwell in their tabernacles,

27 because they have persecuted him whom thou hast smitten; and they have added to the grief of my wounds.

28 Add thou iniquity upon their iniquity, and let them not come into thy justice.

29 Let them be blotted out of the book of the living; and with the just, let them not be written.

30 But I am poor and sorrowful; thy salvation, O God, hath set me up.

31 I will praise the name of God with a canticle, and I will magnify him with praise.

32 And it shall please God better than a young calf that bringeth forth horns and hoofs.

33 Let the poor see and rejoice; seek ye God and your soul shall live.

34 For the Lord hath heard the poor and hath not despised his prisoners.

35 Let the heavens and the earth praise him, the sea and every thing that creepeth therein.

36 For God will save Sion, and the cities of Juda shall be built up. And they shall dwell there and acquire it by inheritance.

37 And the seed of his servants shall possess it, and they that love his name shall dwell therein.

Ant. The zeal of thine house hath consumed me, and the rebukes of them that rebuked thee are fallen upon me.

Ant. 2 Let them be turned backward and put to confusion that wish me evil.

Psalm 69

O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me.

3 Let them be confounded and ashamed that seek my soul.

4 Let them be turned backward and blush for shame that desire evils to me. Let them be presently turned away blushing for shame that say to me: 'Tis well, 'tis well.

5 Let all that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee; and let such as love thy salvation say always: The Lord be magnified.

6 But I am needy and poor; O God, help me. Thou art my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, make no delay.

Ant. Let them be turned backward and put to confusion that wish me evil.

Ant. 3 Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the sinner.

Psalm 70

In thee, O Lord, I have hoped, let me never be put to confusion.

2 Deliver me in thy justice and rescue me. Incline thy ear unto me and save me.

3 Be thou unto me a God, a protector and a place of strength, that thou mayest make me safe. For thou art my firmament and my refuge.

4 Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the sinner and out of the hand of the transgressor of the law and of the unjust.

5 For thou art my patience, O Lord, my hope, O Lord, from my youth.

6 By thee have I been confirmed from the womb, from my mother's womb thou art my protector. Of thee I shall continually sing.

7 I am become unto many as a wonder, but thou art a strong helper.

8 Let my mouth be filled with praise that I may sing thy glory, thy greatness all the day long.

9 Cast me not off in the time of old age; when my strength shall fail, do not thou forsake me.

10 For my enemies have spoken against me. And they that watched my soul have consulted together,

11 saying: God hath forsaken him. Pursue and take him, for there is none to deliver him.

12 O God, be not thou far from me. O my God, make haste to my help.

13 Let them be confounded and come to nothing that detract my soul; let them be covered with confusion and shame that seek my hurt.

14 But I will always hope, and will add to all thy praise.

15 My mouth shall proclaim your just deeds, day after days your acts of deliverance, though I cannot number them all,

16 I will enter into the powers of the Lord. O Lord, I will be mindful of thy justice alone.

17 Thou hast taught me, O God, from my youth, and till now I will declare thy wonderful works.

18 And unto old age and grey hairs, O God, forsake me not, until I shew forth thy arm to all the generation that is to come, thy power

19 and thy justice, O God, even to the highest great things thou hast done. O God, who is like to thee?

20 How great troubles hast thou shewn me, many and grievous; and turning, thou hast brought me to life and hast brought me back again from the depths of the earth.

21 Thou hast multiplied thy magnificence; and turning to me, thou hast comforted me.

22 For I will also confess to thee thy truth with the instruments of psaltery. O God, I will sing to thee with the harp, thou holy one of Israel.

23 My lips shall greatly rejoice when I shall sing to thee and my soul which thou hast redeemed.

24 Yea and my tongue shall meditate on thy justice all the day when they shall be confounded and put to shame that seek evils to me.

Ant. Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the sinner.

— STAND —

L. Let them be turned backward and put to confusion.

R. That wish me evil.

Our Father...

Lesson I

(Jeremias the Prophet's lamentation over Jerusalem: Lamentations 1:1-5)

How doth the city sit solitary that was full of people! How is the mistress of the Gentiles become as a widow, the princes of provinces made tributary! Weeping she hath wept in the night, and her tears are on her cheeks. There is none to comfort her among all them that were dear to her; all her friends have despised her and are become her enemies. Juda hath removed her dwelling place because of her affliction and the greatness of her bondage. She hath dwelt among the nations, and she hath found no rest. All her persecutors have taken

her in the midst of straits. The ways of Sion mourn because there are none that come to the solemn feast. All her gates are broken down, her priests sigh, her virgins are in affliction, and she is oppressed with bitterness. Her adversaries are become her lords. Her enemies are enriched because the Lord hath spoken against her for the multitude of her iniquities. Her children are led into captivity before the face of the oppressor.

L. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

R. On the mount of Olives he prayed to the Father: Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

L. Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation.

R. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Lesson II

(Lamentations 1:6-9)

And from the daughter of Sion all her beauty is departed. Her princes are become like rams that find no pastures, and they are gone away without strength before the face of the pursuer. Jerusalem hath remembered the days of her affliction and prevarication of all her desirable things which she had from the days of old, when her people fell in the enemy's hand and there was no helper. The enemies have seen her and have mocked at her sabbaths. Jerusalem hath grievously sinned; therefore is she become unstable. All that honoured her have despised her because they have seen her shame, but she sighed and turned backward. Her filthiness is on her feet, and she hath not remembered her end. She is wonderfully cast down, not having a comforter. Behold, O Lord, my affliction because the enemy is lifted up.

L. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

R. My soul is exceeding sorrowful even unto death; tarry ye here and watch with me. Yet a little while and ye shall see the great multitude close me in; and ye shall flee, but I shall go hence to be sacrificed for you.

L. Behold, the hour is at hand and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

R. And ye shall flee, but I shall go hence to be sacrificed for you.

Lesson III

(Lamentations 1:10-14)

The enemy hath put out his hand to all her desirable things, for she hath seen the Gentiles enter into her sanctuary, of whom thou gavest commandment that they should not enter into thy Church. All her people sigh; they seek bread. They have given all their precious things for food to relieve the soul. See, O Lord, and consider, for I am become vile. O all ye that pass by the way, attend and see if there be any sorrow like to my sorrow. For he hath made a vintage of me, as the Lord spoke in the day of his fierce anger. From above he hath sent fire into my bones and hath chastised me, he hath spread a net for my feet, he hath turned me back. He hath made me desolate, wasted with sorrow all the day long. The yoke of my iniquities hath watched; they are folded together in his hand and put upon my neck. My strength is weakened; the Lord hath delivered me into a hand out of which I am not able to rise.

L. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

R. Behold, he hath no comeliness; there is no beauty in him. This is he which hath borne our griefs and carried away our sorrows, but he was wounded for our transgressions and by his stripes we are healed.

L. Surely he hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows.

R. And by his stripes we are healed. Behold, he hath no comeliness; there is no beauty in him. This is he which hath borne our griefs and carried away our sorrows, but he was wounded for our transgressions and by his stripes we are healed.

— SIT —

II NOCTURN

Ant. 4 The Lord shall deliver the poor when he crieth, the needy also, and him that hath no helper.

Psalm 71

Give to the king thy judgment, O

God, and to the king's son thy justice, to judge thy people with justice and thy poor with judgment.

3 Let the mountains receive peace for the people and the hills justice.

4 He shall judge the poor of the people, and he shall save the children of the poor; and he shall humble the oppressor.

5 And he shall continue with the sun and before the moon throughout all generations.

6 He shall come down like rain upon the fleece and as showers falling gently upon the earth.

7 In his days shall justice spring up and abundance of peace till the moon be taken away.

8 And he shall rule from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth.

9 Before him the Ethiopians shall fall down, and his enemies shall lick the ground.

10 The kings of Tharsis and the islands shall offer presents; the kings of the Arabians and of Saba shall bring gifts.

11 And all kings of the earth shall adore him; all nations shall serve him.

12 For he shall deliver the poor from the mighty and the needy that had no helper.

13 He shall spare the poor and needy, and he shall save the souls of the poor.

14 He shall redeem their souls from usuries and iniquity, and their names shall be honourable in his sight.

15 And he shall live; and to him shall be given of the gold of Arabia, for him they shall always adore; they shall bless him all the day.

16 And there shall be a firmament on the earth on the tops of mountains, above Libanus shall the fruit thereof be exalted; and they of the city shall flourish like the grass of the earth.

17 Let his name be blessed for evermore. His name continueth before the sun. And in him shall all the tribes of the earth be blessed; all nations shall magnify him.

18 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone doth wonderful things.

19 And blessed be the name of his majesty for ever, and the whole earth shall be filled with his majesty. So be it. So be it.

Ant. The Lord shall deliver the poor when he crieth, the needy also, and him that hath no helper.

Ant. 5 The ungodly think and speak wickedness; they speak of oppression against the most High.

Psalm 72

How good is God to Israel, to them that are of a right heart!

2 But my feet were almost moved; my steps had well nigh slipped.

3 Because I had a zeal on occasion of the wicked, seeing the prosperity of sinners.

4 For there is no regard to their death nor is there strength in their stripes.

5 They are not in the labour of men, neither shall they be scourged like other men.

6 Therefore, pride hath held them fast; they are covered with their iniquity and their wickedness.

7 Their iniquity hath come forth as it were from fatness; they have passed into the affection of the heart.

8 They have thought and spoken wickedness; they have spoken iniquity on high.

9 They have set their mouth against heaven, and their tongue hath passed through the earth.

10 Therefore will my people return here and full days shall be found in them.

11 And they said: How doth God know? And, Is there knowledge in the most High?

12 Behold, these are sinners; and yet abounding in the world, they have obtained riches.

13 And I said: Then have I in vain justified my heart and washed my hands among the innocent.

14 And I have been scourged all the day, and my chastisement hath been in the mornings.

15 If I said: I will speak thus, behold, I should condemn the generation of thy children.

16 I studied that I might know this thing; it is a labour in my sight,

17 until I go into the sanctuary of God and understand concerning their last ends.

18 But, indeed, for deceits thou hast put it to them; when they were lifted up, thou hast cast them down.

19 How are they brought to desolation? They have suddenly ceased to be, they have perished by reason of their iniquity.

20 As the dream of them that awake, O Lord, so in thy city thou shalt bring their image to nothing.

21 For my heart hath been inflamed, and my reins have been changed.

22 So foolish was I and ignorant.

23 I was as a beast before thee. Yet I am continually with thee.

24 Thou hast held me by my right hand; and by thy will, thou hast conducted me; and with thy glory, thou hast received me.

25 For what have I in heaven? And besides thee what do I desire upon earth?

26 For thee my flesh and my heart hath fainted away. Thou art the God of my heart and the God that is my portion for ever.

27 For behold they that go far from thee shall perish; thou hast destroyed all them that are disloyal to thee.

28 But it is good for me to adhere to my God, to put my hope in the Lord God, that I may declare all thy praises in the gates of the daughter of Sion.

Ant. The ungodly think and speak wickedness; they speak of oppression against the most High.

Ant. 6 Arise, O Lord, and judge my cause.

Psalm 73

O God, why hast thou cast us off unto the end? Why is thy wrath enkindled against the sheep of thy pasture?

2 Remember thy congregation which thou hast possessed from the beginning, the sceptre of thy inheritance which thou hast redeemed, mount Sion in which thou hast dwelt.

3 Lift up thy hands against their pride unto the end; see what things the enemy hath done wickedly in the sanctuary.

4 And they that hate thee have made their boasts in the midst of thy solemnity. They have set up their standards for signs,

5 And they knew not both in the going out and on the highest top. As with axes in a wood of trees,

6 they have cut down at once the gates thereof; with axe and hatchet, they have brought it down.

7 They have set fire to thy sanctuary, they have defiled the dwelling place of thy name on the earth.

8 They said in their heart, the whole kindred of them together: Let us abolish all the festival days of God from the land.

9 Our signs we have not seen; there is now no prophet, and he will know us no more.

10 How long, O God, shall the enemy reproach. Is the adversary to provoke thy name for ever?

11 Why dost thou turn away thy hand and thy right hand out of the midst of thy bosom for ever?

12 But God is our king before ages; he hath wrought salvation in the midst of the earth.

13 Thou by thy strength didst make the sea firm; thou didst crush the heads of the dragons in the waters.

14 Thou hast broken the heads of the dragon; thou hast given him to be meat for the people of the Ethiopians.

15 Thou hast broken up the fountains and the torrents; thou hast dried up the Ethan rivers.

16 Thine is the day and thine is the night; thou hast made the morning light and the sun.

17 Thou hast made all the borders of the earth; the summer and the spring were formed by thee.

18 Remember this, the enemy hath reproached the Lord, and a foolish people hath provoked thy name.

19 Deliver not up to beasts the souls that confess to thee, and forget not to the end the souls of thy poor.

20 Have regard to thy covenant, for they that are the obscure of the earth have been filled with dwellings of iniquity.

21 Let not the humble be turned away with confusion; the poor and needy shall praise thy name.

22 Arise, O God, judge thy own cause. Remember thy reproaches with which the foolish man hath reproached thee all the day.

23 Forget not the voices of thy enemies; the pride of them that hate thee ascendeth continually.

Ant. Arise, O Lord, and judge my cause.

— STAND —

L. Deliver me, O God, out of the hand of the ungodly.

R. Out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man.

Our Father...

Lesson IV

(The Treatise on the Psalms, by St. Augustine the Bishop: Psalm 54)

“Hear my prayer, O God, and hide not thyself from my petition. Take heed unto me and hear me, how I mourn in my trial and am vexed because of the crying of the enemy and of the tribulation which cometh from the ungodly.” These are the words of one who is disquieted, beset by trouble and anxiety. He prayeth as one under much suffering, desiring

deliverance from evil. Let us see from what evil he doth suffer; and as we hear what that evil is, let us recognize that we also suffer from the same thing so that as we share his tribulation we may also join in his prayer. I mourn in my trial (saith he) and am vexed. When doth he mourn? When is he vexed? In my trial, saith he. He hath in mind the ungodly that cause him tribulation, which same he calleth his trial. Therefore, think not that the wicked can serve no good purpose in this world and that God is unable to accomplish good by means of them. Every wicked person is permitted to live in order that he may be made righteous, or else that the righteous may be tried by him.

L. Mine own friend hath betrayed me by the sign of a kiss. Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he; hold him fast. This was the traitorous sign which he gave, even he who murdered him with a kiss.

R. Woe unto that man! He cast down the price of blood and went and hanged himself.

L. It had been better for that man if he had not been born.

R. Woe unto that man! He cast down the price of blood and went and hanged himself.

Lesson V

I would to God that the ungodly who now try us were converted and so were on trial with us. Yet, though they continue to try us, let us not hate them, for we know not whether any of them will continue to the end in his evil ways. And mostly, when thou thinkest thyself to be hating thine enemy, thou hatest one that may become thy brother and thou knowest it not. The devil and his angels are shewn to us in Scripture as doomed to everlasting fire; their amendment is hopeless, against whom we wage a hidden strife. For which strife the Apostle would arm us, saying: We wrestle not against flesh and blood (that is, not against men, whom we see) but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world. Mark that he saith not: The rulers of this world, lest perchance thou shouldst think that

devils are rulers of heaven and earth; but rather he saith: The rulers of the darkness of this world. When he speaketh thus of the world, he would have us understand the lovers of the world whereof the Gospel saith: And the world knew him not.

L. The vile merchant Judas came to the Lord to kiss him, which same, like as an innocent Lamb, refused not the kiss of Judas.

R. Who for thirty pieces of silver betrayed Christ to the Jews.

L. It had been better for that man if he had not been born.

R. Who for thirty pieces of silver betrayed Christ to the Jews.

Lesson VI

For I have spied unrighteousness and strife in the city. Give heed now to the glory of the cross itself. On the brow of kings is now placed that cross, which once enemies did deride. Effect hath proven strength. He hath subdued the world, not with a sword but with wood. The wood of the cross seemed a worthy object of scorn to his enemies; and standing before that very wood, they wagged their heads, saying: If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross! Thus did he stretch forth his hands to a disobedient and gainsaying people. If he is just who doth live by faith, then is he unrighteous who hath not faith? Wherefore when he saith “unrighteousness,” understand that it is the disobedience of unbelief. The Lord then saw unrighteousness and strife in the city and stretched out his hands unto an unbelieving and gainsaying people. And yet, looking upon the very same, he saith: Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.

L. One of my disciples shall betray me this night. Woe unto that man by whom I am betrayed.

R. It had been better for that man if he had not been born.

L. He that dippeth his hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me into the hands of sinners.

R. It had been better for that man if he had not been born. One of my

disciples shall betray me this night.
Woe unto that man by whom I am
betrayed. It had been better for that
man if he had not been born.

— SIT —

III NOCTURN

Ant. 7 I said unto the wicked: Speak
not wickedness against God.

Psalm 74

We will confess, and we will call
upon thy name. We will relate thy
wondrous works.

3 When I shall take a time, I will
judge justices.

4 The earth is melted and all that
dwell therein. I have established the
pillars thereof.

5 I said to the wicked: Do not act
wickedly. And to the sinners: Lift not
up the horn.

6 Lift not up your horn on high.
Speak not iniquity against God.

7 For judgment comes neither from
the east, nor from the west, nor from
the desert hill,

8 for God is the judge. One he putteth
down and another he lifeth up.

9 For in the hand of the Lord there is
a cup of strong wine full of mixture.
And he hath poured it out from this to
that; but the dregs thereof are not
emptied, all the sinners of the earth
shall drink.

10 But I will declare for ever. I will
sing to the God of Jacob.

11 And I will break all the horns of
sinners, but the horns of the just shall
be exalted.

Ant. I said unto the wicked: Speak
not wickedness against God.

Ant. 8 The earth trembled and was
still when God arose to judgment.

Psalm 75

In Judea God is known; his name is
great in Israel.

3 And his place is in peace and his
abode in Sion.

4 There hath he broken the powers of
bows, the shield, the sword, and the
battle.

5 Thou enlightenest wonderfully from
the everlasting hills.

6 All the foolish of heart were
troubled. They have slept their sleep;
and all the men of riches have found
nothing in their hands.

7 At thy rebuke, O God of Jacob, they
have all slumbered that mounted on
horseback.

8 Thou, even thou, art terrible. And
who may stand in thy sight when thou
art angry?

9 Thou hast caused judgment to be
heard from heaven. The earth
trembled and was still

10 when God arose in judgment to
save all the meek of the earth.

11 For the inward thought of man
shall give thanks to thee, and the
memorial of his inward thought shall
keep a feast to thee.

12 Vow ye, and pay to the Lord your
God; all you that are round about
him, bring presents to him that is
terrible,

13 and that takes away the spirits of
princes, to him that is terrible among
the kings of the earth.

Ant. The earth trembled and was still
when God arose to judgment.

Ant. 9 In the day of my trouble, I
sought God with my hands.

Psalm 76

I cried to the Lord with my voice, to
God with my voice, and he gave ear
to me.

3 In the days of my trouble I sought
God with my hands lifted up to him
in the night, and I was not deceived.
My soul refused to be comforted.

4 I remembered God and rejoiced. I
poured out my complaint, and my
soul fainted.

5 All mine enemies set a watch
against me. I was troubled and spoke
not.

6 I thought upon the days of old, and
I had in my mind the ancient years.

7 And I meditated in the night with
my own heart; and I was exercised,
and I swept my spirit.

8 Will God then cast off for ever? Or
will he never be more favourable
again?

9 Or will he cut off his mercy for
ever, from generation to generation?

10 Or will God forget to shew mercy?
Or will he in his anger shut up his
mercies?

11 And I said: This is my infirmity,
but I will remember the years of the
right hand of the most High.

12 I remembered the works of the
Lord, for I will be mindful of thy
wonders from the beginning.

13 And I will meditate on all thy
works and will be employed in thy
inventions.

14 Thy way, O God, is in the holy
place. Who is the great God like our
God?

15 Thou art the God that dost
wonders. Thou hast made thy power
known among the nations.

16 With thy arm thou hast redeemed
thy people, the children of Jacob and
of Joseph.

17 The waters saw thee, O God, the
waters saw thee, and they were afraid;
and the depths were troubled.

18 Great was the noise of the waters,
the clouds sent out a sound. For thy
arrows pass,

19 the voice of thy thunder in a
wheel. Thy lightnings enlightened the
world; the earth shook and trembled.

20 Thy way is in the sea and thy
paths in many waters, and thy
footsteps shall not be known.

21 Thou hast conducted thy people
like sheep by the hand of Moses and
Aaron.

Ant. In the day of my trouble, I
sought God with my hands.

— STAND —

L. Arise, O Lord.

R. And judge my cause.

Our Father...

Lesson VII

(1 Corinthians 11:17-22)

Now this I ordain, not praising you, that you come together not for the better but for the worse.

18 For first of all I hear that when you come together in the church, there are schisms among you, and in part I believe it. For there must be also heresies that they also who are approved may be made manifest among you. When therefore ye come together, ye eat and drink, not as is becoming on the day of our Lord. For every one taketh before his own supper to eat. And one indeed is hungry and another is drunk. What, have you not houses to eat and to drink in? Or despise ye the church of God and put them to shame that have not? What shall I say to you? Do I praise you? In this I praise you not.

L. Behold, I was like an innocent lamb, I was led to the sacrifice; my enemies had devised devices against me, saying.

R. Come, let us put poison into his bread; and let us cut him off from the land of the living.

L. All mine enemies devised my hurt against me; they plotted together to do me evil, saying.

R. Come, let us put poison into his bread; and let us cut him off from the land of the living.

Lesson VIII

(1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread, and giving thanks, broke and said: Take ye and eat. This is my body, which shall be delivered for you. This do for the commemoration of me. In like manner also the chalice, after he had supped, saying: This chalice is the new testament in my blood. This do ye, as often as you shall drink, for the commemoration of me. For as often as you shall eat this bread and drink the chalice, you shall shew the death of the Lord until he come.

L. Could ye not watch with me one hour, ye that exhorted each other to die for me?

R. Or see ye not Judas yonder, how he sleepeth not but maketh speed to betray me to the Jews?

L. Why sleep ye? Rise and pray lest ye enter into temptation.

R. Or see ye not Judas yonder, how he sleepeth not but maketh speed to betray me to the Jews?

Lesson IX

(1 Corinthians 11:27-34)

Therefore, whosoever shall eat this bread and drink the chalice of the Lord unworthily shall be guilty of the body and of the blood of the Lord. But let a man prove himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of the chalice. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh judgment to himself, not discerning the body of the Lord. Therefore are there many infirm and weak among you and many sleep. But if we judged ourselves truly, we should not be judged. But whilst we are judged, we are chastised by the Lord that we be not condemned with this world. Wherefore, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another. If any man be hungry, let him eat at home, that you come not together unto judgment. And the rest I will set in order when I come.

L. The elders of the people consulted together.

R. That they might take Jesus by subtilty and put him to death, they came out as against a thief, with swords and staves for to take him.

L. Then gathered the chief priests and the Pharisees in a council.

R. That they might take Jesus by subtilty and put him to death, they came out as against a thief, with swords and staves for to take him. The elders of the people consulted together. That they might take Jesus by subtilty and put him to death, they came out as against a thief, with swords and staves for to take him.

L. Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY God, we beseech thee, graciously behold this thy family for which our Lord Jesus Christ was contented to be betrayed and given up

into the hands of wicked men and to suffer death upon the cross. Who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

The Office of Matins ends here.

Lauds I

Lauds begins at once with the first antiphon as given below.

— SIT —

Ant. 1 Mayest thou be justified, O Lord, when thou speakest and be in the right when thou judgest.

Psalm 50

Have mercy on me, O God, according to thy great mercy. And according to the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my iniquity.

4 Wash me yet more from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

5 For I know my iniquity and my sin is always before me.

6 To thee only have I sinned and have done evil before thee that thou mayest be justified when thou speakest and be in the right when thou judgest.

7 For behold I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother conceive me.

8 For behold thou hast loved truth, the uncertain and hidden things of thy wisdom thou hast made manifest to me.

9 Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be cleansed; thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow.

10 To my hearing thou shalt give joy and gladness, and the bones that have been humbled shall rejoice.

11 Turn away thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

12 Create a clean heart in me, O God, and renew a right spirit within my bowels.

13 Cast me not away from thy face, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

14 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and strengthen me with a perfect spirit.

15 I will teach the unjust thy ways and the wicked shall be converted to thee.

16 Deliver me from blood, O God, thou God of my salvation, and my tongue shall extol thy justice.

17 O Lord, thou wilt open my lips and my mouth shall declare thy praise.

18 For if thou hadst desired sacrifice, I would indeed have given it, with burnt offerings thou wilt not be delighted.

19 A sacrifice to God is an afflicted spirit, a contrite and humbled heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

20 Deal favourably, O Lord, in thy good will with Sion that the walls of Jerusalem may be built up.

21 Then shalt thou accept the sacrifice of justice, oblations and whole burnt offerings; then shall they lay calves upon thy altar.

Ant. Mayest thou be justified, O Lord, when thou speakest and be in the right when thou judgest.

Ant. 2 The Lord as a lamb is led to the slaughter, and he opened not his mouth.

Psalm 89

Lord, thou hast been our refuge from generation to generation.

2 Before the mountains were made or the earth and the world was formed, from eternity and to eternity thou art God.

3 Turn not man away to be brought low; and thou hast said: Be converted, O ye sons of men.

4 For a thousand years in thy sight are as yesterday, which is past. And as a watch in the night,

5 Things that are counted nothing, shall their years be.

6 In the morning man shall grow up like grass; in the morning he shall flourish and pass away; in the

evening he shall fall, grow dry, and wither.

7 For in thy wrath we have fainted away and are troubled in thy indignation.

8 Thou hast set our iniquities before thy eyes, our life in the light of thy countenance.

9 For all our days are spent; and in thy wrath we have fainted away. Our years shall be considered as a spider.

10 The days of our years in them are threescore and ten years. But if in the strong they be fourscore years; and what is more of them is labour and sorrow. For mildness is come upon us, and we shall be corrected.

11 Who knoweth the power of thy anger, and for thy fear

12 can number thy wrath? So make thy right hand known and men learned in heart, in wisdom.

13 Return, O Lord, How long? and be entreated in favour of thy servants.

14 We are filled in the morning with thy mercy, and we have rejoiced and are delighted all our days.

15 We have rejoiced for the days in which thou hast humbled us, for the years in which we have seen evils.

16 Look upon thy servants and upon their works and direct their children.

17 And let the brightness of the Lord our God be upon us, and direct thou the works of our hands over us; yea, the work of our hands do thou direct.

Ant. The Lord as a lamb is led to the slaughter, and he opened not his mouth.

Ant. 3 My heart within me is broken; all my bones shake.

Psalm 35

The unjust hath said within himself that he would sin; there is no fear of God before his eyes.

3 For in his sight he hath done deceitfully that his iniquity may be found unto hatred.

4 The words of his mouth are iniquity and guile; he would not understand that he might do well.

5 He hath devised iniquity on his bed; he hath set himself on every way that is not good, but evil he hath not hated.

6 O Lord, thy mercy is in heaven and thy truth reacheth even to the clouds.

7 Thy justice is as the mountains of God, thy judgments are a great deep. Men and beasts thou wilt preserve, O Lord.

8 O how hast thou multiplied thy mercy, O God! So the children of men shall put their trust under the covert of thy wings.

9 They shall be inebriated with the plenty of thy house, and thou shalt make them drink of the torrent of thy pleasure.

10 For with thee is the fountain of life, and in thy light we shall see light.

11 Extend thy mercy to them that know thee and thy justice to them that are right in heart.

12 Let not the foot of pride come to me, and let not the hand of the sinner move me.

13 There the workers of iniquity are fallen; they are cast out and could not stand.

Ant. My heart within me is broken; all my bones shake.

Ant. 4 Thou hast exhorted us by thy strength and in thy holy banquet, O Lord.

Canticle of Moses (Exodus 15:1-19)

Let us sing to the Lord, for he is gloriously magnified, the horse and the rider he hath thrown into the sea.

2 The Lord is my strength and my praise, and he is become salvation to me; he is my God and I will glorify him, the God of my father, and I will exalt him.

3 The Lord is as a man of war, Almighty is his name.

4 Pharaoh's chariots and his army, he hath cast into the sea; his chosen captains are drowned in the Red Sea.

5 The depths have covered them; they are sunk to the bottom like a stone.

6 Thy right hand, O Lord, is magnified in strength; thy right hand, O Lord, hath slain the enemy.

7 And in the multitude of thy glory thou hast put down thy adversaries. Thou hast sent thy wrath, which hath devoured them like stubble.

8 And with the blast of thy anger the waters were gathered together, the flowing water stood, the depths were gathered together in the midst of the sea.

9 The enemy said: I will pursue and overtake, I will divide the spoils, my soul shall have its fill; I will draw my sword, my hand shall slay them.

10 Thy wind blew and the sea covered them; they sunk as lead in the mighty waters.

11 Who is like to thee, among the strong, O Lord? Who is like to thee, glorious in holiness, terrible and praise-worthy, doing wonders?

12 Thou stretchedst forth thy hand and the earth swallowed them.

13 In thy mercy thou hast been a leader to the people which thou hast redeemed; and in thy strength, thou hast carried them to thy holy habitation.

14 Nations rose up and were angry; sorrows took hold on the inhabitants of Philisthiim.

15 Then were the princes of Edom troubled, trembling seized on the stout men of Moab, all the inhabitants of Chanaan became stiff.

16 Let fear and dread fall upon them, in the greatness of thy arm. Let them become unmoveable as a stone until thy people, O Lord, pass by, until this thy people pass by which thou hast possessed.

17 Thou shalt bring them in and plant them in the mountain of thy inheritance, in thy most firm habitation which thou hast made, O Lord; thy sanctuary, O Lord, which thy hands have established.

18 The Lord shall reign for ever and ever.

19 For the horses of Pharaoh with his chariots and horsemen went into the sea, and the Lord brought back upon

them the waters of the sea; but the children of Israel walked on dry ground in the midst thereof.

Ant. Thou hast exhorted us by thy strength and in thy holy banquet, O Lord.

Ant. 5 He offered up himself because he did will it, who his own self bore our sins in his own body.

Psalm 146

Praise ye the Lord, because psalm is good; to our God be joyful and comely praise.

2 The Lord buildeth up Jerusalem; he will gather together the dispersed of Israel,

3 who healeth the broken of heart and bindeth up their bruises,

4 who telleth the number of the stars and calleth them all by their names.

5 Great is our Lord and great is his power, and of his wisdom there is no number.

6 The Lord lifteth up the meek and bringeth the wicked down even to the ground.

7 Sing ye to the Lord with praise; sing to our God upon the harp,

8 who covereth the heaven with clouds and prepareth rain for the earth, who maketh grass to grow on the mountains and herbs for the service of men.

9 Who giveth to beasts their food, and to the young ravens that call upon him.

10 He shall not delight in the strength of the horse nor take pleasure in the agility of the warrior.

11 The Lord taketh pleasure in them that fear him and in them that hope in his mercy.

Ant. He offered up himself because he did will it, who his own self bore our sins in his own body.

— STAND —

L. Mine own familiar friend whom I trusted.

R. Who also did eat of my bread hath laid great wait for me.

Ant. Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying: Whom I shall kiss, that same is he; hold him fast.

Canticle of Zachary (Benedictus) (Luke 1:68-79)

While the twelve verses of the Canticle of Zachary (the Benedictus) are being said, there are extinguished the six candles on the altar. After each set of two verses, a candle is extinguished, beginning at the left and continuing in order to the right, so that after the last verse the last candle on the altar is extinguished. After the Benedictus the lamps and lights throughout the church are extinguished.

✠ **B**LESSED be the Lord God of Israel because he hath visited and wrought the redemption of his people

And hath raised up a horn of salvation to us in the house of David his servant,

As he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets, who are from the beginning:

Salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all that hate us,

To perform mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy testament,

The oath, which he swore to Abraham our father, that he would grant to us,

That being delivered from the hand of our enemies, we may serve him without fear,

In holiness and justice before him all our days.

And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest, for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways,

To give knowledge of salvation to his people unto the remission of their sins

Through the bowels of the mercy of our God in which the Orient from on high hath visited us,

To enlighten them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to direct our feet into the way of peace.

Ant. Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying: Whom I shall kiss, that same is he; hold him fast.

The highest candle in the Tenebrae Hearse, still lit, is now taken from the candlestick and concealed beneath the altar on the Epistle side. This candle is extinguished after the Office is complete.

L. Christ became for our sake obedient unto death, even to the death of the cross. For which cause God also hath exalted him and hath given him a name which is above all names.

Our Father...

L. Look down, O Lord, we beseech thee, upon this thy family for which our Lord Jesus Christ hesitated not to be delivered into the hands of wicked men and to undergo the punishment of the cross.

R. Who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

This Office is complete; nothing more is added.

Good Sixth Weekday

Matins

NOTE: This Office is said in the evening of Good Sixth Weekday. Follow the instructions given throughout Maundy Day Matins and Lauds.

— STAND —

Our Father...

Hail Mary...

Apostles' Creed...

— SIT —

INOCTURN

Ant. 1 The kings of the earth stood up, and the princes met together against the Lord and against his Christ.

Psalm 2

Why have the Gentiles raged and the people devised vain things?

2 The kings of the earth stood up and the princes met together against the Lord and against his Christ.

3 Let us break their bonds asunder, and let us cast away their yoke from us.

4 He that dwelleth in heaven shall laugh at them, and the Lord shall deride them.

5 Then shall he speak to them in his anger and trouble them in his rage.

6 But I am appointed king by him over Sion his holy mountain, preaching his commandment.

7 The Lord hath said to me: Thou art my son, this day have I begotten thee.

8 Ask of me, and I will give thee the Gentiles for thy inheritance and the utmost parts of the earth for thy possession.

9 Thou shalt rule them with a rod of iron and shalt break them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

10 And now, O ye kings, understand, receive instruction, you that judge the earth.

11 Serve ye the Lord with fear and rejoice unto him with trembling.

12 Embrace discipline, lest at any time the Lord be angry and you perish from the just way.

13 When his wrath shall be kindled in a short time, blessed are all they that trust in him.

Ant. The kings of the earth stood up, and the princes met together against the Lord and against his Christ.

Ant. 2 They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture they cast lots.

Psalm 21

My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me and art far from my help at the words of my cry?

3 My God, I call by day, but you do not answer; by night, but I have no relief.

4 But thou dwellest in the holy place, the praise of Israel.

5 In thee have our fathers hoped; they have hoped, and thou hast delivered them.

6 They cried to thee, and they were saved; they trusted in thee and were not confounded.

7 But I am a worm and no man, the reproach of men and the outcast of the people.

8 All they that saw me have laughed me to scorn; they have spoken with the lips and wagged the head.

9 He hoped in the Lord, let him deliver him; let him save him seeing he delighteth in him.

10 For thou art he that hast drawn me out of the womb, my hope from the breasts of my mother.

11 I was cast upon thee from the womb. From my mother's womb thou art my God,

12 Depart not from me. For tribulation is very near, for there is none to help me.

13 Many calves have surrounded me; fat bulls have besieged me.

14 They have opened their mouths against me, as a lion ravening and roaring.

15 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are scattered. My heart is become like wax melting in the midst of my bowels.

16 My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue hath cleaved to my jaws; and thou hast brought me down into the dust of death.

17 For many dogs have encompassed me; the council of the malignant hath besieged me. They have dug my hands and feet.

18 They have numbered all my bones. And they have looked and stared upon me.

19 They parted my garments amongst them, and upon my vesture they cast lots.

20 But thou, O Lord, remove not thy help to a distance from me; look towards my defence.

21 Deliver, O God, my soul from the sword, my only one from the hand of the dog.

22 Save me from the lion's mouth
and my lowness from the horns of the
wild oxen.

23 I will declare thy name to my
brethren; in the midst of the church
will I praise thee.

24 Ye that fear the Lord, praise him;
all ye the seed of Jacob, glorify him.

25 Let all the seed of Israel fear him
because he hath not slighted nor
despised the supplication of the poor
man. Neither hath he turned away his
face from me. and when I cried to
him he heard me.

26 With thee is my praise in a great
church; I will pay my vows in the
sight of them that fear him.

27 The poor shall eat and shall be
filled, and they shall praise the Lord
that seek him; their hearts shall live
for ever and ever.

28 All the ends of the earth shall
remember and shall be converted to
the Lord. And all the kindreds of the
Gentiles shall adore in his sight.

29 For the kingdom is the Lord's, and
he shall have dominion over the
nations.

30 All the fat ones of the earth have
eaten and have adored; all they that
go down to the earth shall fall before
him.

31 And to him my soul shall live, and
my seed shall serve him.

32 There shall be declared to the Lord
a generation to come; and the heavens
shall shew forth his justice to a
people that shall be born, which the
Lord hath made.

Ant. They parted my garments
among them, and upon my vesture
they cast lots.

Ant. 3 Unjust witnesses have risen up
against me, and iniquity hath belied
itself.

Psalm 26

The Lord is my light and my
salvation, whom shall I fear? The
Lord is the protector of my life of
whom shall I be afraid?

2 Whilst the wicked draw near
against me to eat my flesh, my

enemies that trouble me have
themselves been weakened and have
fallen.

3 If armies in camp should stand
together against me, my heart shall
not fear. If a battle should rise up
against me, in this will I be confident.

4 One thing I have asked of the Lord,
this will I seek after, that I may dwell
in the house of the Lord all the days
of my life. That I may see the delight
of the Lord and may visit his temple.

5 For he hath hidden me in his
tabernacle in the day of evils, he hath
protected me in the secret place of his
tabernacle.

6 He hath exalted me upon a rock,
and now he hath lifted up my head
above my enemies. I have gone round
and have offered up in his tabernacle
a sacrifice of jubilation; I will sing
and recite a psalm to the Lord.

7 Hear, O Lord, my voice, with which
I have cried to thee; have mercy on
me and hear me.

8 My heart hath said to thee, my face
hath sought thee, thy face, O Lord,
will I still seek.

9 Turn not away thy face from me,
turn not thou away from thy servant
in anger. Be thou my helper, forsake
me not; do not thou despise me, O
God my Saviour.

10 For my father and my mother have
left me, but the Lord hath taken me
up.

11 Set me, O Lord, a law in thy way
and guide me in the right path
because of my enemies.

12 Deliver me not over to the will of
them that trouble me, for unjust
witnesses have risen up against me,
and iniquity hath lied to itself.

13 I believe to see the good things of
the Lord in the land of the living.

14 Expect the Lord, do manfully, and
let thy heart take courage and wait
thou for the Lord.

Ant. Unjust witnesses have risen up
against me, and iniquity hath belied
itself.

L. They parted my garments among
them.

R. And upon my vesture they cast
lots.

Our Father...

— STAND —

Lesson I

(Lamentations 2:8-11)

The Lord hath purposed to destroy
the wall of the daughter of Sion. He
hath stretched out his line and hath
not withdrawn his hand from
destroying. And the bulwark hath
mourned, and the wall hath been
destroyed together. Her gates are
sunk into the ground; he hath
destroyed and broken her bars. Her
king and her princes are among the
Gentiles. The law is no more, and her
prophets have found no vision from
the Lord. The ancients of the daughter
of Sion sit upon the ground; they
have held their peace. They have
sprinkled their heads with dust, they
are girded with haircloth, the virgins
of Jerusalem hang down their heads
to the ground. My eyes have failed
with weeping, my bowels are
troubled, my liver is poured out upon
the earth for the destruction of the
daughter of my people, when the
children and the sucklings fainted
away in the streets of the city.

L. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, be
converted to the Lord thy God.

R. All my friends have forsaken me,
and they that lay in ambush for me
prevailed. He whom I loved has
betrayed me. And they, with terrible
looks, striking me with a cruel
wound, gave me vinegar to drink.

L. They cast me out among the
wicked and spared not my life. And
they, with terrible looks, striking me
with a cruel wound, gave me vinegar
to drink.

Lesson II

(Lamentations 2:12-15)

They said to their mothers: Where is
corn and wine? When they fainted
away as the wounded in the streets of
the city, when they breathed out their
souls in the bosoms of their mothers.
To what shall I compare thee? Or to
what shall I liken thee, O daughter of
Jerusalem? To what shall I equal thee
that I may comfort thee, O virgin
daughter of Sion? For great as the sea
is thy destruction. Who shall heal

thee? Thy prophets have seen false and foolish things for thee. And they have not laid open thy iniquity to excite thee to repentance, but they have seen for thee false revelations and banishments. All they that passed by the way have clapped their hands at thee. They have hissed and wagged their heads at the daughter of Jerusalem, saying: Is this the city of perfect beauty, the joy of all the earth?

L. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, be converted to the Lord thy God.

R. The thief cried out from the cross, saying: Remember me, O Lord, when thou shalt come into thy kingdom.

L. And when Christ died, the veil of the temple was rent and all the earth shook.

Lesson III *(Lamentations 3:1-9)*

I am the man that see my poverty by the rod of his indignation. He hath led me and brought me into darkness and not into light. Only against me he hath turned and turned again his hand all the day. My skin and my flesh he hath made old, he hath broken my bones. He hath built round about me, and he hath compassed me with gall and labour. He hath set me in dark places, as those that are dead for ever. He hath built against me round about, that I may not get out. He hath made my fetters heavy. Yea, and when I cry and entreat, he hath shut out my prayer. He hath shut up my ways with square stones, he hath turned my paths upside down.

L. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, be converted to the Lord thy God.

R. O my chosen vineyard, it is I that have planted thee. How art thou become so bitter, that thou shouldst crucify me and release Barabbas?

L. I have hedged thee in and picked the stones out of thee and have built a tower. How art thou become so bitter, that thou shouldst crucify me and release Barabbas? O my chosen vineyard, it is I that have planted thee. How art thou become so bitter, that thou shouldst crucify me and release Barabbas?

— SIT —

II NOCTURN

Ant. 4 They that sought my soul used violence.

Psalm 37

Revoke me not, O Lord, in thy indignation nor chastise me in thy wrath.

3 For thy arrows are fastened in me, and thy hand hath been strong upon me.

4 There is no health in my flesh because of thy wrath; there is no peace for my bones because of my sins.

5 For my iniquities are gone over my head and as a heavy burden are become heavy upon me.

6 My sores are putrified and corrupted because of my foolishness.

7 I am become miserable and am bowed down even to the end. I walked sorrowful all the day long.

8 For my loins are filled with illusions, and there is no health in my flesh.

9 I am afflicted and humbled exceedingly. I roared with the groaning of my heart.

10 Lord, all my desire is before thee and my groaning is not hidden from thee.

11 My heart is troubled, my strength hath left me, and the light of my eyes itself is not with me.

12 My friends and my neighbours have drawn near and stood against me. And they that were near me stood afar off.

13 And they that sought my soul used violence. And they that sought evils to me spoke vain things and studied deceits all the day long.

14 But I, as a deaf man, heard not, and as a dumb man, not opening his mouth.

15 And I became as a man that heareth not and that hath no reproofs in his mouth.

16 For in thee, O Lord, have I hoped; thou wilt hear me, O Lord my God.

17 For I said: Lest at any time my enemies rejoice over me and whilst my feet are moved, they speak great things against me.

18 For I am ready for scourges and my sorrow is continually before me.

19 For I will declare my iniquity and be distressed for my sin.

20 But my enemies live and are stronger than I, and they that hate me wrongfully are multiplied.

21 They that render evil for good have detracted me because I followed goodness.

22 Forsake me not, O Lord my God, do not thou depart from me.

23 Attend unto my help, O Lord, the God of my salvation.

Ant. They that sought my soul used violence.

Ant. 5 Let them be confounded and ashamed that seek after my soul to take it away.

Psalm 39

With expectation I have waited for the Lord, and he was attentive to me.

3 And he heard my prayers and brought me out of the pit of misery and the mire of dregs. And he set my feet upon a rock and directed my steps.

4 And he put a new canticle into my mouth, a song to our God. Many shall see and shall fear, and they shall hope in the Lord.

5 Blessed is the man whose trust is in the name of the Lord and who hath not had regard to vanities and lying follies.

6 Thou hast multiplied thy wonderful works, O Lord my God, and in thy thoughts there is no one like to thee. I have declared and I have spoken, they are multiplied above number.

7 Sacrifice and oblation thou didst not desire, but a body hast thou prepared for me. Burnt offering and sin offering thou didst not require.

8 Then said I, Behold I come. In the head of the book it is written of me

9 that I should do thy will; O my God, I have desired it and thy law in the midst of my heart.

10 I have declared thy justice in a great church, lo, I will not restrain my lips, O Lord, thou knowest it.

11 I have not hid thy justice within my heart. I have declared thy truth and thy salvation. I have not concealed thy mercy and thy truth from a great council.

12 Withhold not thou, O Lord, thy tender mercies from me; thy mercy and thy truth have always upheld me.

13 For evils without number have surrounded me; my iniquities have overtaken me, and I was not able to see. They are multiplied above the hairs of my head and my heart hath forsaken me.

14 Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me, look down, O Lord, to help me.

15 Let them be confounded and ashamed together that seek after my soul to take it away. Let them be turned backward and be ashamed that desire evils to me.

16 Let them immediately bear their confusion that say to me: 'Tis well, 'tis well.

17 Let all that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee, and let such as love thy salvation say always: The Lord be magnified.

18 But I am a beggar and poor; the Lord is careful for me. Thou art my helper and my protector, O my God, delay not.

Ant. Let them be confounded and ashamed that seek after my soul to take it away.

Ant. 6 Strangers have risen up against me, and the mighty have sought after my soul.

Psalm 53

Save me, O God, by thy name, and judge me in thy strength.

4 O God, hear my prayer, give ear to the words of my mouth.

5 For strangers have risen up against me, and the mighty have sought after

my soul; and they have not set God before their eyes.

6 For behold God is my helper, and the Lord is the protector of my soul.

7 Turn back the evils upon my enemies and cut them off in thy truth.

8 I will freely sacrifice to thee and will give praise, O God, to thy name because it is good:

9 For thou hast delivered me out of all trouble, and my eye hath looked down upon my enemies.

Ant. Strangers have risen up against me, and the mighty have sought after my soul.

L. Unjust witnesses have risen up against me.

R. And iniquity hath belied itself.

Our Father...

— STAND —

Lesson IV

(The Treatise on the Psalms, by St. Augustine the Bishop: Psalm 63)

"Thou has protected me, O God, from the assembly of the malignant, from the multitude of the workers of iniquity." Now let us behold our head himself. Many martyrs have suffered such torments, but nothing is so conspicuous as the head of martyrs. There we see better what they endured. He was *protected from the multitude of the malignant*; that is, God protected himself, the Son, and the Man assumed by the Son protected his own flesh. For he is the Son of Man and the Son of God: the Son of God because of the form of God; the Son of Man because of the form of a servant, having it in his power to lay down his life and take it up again. What could his enemies do against him? They killed his body but they did not kill his soul. Take notice, then. It signified little for our Lord to exhort the martyrs by word if he had not fortified them by his example.

L. Ye are come out to take me as a thief, with swords and clubs. I was daily with you in the temple teaching and ye did not apprehend me. And lo! Ye scourge me and lead me to be crucified.

R. And when they had laid hands on Jesus and taken him, he said to them: I was daily with you in the temple teaching and ye did not apprehend me. And lo! Ye scourge me and lead me to be crucified.

Lesson V

You know what was the assembly of the wicked Jews and what the multitude of those that work iniquity. But what was that iniquity? It was that they intended to kill our Lord Jesus Christ. "I have done," saith he, "so many good works among you. For which of them will you kill me?" He bore with all their weaknesses, he cured all their sick, he preached the kingdom of heaven, he concealed not their crimes that they might rather hate them than the physician that healed them. Yet such was their ingratitude for all these cures, that like men raving in a high fever they raged against the physician who came to cure them, and formed a design of destroying him, as if they had a mind to try whether he was a real man that could die or some thing above men and would not die. We find their words in the Book of Wisdom: "Let us condemn him," say they, "to a most shameful death. Let us examine him, for regard will be had to his words. If he be truly the Son of God, let him deliver him."

L. Darkness covered the earth whilst the Jews crucified Jesus. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice: My God! Why hast thou forsaken me? And bowing down his head, he gave up the spirit.

R. Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said: Father! Into thy hands I commend my spirit! And bowing down his head, he gave up the spirit.

Lesson VI

"They sharpened their tongues like a sword." Let not the Jews say "We did not kill Christ," under pretence, for they delivered him up to Pilate, the judge, that they might seem innocent of his death. Thus when Pilate had said to them "Put him to death yourselves," they answered "It is not lawful for us to put any man to death." Hereby they pretended to throw the injustice of their crime

upon the judge who was a man, but could they deceive a judge who is God? What Pilate did made him partaker of their crime, but in comparison with them he was much more innocent. For he labored what he could to get him out of their hands and for that reason ordered him to be scourged and shown to them. This he did to our Lord, not by way of persecution but to satisfy their rage, that the sight of him in that condition might move them to pity and make them desist from desiring his death. All this he did. But when they still persisted, you know that he had no hand in it, that he was innocent of his death. And yet he really put him to death. But if he was guilty for doing so against his will, are they innocent who forced him to do it? By no means. He pronounced sentence upon him and commanded him to be crucified and so might be said to kill him. But you, O Jews, you also have killed him. How? With the sword of your tongues, for ye sharpened your tongues, when you cried out “Crucify him, crucify him!”

L. I have delivered myself into the hands of the wicked, and my inheritance is become to me like a lion in the forest. My adversary gave out his words against me, saying: Come together and make haste to devour him. They placed me in a solitary desert, and all the earth mourned for me because there was none found that would know me and do good unto me.

R. Men without mercy rose up against me, and they spared not my life because there was none found that would know me and do good unto me. I have delivered my beloved body into the hands of the wicked, and my inheritance is become to me like a lion in the forest. My adversary gave out his words against me, saying: Come together and make haste to devour him. They placed me in a solitary desert, and all the earth mourned for me because there was none found that would know me and do good unto me.

— SIT —

III NOCTURN

Ant. 7 From them that rise up against me, deliver me, O Lord.

Psalm 58

Deliver me from my enemies, O my God, and defend me from them that rise up against me.

3 Deliver me from them that work iniquity and save me from bloody men.

4 For behold they lie in wait for my soul, the mighty have rushed in upon me.

5 Neither is it my iniquity nor my sin, O Lord, without iniquity have I run and directed my steps.

6 Rise up thou to meet me and behold, even thou, O Lord, the God of hosts, the God of Israel. Attend to visit all the nations; have no mercy on all them that work iniquity.

7 They shall return at evening and shall suffer hunger like dogs and shall go round about the city.

8 Behold they shall speak with their mouth and a sword is in their lips; for who, say they, hath heard us?

9 But thou, O Lord, shalt laugh at them; thou shalt bring all the nations to nothing.

10 I will keep my strength to thee, for thou art my protector,

11 my God, his mercy shall go before me.

12 God shall let me see over my enemies; slay them not, lest at any time my people forget. Scatter them by thy power and bring them down, O Lord, my protector.

13 For the sin of their mouth and the word of their lips, let them be taken in their pride. And for their cursing and lying they shall be talked of,

14 when they are consumed; when they are consumed by thy wrath, and they shall be no more. And they shall know that God will rule Jacob and all the ends of the earth.

15 They shall return at evening and shall suffer hunger like dogs and shall go round about the city.

16 They shall be scattered abroad to eat and shall murmur if they be not filled.

17 But I will sing thy strength and will extol thy mercy in the morning. For thou art become my support and my refuge in the day of my trouble.

18 Unto thee, O my helper, will I sing, for thou art God my defence, my God my mercy.

Ant. From them that rise up against me, deliver me, O Lord, for they are in possession of my body.

Ant. 8 Thou hast put away my acquaintance far from me; I was delivered up and I escaped not.

Psalm 87

O Lord, the God of my salvation, I have cried in the day and in the night before thee.

3 Let my prayer come in before thee; incline thy ear to my petition.

4 For my soul is filled with evils and my life hath drawn nigh to the underworld.

5 I am counted among them that go down to the pit. I am become as a man without help,

6 free among the dead. Like the slain sleeping in the sepulchres, whom thou rememberest no more; and they are cast off from thy hand.

7 They have laid me in the lower pit, in the dark places and in the shadow of death.

8 Thy wrath is strong over me and all thy waves thou hast brought in upon me.

9 Thou hast put away my acquaintance far from me, They have set me an abomination to themselves. I was delivered up and came not forth:

10 My eyes languished through poverty. All the day I cried to thee, O Lord. I stretched out my hands to thee.

11 Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? Or shall physicians raise to life and give praise to thee?

12 Shall any one in the sepulchre declare thy mercy: and thy truth in destruction?

13 Shall thy wonders be known in the dark and thy justice in the land of forgetfulness?

14 But I, O Lord, have cried to thee; and in the morning my prayer shall come before thee.

15 Lord, why castest thou off my prayer? Why turnest thou away thy face from me?

16 I am poor and in labours from my youth, and being exalted have been humbled and troubled.

17 Thy wrath hath come upon me, and thy terrors have troubled me.

18 They have come round about me like water all the day. They have compassed me about together.

19 Friend and neighbour thou hast put far from me and my acquaintances because of misery.

Ant. Thou hast put away my acquaintance far from me; I was delivered up and I escaped not.

Ant. 9 They will hunt after the soul of the just and will condemn innocent blood.

Psalm 93

The Lord is the God to whom revenge belongeth, the God of revenge hath acted freely.

2 Lift up thyself thou that judgest the earth, render a reward to the proud.

3 How long shall sinners, O Lord, how long shall sinners glory?

4 Shall they utter and speak iniquity, shall all speak who work injustice?

5 Thy people, O Lord, they have brought low, and they have afflicted thy inheritance.

6 They have slain the widow and the stranger, and they have murdered the fatherless.

7 And they have said: The Lord shall not see, neither shall the God of Jacob understand.

8 Understand, ye senseless among the people and you fools, be wise at last.

9 He that planted the ear, shall he not hear? Or he that formed the eye, doth he not see?

10 He that chastiseth nations, shall he not rebuke, he that teacheth man knowledge?

11 The Lord knoweth the thoughts of men that they are vain.

12 Blessed is the man whom thou shalt instruct, O Lord, and shalt teach him out of thy law,

13 that thou mayest give him rest from the evil days till a pit be dug for the wicked.

14 For the Lord will not cast off his people, neither will he forsake his own inheritance,

15 until justice be turned into judgment; and they that are near it are all the upright in heart.

16 Who shall rise up for me against the evildoers? Or who shall stand with me against the workers of iniquity?

17 Unless the Lord had been my helper my soul had almost dwelt in the underworld.

18 If I said: My foot is moved. Thy mercy, O Lord, assisted me.

19 According to the multitude of my sorrows in my heart, thy comforts have given joy to my soul.

20 Doth the seat of iniquity stick to thee who framest labour in commandment?

21 They will hunt after the soul of the just and will condemn innocent blood.

22 But the Lord is my refuge and my God the help of my hope.

23 And he will render them their iniquity; and in their malice he will destroy them, the Lord our God will destroy them.

Ant. They will hunt after the soul of the just and will condemn innocent blood.

L. They have spoken against me with a deceitful tongue.

R. And they have compassed me about with words of hatred and have fought against me without cause.

Our Father...

— STAND —

Lesson VII

(Hebrews, Chapters 4-5)

Let us hasten, therefore, to enter into that rest lest any man fall into the same example of unbelief. For the word of God is living and effectual and more piercing than any two-edged sword and reaching unto the division of the soul and the spirit, of the joints also and the marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature invisible in his sight, but all things are naked and open to his eyes to whom our speech is. Having therefore a great high priest that hath passed into the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who cannot have compassion on our infirmities, but one tempted in all things, like as we are, without sin.

L. They delivered me into the hands of the impious, and cast me out among the wicked, and spared not my life. The powerful gathered together against me, and they stood against me.

R. Strangers have risen up against me; and the mighty have sought my soul, and they stood against me.

Lesson VIII

Let us go, therefore, with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace in seasonable aid. For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in the things that appertain to God, that he may offer up gifts and sacrifices for sins, who can have compassion on them that are ignorant and that err because he himself also is compassed with infirmity. And therefore he ought, as for the people so also for himself, to offer for sins.

L. My eyes are darkened by my tears, for he is far from me that comforted me. See, all ye people, if there be sorrow like unto my sorrow.

R. O all ye that pass by the way, behold and see if there be sorrow like unto my sorrow. My eyes are darkened by my tears, for he is far from me that comforted me. See, all

ye people, if there be sorrow like unto my sorrow.

Lesson IX

Neither doth any man take the honour to himself but he that is called by God, as Aaron was. So Christ also did not glorify himself that he might be made a high priest, but he that said unto him: Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. As he saith also in another place: Thou art a priest for ever according to the order of Melchisedech. Who in the days of his flesh, with a strong cry and tears, offering up prayers and supplications to him that was able to save him from death, was heard for his reverence. And whereas indeed he was the Son of God, he practiced obedience by the things which he suffered. And being consummated, he became to all that obey him the cause of everlasting salvation, called by God a high priest according to the order of Melchisedech.

L. And behold there was a man named Joseph, who was a counsellor, a good and just man (the same had not consented to their counsel and doings) of Arimathea, a city of Judea, who also himself looked for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and begged the body of Jesus.

R. And taking him down, he wrapped him in fine linen and laid him in a sepulchre that was hewed in stone, wherein never yet any man had been laid.

The Office of Matins ends here.

Lauds I

Lauds begins at once with the first antiphon as given below.

— SIT —

Ant. 1 God spared not his own Son but delivered him up for us all.

Psalm 50

Have mercy on me, O God, according to thy great mercy. And according to the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my iniquity.

4 Wash me yet more from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

5 For I know my iniquity and my sin is always before me.

6 To thee only have I sinned and have done evil before thee that thou mayest be justified when thou speakest and be in the right when thou judgest.

7 For behold I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother conceive me.

8 For behold thou hast loved truth, the uncertain and hidden things of thy wisdom thou hast made manifest to me.

9 Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be cleansed; thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow.

10 To my hearing thou shalt give joy and gladness, and the bones that have been humbled shall rejoice.

11 Turn away thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

12 Create a clean heart in me, O God, and renew a right spirit within my bowels.

13 Cast me not away from thy face, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

14 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and strengthen me with a perfect spirit.

15 I will teach the unjust thy ways and the wicked shall be converted to thee.

16 Deliver me from blood, O God, thou God of my salvation, and my tongue shall extol thy justice.

17 O Lord, thou wilt open my lips and my mouth shall declare thy praise.

18 For if thou hadst desired sacrifice, I would indeed have given it, with burnt offerings thou wilt not be delighted.

19 A sacrifice to God is an afflicted spirit, a contrite and humbled heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

20 Deal favourably, O Lord, in thy good will with Sion that the walls of Jerusalem may be built up.

21 Then shalt thou accept the sacrifice of justice, oblations and whole burnt offerings; then shall they lay calves upon thy altar.

Ant. God spared not his own Son but delivered him up for us all.

Ant. 2 My spirit is in anguish within me; my heart within me is troubled.

Psalm 142

Hear, O Lord, my prayer, give ear to my supplication in thy truth; hear me in thy justice.

2 And enter not into judgment with thy servant, for in thy sight no man living shall be justified.

3 For the enemy hath persecuted my soul. He hath brought down my life to the earth. He hath made me to dwell in darkness as those that have been dead of old.

4 And my spirit is in anguish within me; my heart within me is troubled.

5 I remembered the days of old, I meditated on all thy works, I meditated upon the works of thy hands.

6 I stretched forth my hands to thee; my soul is as earth without water unto thee.

7 Hear me speedily, O Lord, my spirit hath fainted away. Turn not away thy face from me lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit.

8 Cause me to hear thy mercy in the morning, for in thee have I hoped. Make the way known to me wherein I should walk, for I have lifted up my soul to thee.

9 Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord, to thee have I fled.

10 Teach me to do thy will, for thou art my God. Thy good spirit shall lead me into the right land.

11 For thy name's sake, O Lord, thou wilt quicken me in thy justice. Thou wilt bring my soul out of trouble,

12 And in thy mercy thou wilt destroy my enemies. And thou wilt cut off all them that afflict my soul, for I am thy servant.

Ant. My spirit is in anguish within me; my heart within me is troubled.

Ant. 3 The thief said to the thief: We indeed receive the due reward of our deeds, but what has this man done? Remember me, O Lord, when thou shalt come into thy kingdom.

Psalm 84

Lord, thou hast blessed thy land. Thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob.

3 Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of thy people. Thou hast covered all their sins.

4 Thou hast mitigated all thy anger. Thou hast turned away from the wrath of thy indignation.

5 Convert us, O God our saviour, and turn away thy anger from us.

6 Wilt thou be angry with us for ever? Or wilt thou extend thy wrath from generation to generation?

7 Thou wilt turn, O God, and bring us to life, and thy people shall rejoice in thee.

8 Shew us, O Lord, thy mercy, and grant us thy salvation.

9 I will hear what the Lord God will speak in me; for he will speak peace unto his people and unto his saints and unto them that are converted to the heart.

10 Surely his salvation is near to them that fear him that glory may dwell in our land.

11 Mercy and truth have met each other, justice and peace have kissed.

12 Truth is sprung out of the earth, and justice hath looked down from heaven.

13 For the Lord will give goodness, and our earth shall yield her fruit.

14 Justice shall walk before him and shall set his steps in the way.

Ant. The thief said to the thief: We indeed receive the due reward of our deeds, but what has this man done? Remember me, O Lord, when thou shalt come into thy kingdom.

Ant. 4 When my soul shall be in trouble, O Lord, thou wilt be mindful of thy mercy.

Canticle of Habacuc (Habacuc 3:2-19)

O Lord, I have heard thy hearing and was afraid. O Lord, thy work in the midst of the years bring it to life. In the midst of the years thou shalt make it known; when thou art angry, thou wilt remember mercy.

3 God will come from the south and the holy one from mount Pharan: His glory covered the heavens, and the earth is full of his praise.

4 His brightness shall be as the light; horns are in his hands. There is his strength hid.

5 Death shall go before his face. And the devil shall go forth before his feet.

6 He stood and measured the earth. He beheld and melted the nations, and the ancient mountains were crushed to pieces. The hills of the world were bowed down by the journeys of his eternity.

7 I saw the tents of Ethiopia for their iniquity, the curtains of the land of Madian shall be troubled.

8 Wast thou angry, O Lord, with the rivers? Or was thy wrath upon the rivers? Or thy indignation in the sea? Who will ride upon thy horses, and thy chariots are salvation.

9 Thou wilt surely take up thy bow, according to the oaths which thou hast spoken to the tribes. Thou wilt divide the rivers of the earth.

10 The mountains saw thee and were grieved. The great body of waters passed away; the deep put forth its voice, the deep lifted up its hands.

11 The sun and the moon stood still in their habitation, in the light of thy arrows they shall go in the brightness of thy glittering spear.

12 In thy anger thou wilt tread the earth under foot, in thy wrath thou wilt astonish the nations.

13 Thou wentest forth for the salvation of thy people, for salvation with thy Christ. Thou struckest the head of the house of the wicked, thou

hast laid bare his foundation even to the neck.

14 Thou hast cursed his sceptres, the head of his warriors, them that came out as a whirlwind to scatter me. Their joy was like that of him that devoureth the poor man in secret.

15 Thou madest a way in the sea for thy horses, in the mud of many waters.

16 I watched and my belly trembled at the sound of the prayer of my lips, and trembling entered into my bones, and my frame was troubled within me. I will rest in the day of affliction, from going up to the people of my sojourning.

17 For the fig tree shall not blossom: and there shall be no spring in the vines. The labour of the olive tree shall fail: and the fields shall yield no food: the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls.

18 But I will rejoice in the Lord: and I will joy in God my Jesus.

19 The Lord God is my strength: and he will make my feet like the feet of harts: and he the conqueror will lead me upon my high places singing psalms.

Ant. 5 Remember me, O Lord, when thou shalt come into thy kingdom.

Psalm 147

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem, praise thy God, O Sion.

13 Because he hath strengthened the bolts of thy gates, he hath blessed thy children within thee,

14 who hath placed peace in thy borders and filleth thee with the fat of corn,

15 who sendeth forth his speech to the earth; his word runneth swiftly,

16 who giveth snow like wool, scattereth mists like ashes.

17 He sendeth his crystal like morsels. Who shall stand before the face of his cold?

18 He shall send out his word and shall melt them; his wind shall blow and the waters shall run.

19 Who declareth his word to Jacob,
his justices and his judgments to
Israel.

20 He hath not done in like manner to
every nation, and his judgments he
hath not made manifest to them.
Alleluia.

Ant. Remember me, O Lord, when
thou shalt come into thy kingdom.

L. He hath made me to dwell in
darkness.

R. As those that have been dead of
old.

— STAND —

Ant. They put over his head his cause
written: Jesus of Nazareth, King of
the Jews.

Canticle of Zachary (Benedictus)
(Luke 1:68-79)

✠ **B**LESSED be the Lord God of
Israel because he hath visited and
wrought the redemption of his people

And hath raised up a horn of
salvation to us in the house of David
his servant,

As he spoke by the mouth of his holy
prophets, who are from the
beginning:

Salvation from our enemies and from
the hand of all that hate us,

To perform mercy to our fathers and
to remember his holy testament,

The oath, which he swore to
Abraham our father, that he would
grant to us,

That being delivered from the hand of
our enemies we may serve him
without fear,

In holiness and justice before him all
our days.

And thou, child, shalt be called the
prophet of the Highest, for thou shalt
go before the face of the Lord to
prepare his ways,

To give knowledge of salvation to his
people unto the remission of their sins

Through the bowels of the mercy of
our God in which the Orient from on
high hath visited us,

To enlighten them that sit in darkness
and in the shadow of death, to direct
our feet into the way of peace.

Ant. They put over his head his cause
written: Jesus of Nazareth, King of
the Jews.

*The highest candle, still lit, is now
taken from the hearse and concealed
beneath the altar on the Epistle side.
This candle is extinguished after the
Office is complete.*

L. Christ became for our sake
obedient unto death, even to the death
of the cross. For which cause God
also hath exalted him and hath given
him a name which is above all names.

Our Father...

L. Look down, O Lord, we beseech
thee, upon this thy family for which
our Lord Jesus Christ hesitated not to
be delivered into the hands of wicked
men and to undergo the punishment
of the cross.

R. Who liveth and reigneth with thee
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God,
forever and ever. Amen.

*This Office is complete; nothing more
is added.*

Holy Seventh Weekday

Matins

*NOTE: This Office is said in the
evening of Holy Seventh Weekday.
Follow the instructions given
throughout Maundy Day Matins and
Lauds.*

— STAND —

Our Father...

Hail Mary...

Apostles' Creed...

— SIT —

INOCTURN

*NOTE: The Glory Be is omitted
throughout these Offices.*

Ant. 1 In peace in the selfsame, I will
sleep and I will rest.

Psalm 4

When I called upon him, the God
of my justice heard me; when I was in
distress, thou hast enlarged me. Have
mercy on me and hear my prayer.

3 O ye sons of men, how long will
you be dull of heart? Why do you
love vanity and seek after lying?

4 Know ye also that the Lord hath
made his holy one wonderful. The
Lord will hear me when I shall cry
unto him.

5 Be ye angry and sin not; feel
compunction upon your beds for what
ye say in your hearts.

6 Offer up the sacrifice of justice and
trust in the Lord; many say, Who will
sheweth us good things?

7 The light of thy countenance O
Lord, is signed upon us. Thou hast
given gladness in my heart.

8 By the fruit of their corn, their wine
and oil, they are multiplied.

9 In peace in the selfsame I will sleep
and I will rest,

10 for thou, O Lord, singularly hast
settled me in hope.

Ant. In peace in the selfsame, I will
sleep and I will rest.

Ant. 2 He shall dwell in thy
tabernacle, he shall rest in thy holy
hill.

Psalm 14

Lord, who shall dwell in thy
tabernacle? Or who shall rest in thy
holy hill?

2 he that walketh without blemish and
worketh justice;

3 he that speaketh truth in his heart
who hath not used deceit in his
tongue nor hath done evil to his
neighbour nor taken up a reproach
against his neighbours;

4 in his sight the malignant is brought
to nothing, but he glorifieth them that
fear the Lord; he that sweareth [truly]
to his neighbour, and doth not violate
his engagements;

5 he that hath not put out his money
to usury nor taken bribes against the

innocent. He that doth these things shall not be moved for ever.

Ant. He shall dwell in thy tabernacle, he shall rest in thy holy hill.

Ant. 3 My flesh shall rest in hope.

Psalm 15

Preserve me, O Lord, for I have put my trust in thee.

2 I have said to the Lord, thou art my God, for thou hast no need of my goods.

3 To the saints who are in his land, he hath made wonderful all my desires in them.

4 Their infirmities were multiplied. Afterwards they made haste. I will not gather together their meetings for blood offerings, nor will I be mindful of their names by my lips.

5 The Lord is the portion of my inheritance and of my cup. It is thou that wilt restore my inheritance to me.

6 The lines are fallen unto me in goodly places, for my inheritance is goodly to me.

7 I will bless the Lord who hath given me understanding. Moreover, my reins also have corrected me even till night.

8 I set the Lord always in my sight, for he is at my right hand that I be not moved.

9 Therefore, my heart hath been glad and my tongue hath rejoiced. Moreover, my flesh also shall rest in hope.

10 Because thou wilt not leave my soul in the underworld, nor wilt thou give thy holy one to see corruption.

11 Thou hast made known to me the ways of life. Thou shalt fill me with joy with thy countenance. At thy right hand are delights even to the end.

Ant. My flesh shall rest in hope.

L. In peace in the selfsame.

R. I will sleep and I will rest.

Our Father...

— STAND —

Lesson I

(Lamentations 3:22-30)

On this account I will wait for the mercies of the Lord because he hath not quite forsaken me, because his compassion is not exhausted. In the ensuing months, Lord, exercise compassion since we are not quite consumed since thy mercies are not exhausted. They are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness. The Lord is my portion, said my soul; therefore will I wait for him. The Lord is good to them that hope in him, to the soul that seeketh him. It is good to wait with silence for the salvation of God. It is good for a man when he hath borne the yoke from his youth. He shall sit solitary and hold his peace because he hath taken it up upon himself. He shall put his mouth in the dust; if so be, there may be hope. He shall give his cheek to him that striketh him, he shall be filled with reproaches.

L. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, be converted to the Lord thy God.

R. He was led like a sheep to the slaughter; and whilst he was ill-used, he opened not his mouth. He was condemned to death that he might give life to his people.

L. He delivered himself up to death and was reckoned among the wicked, that he might give life to his people.

Lesson II

(Lamentations 4:1-6)

How is the gold become dim, the finest colour is changed, the stones of the sanctuary are scattered in the top of every street? The noble sons of Sion and they that were clothed with the best gold, how are they esteemed as earthen vessels, the work of the potter's hands? Even the sea monsters have drawn out the breast; they have given suck to their young. The daughter of my people is cruel, like the ostrich in the desert. The tongue of the sucking child hath stuck to the roof of his mouth for thirst. The little ones have asked for bread, and there was none to break it unto them. They that were fed delicately have died in the streets, they that were brought up in scarlet have embraced the dung. And the iniquity of the daughter of my people is made greater than the sin of Sodom, which was overthrown

in a moment, and hands took nothing in her.

L. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, be converted to the Lord thy God.

R. Arise, Jerusalem, and put off thy garments of joy; put on ashes and hair cloth, for in thee was slain the Saviour of Israel.

L. Let tears rain down like a torrent day and night; and let not the apple of thine eye cease, for in thee was slain the Saviour of Israel.

Lesson III

(Lamentations 5:1-11)

Remember, O Lord, what is come upon us; consider and behold our reproach. Our inheritance is turned to aliens, our houses to strangers. We are become orphans without a father, our mothers are as widows. We have drunk our water for money, we have bought our wood. We were dragged by the necks, we were weary and no rest was given us. We have given our hand to Egypt and to the Assyrians that we might be satisfied with bread. Our fathers have sinned and are not, and we have borne their iniquities. Servants have ruled over us; there was none to redeem us out of their hand. We fetched our bread at the peril of our lives because of the sword in the desert. Our skin was burnt as an oven by reason of the violence of the famine. They oppressed the women in Sion and the virgins in the cities of Juda.

L. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, be converted to the Lord thy God.

R. Mourn, O my people, as a virgin; howl, ye shepherds, in ashes and hair-cloth, for the great and exceeding bitter day of the Lord is coming.

L. Gird yourselves, ye priests, and mourn; sprinkle yourselves with ashes, ye ministers of the altar, for the great and exceeding bitter day of the Lord is coming. Mourn, O my people, as a virgin; howl, ye shepherds, in ashes and hair-cloth, for the great and exceeding bitter day of the Lord is coming.

— SIT —

II NOCTURN

Ant. 4 Be ye lifted up, O ye eternal gates, and the King of Glory shall enter in.

Psalm 23

The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof, the world and all they that dwell therein.

2 For he hath founded it upon the seas and hath prepared it upon the rivers.

3 Who shall ascend into the mountain of the Lord or who shall stand in his holy place?

4 The innocent in hands and clean of heart who hath not taken his soul in vain nor sworn deceitfully to his neighbour.

5 He shall receive a blessing from the Lord and mercy from God his Saviour.

6 This is the generation of them that seek him, of them that seek the face of the God of Jacob.

7 Lift up your gates, O ye princes, and be ye lifted up, O eternal gates, and the King of Glory shall enter in.

8 Who is this King of Glory? The Lord who is strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

9 Lift up your gates, O ye princes, and be ye lifted up, O eternal gates, and the King of Glory shall enter in.

10 Who is this King of Glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of Glory.

Ant. Be ye lifted up, O ye eternal gates, and the King of Glory shall enter in.

Ant. 5 I believe to see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.

Psalm 26

The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear? The Lord is the protector of my life of whom shall I be afraid?

2 Whilst the wicked draw near against me to eat my flesh, my enemies that trouble me have themselves been weakened and have fallen.

3 If armies in camp should stand together against me, my heart shall not fear. If a battle should rise up against me, in this will I be confident.

4 One thing I have asked of the Lord, this will I seek after, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life. That I may see the delight of the Lord and may visit his temple.

5 For he hath hidden me in his tabernacle in the day of evils, he hath protected me in the secret place of his tabernacle.

6 He hath exalted me upon a rock, and now he hath lifted up my head above my enemies. I have gone round and have offered up in his tabernacle a sacrifice of jubilation; I will sing and recite a psalm to the Lord.

7 Hear, O Lord, my voice, with which I have cried to thee; have mercy on me and hear me.

8 My heart hath said to thee, my face hath sought thee, thy face, O Lord, will I still seek.

9 Turn not away thy face from me, turn not thou away from thy servant in anger. Be thou my helper, forsake me not; do not thou despise me, O God my Saviour.

10 For my father and my mother have left me, but the Lord hath taken me up.

11 Set me, O Lord, a law in thy way and guide me in the right path because of my enemies.

12 Deliver me not over to the will of them that trouble me, for unjust witnesses have risen up against me, and iniquity hath lied to itself.

13 I believe to see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.

14 Expect the Lord, do manfully, and let thy heart take courage and wait thou for the Lord.

Ant. I believe to see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.

Ant. 6 O Lord, thou has brought forth my soul from the underworld.

Psalm 29

I will extol thee, O Lord, for thou hast upheld me and hast not made my enemies to rejoice over me.

3 O Lord my God, I have cried to thee, and thou hast healed me.

4 Thou hast brought forth, O Lord, my soul from the underworld; thou hast saved me from them that go down into the pit.

5 Sing to the Lord, O ye his saints, and give praise to the memory of his holiness.

6 For wrath is in his indignation and life in his good will. In the evening weeping shall have place and in the morning gladness.

7 And in my abundance I said: I shall never be moved.

8 O Lord, in thy favour thou gavest strength to my beauty. Thou turnedst away thy face from me, and I became troubled.

9 To thee, O Lord, will I cry, and I will make supplication to my God.

10 What profit is there in my blood whilst I go down to corruption? Shall dust confess to thee or declare thy truth?

11 The Lord hath heard and hath had mercy on me; the Lord became my helper.

12 Thou hast turned for me my mourning into joy; thou hast cut my sackcloth and hast compassed me with gladness,

13 to the end that my glory may sing to thee, and I may not regret. O Lord, my God, I will give praise to thee for ever.

Ant. O Lord, thou has brought forth my soul from the underworld.

L. But thou, O Lord, have mercy on me.

R. And raise me up again and I will requite them.

Our Father...

— STAND —

Lesson IV

(The Treatise on the Psalms, by St. Augustine, Bishop of Hippo: Psalm 63)

“Man shall come to a deep heart, and God shall be exalted. They said: Who will see us? They failed in making diligent search for wicked designs.”

Christ, as man, came to those designs and suffered himself to be seized on as a man. For he could not be seized on if he were not man, nor seen if he were not man, nor scourged if he were not man, nor crucified nor die if he were not man. As man, therefore, he came to all these sufferings which could have no effect on him if he were not man. But if he had not been man, man could not have been redeemed. Man came to the deep heart; that is, the secret heart, exposing his humanity to human view but hiding his divinity, concealing the form of God by which he is equal to the Father and offering the form of the servant by which he is inferior to the Father.

L. Our shepherd, the fountain of living water, is gone, at whose departure the sun was darkened. For the devil is taken who made the first man a prisoner. Our Saviour broke the gates and blots of death.

R. He, indeed, have freed prisoners from the underworld and overthrew the powers of the devil, for the devil is taken who made the first man a prisoner. Today our Saviour broke the gates and blots of death.

Lesson V

How far did they carry this their diligent search, in which they failed so much, that when our Lord was dead and buried they placed guards at the sepulchre? For they said to Pilate, “This seducer,” by which name our Lord Jesus Christ was called for the comfort of his servants when they are called seducers, “This seducer,” say they to Pilate, “whilst he was yet living, said ‘After three days I will rise again.’ Command therefore the sepulchre to be guarded until the third day lest his disciples come and steal him away and say to the people ‘He is risen from the dead’ so the last error shall be worse than the first.” Pilate saith to them, “Ye have a guard, go and guard it as you know.” And they went away and secured the sepulchre with guards, sealing up the stone.

L. O all ye that pass by the way, attend and see if there be sorrow like unto my sorrow.

R. Attend, all ye people, and see my sorrow, if there be sorrow like unto my sorrow.

Lesson VI

They placed soldiers to guard the sepulchre. The earth shook and the Lord rose. Such miracles were done at the sepulchre, that the very soldiers that came as guards might be witnesses of it if they would declare the truth. But that covetousness which possessed the disciple that was the companion of Christ blinded also the soldiers that were the guards of his sepulchre. “We will give you money,” said they, “and say that while ye were asleep his disciples came and took him away.” They truly failed in making diligent search. What is it thou hast said, O wretched craft? Dost thou shut thy eyes against the light of prudence and piety and plunge thyself so deep in cunning as to say this: Say that while ye were asleep his disciples came and took him away? Dost thou produce sleeping witnesses? Certainly thou thyself sleepest who failest in making search after such things.

L. Behold! How the Just One dieth and there is none that taketh it to heart, and just men are taken away and no one considereth it. The Just One is taken away because of iniquity, and his memory shall be in peace.

R. He was silent, as a lamb under his shearer, and he opened not his mouth. He was taken away from distress and judgment, and his memory shall be in peace. Behold! How the Just One dieth and there is none that taketh it to heart, and just men are taken away and no one considereth it. The Just One is taken away because of iniquity, and his memory shall be in peace.

— SIT —

III NOCTURN

Ant. 7 God is my helper and the Lord is the protector of my soul.

Psalm 53

Save me, O God, by thy name, and judge me in thy strength.

4 O God, hear my prayer, give ear to the words of my mouth.

5 For strangers have risen up against me, and the mighty have sought after my soul; and they have not set God before their eyes.

6 For behold God is my helper, and the Lord is the protector of my soul.

7 Turn back the evils upon my enemies and cut them off in thy truth.

8 I will freely sacrifice to thee and will give praise, O God, to thy name because it is good:

9 For thou hast delivered me out of all trouble, and my eye hath looked down upon my enemies.

Ant. God is my helper and the Lord is the protector of my soul.

Ant. 8 His place is in peace and his abode in Sion.

Psalm 75

In Judea God is known; his name is great in Israel.

3 And his place is in peace and his abode in Sion.

4 There hath he broken the powers of bows, the shield, the sword, and the battle.

5 Thou enlightenest wonderfully from the everlasting hills.

6 All the foolish of heart were troubled. They have slept their sleep; and all the men of riches have found nothing in their hands.

7 At thy rebuke, O God of Jacob, they have all slumbered that mounted on horseback.

8 Thou, even thou, art terrible. And who may stand in thy sight when thou art angry?

9 Thou hast caused judgment to be heard from heaven. The earth trembled and was still

10 when God arose in judgment to save all the meek of the earth.

11 For the inward thought of man shall give thanks to thee, and the

memorial of his inward thought shall keep a feast to thee.

12 Vow ye, and pay to the Lord your God; all you that are round about him, bring presents to him that is terrible,

13 and that takes away the spirits of princes, to him that is terrible among the kings of the earth.

Ant. His place is in peace and his abode in Sion.

Ant. 9 I am become as a man without help, free among the dead.

Psalm 87

O Lord, the God of my salvation, I have cried in the day and in the night before thee.

3 Let my prayer come in before thee; incline thy ear to my petition.

4 For my soul is filled with evils and my life hath drawn nigh to the underworld.

5 I am counted among them that go down to the pit. I am become as a man without help,

6 free among the dead. Like the slain sleeping in the sepulchres, whom thou rememberest no more; and they are cast off from thy hand.

7 They have laid me in the lower pit, in the dark places and in the shadow of death.

8 Thy wrath is strong over me and all thy waves thou hast brought in upon me.

9 Thou hast put away my acquaintance far from me, They have set me an abomination to themselves. I was delivered up and came not forth:

10 My eyes languished through poverty. All the day I cried to thee, O Lord. I stretched out my hands to thee.

11 Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? Or shall physicians raise to life and give praise to thee?

12 Shall any one in the sepulchre declare thy mercy: and thy truth in destruction?

13 Shall thy wonders be known in the dark and thy justice in the land of forgetfulness?

14 But I, O Lord, have cried to thee; and in the morning my prayer shall come before thee.

15 Lord, why castest thou off my prayer? Why turnest thou away thy face from me?

16 I am poor and in labours from my youth, and being exalted have been humbled and troubled.

17 Thy wrath hath come upon me, and thy terrors have troubled me.

18 They have come round about me like water all the day. They have compassed me about together.

19 Friend and neighbour thou hast put far from me and my acquaintances because of misery.

Ant. I am become as a man without help, free among the dead.

L. His place is in peace.

R. And his abode in Sion.

Our Father...

— STAND —

Lesson VII

(Hebrews 9:11-14)

But Christ, being come an high priest of the good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands; that is, not of this creation, neither by the blood of goats or of calves but by his own blood entered once into the holies, having obtained everlasting redemption. For if the blood of goats and of oxen and the ashes of an heifer being sprinkled sanctify such as are defiled, to the cleansing of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who by the Holy Spirit offered himself unspotted unto God, cleanse our conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

L. The kings of the earth stood up and the princes met together against the Lord and against his Christ.

R. Why have the Gentiles raged and the people devised vain things against the Lord and against his Christ?

Lesson VIII

(Hebrews 9:15-18)

And therefore he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of his death, for the redemption of those transgressions which were under the former testament, they that are called may receive the promise of everlasting inheritance. For where there is a testament, the death of the testator must of necessity come in. For a testament is of force after men are dead, otherwise it is as yet of no strength whilst the testator liveth. Whereupon neither was the first indeed dedicated without blood.

L. I am counted among them that go down to the pit; I am become as a man without help, free among the dead.

R. They have laid me in the lower pit, in the dark places and in the shadow of death. I am become as a man without help, free among the dead.

Lesson IX

(Hebrews 9:19-22)

For when every commandment of the law had been read by Moses to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, saying: This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you. The tabernacle also and all the vessels of the ministry in like manner he sprinkled with blood. And almost all things, according to the law, are cleansed with blood; and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

L. Having buried our Lord, they sealed up the sepulchre, rolling a stone before the entrance of the sepulchre, placing soldiers to guard him.

R. The chief priests went to Pilate and sought his permission, placing soldiers to guard him. Having buried our Lord, they sealed up the sepulchre, rolling a stone before the entrance of the sepulchre, placing soldiers to guard him.

The Office of Matins ends here.

Lauds I

Lauds begins at once with the first antiphon as given below.

— SIT —

Ant. 1 O death! I will be thy death. O the underworld, I will be thy ruin.

Psalm 50

Have mercy on me, O God, according to thy great mercy. And according to the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my iniquity.

4 Wash me yet more from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

5 For I know my iniquity and my sin is always before me.

6 To thee only have I sinned and have done evil before thee that thou mayest be justified when thou speakest and be in the right when thou judgest.

7 For behold I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother conceive me.

8 For behold thou hast loved truth, the uncertain and hidden things of thy wisdom thou hast made manifest to me.

9 Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be cleansed; thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow.

10 To my hearing thou shalt give joy and gladness, and the bones that have been humbled shall rejoice.

11 Turn away thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

12 Create a clean heart in me, O God, and renew a right spirit within my bowels.

13 Cast me not away from thy face, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

14 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and strengthen me with a perfect spirit.

15 I will teach the unjust thy ways and the wicked shall be converted to thee.

16 Deliver me from blood, O God, thou God of my salvation, and my tongue shall extol thy justice.

17 O Lord, thou wilt open my lips and my mouth shall declare thy praise.

18 For if thou hadst desired sacrifice, I would indeed have given it, with burnt offerings thou wilt not be delighted.

19 A sacrifice to God is an afflicted spirit, a contrite and humbled heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

20 Deal favourably, O Lord, in thy good will with Sion that the walls of Jerusalem may be built up.

21 Then shalt thou accept the sacrifice of justice, oblations and whole burnt offerings; then shall they lay calves upon thy altar.

Ant. O death! I will be thy death. O the underworld, I will be thy ruin.

Ant. 2 They shall mourn for him as for an only son because the innocent Lord is slain.

Psalm 91

It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord and to sing praises to thy name, O thou Most High,

3 to shew forth thy mercy in the morning and thy truth in the night,

4 upon an instrument of ten strings, upon the psalter, with a cantic upon the harp.

5 For thou hast given me, O Lord, a delight in thy doings, and in the works of thy hands I shall rejoice.

6 O Lord, how great are thy works! Thy thoughts are exceeding deep.

7 The senseless man shall not know, nor will the fool understand these things.

8 When the wicked shall spring up as grass and all the workers of iniquity shall appear; [it is] that they may perish for ever and ever.

9 But thou, O Lord, art most high for evermore.

10 For behold thy enemies, O Lord, for behold thy enemies shall perish; and all the workers of iniquity shall be scattered.

11 But my horn shall be exalted like that of the wild ox and my old age in plentiful mercy.

12 My eye also hath looked down upon my enemies and my ear shall hear of the downfall of the malignant that rise up against me.

13 The just shall flourish like the palm tree; he shall grow up like the cedar of Libanus.

14 They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of the house of our God.

15 They shall still increase in a fruitful old age and shall be well treated,

16 that they may shew that the Lord our God is righteous and there is no iniquity in him.

Ant. They shall mourn for him as for an only son because the innocent Lord is slain.

Ant. 3 Attend, all ye people, and see my sorrow.

Psalm 63

Hear, O God, my prayer, when I make supplication to thee. Deliver my soul from the fear of the enemy.

3 Thou hast protected me from the assembly of the malignant, from the multitude of the workers of iniquity.

4 For they have whetted their tongues like a sword, they have bent their bow a bitter thing,

5 to shoot in secret the undefiled.

6 They will shoot at him on a sudden and will not fear. They are resolute in wickedness. They have talked of hiding snares; they have said: Who shall see them?

7 They have searched after iniquities, they have failed in their search. Man shall come to a deep heart.

8 And God shall be exalted. The arrows of children are their wounds.

9 And their tongues against them are made weak. All that saw them were troubled;

10 And every man was afraid. And they declared the works of God and understood his doings.

11 The just shall rejoice in the Lord and shall hope in him, and all the upright in heart shall be praised.

Ant. Attend, all ye people, and see my sorrow.

Ant. 4 From the gate of the tomb, O Lord, deliver my soul.

Canticle of Ezechias

(Isaiah 38:10-20)

I said: In the midst of my days I shall go to the gates of the underworld. I sought for the residue of my years.

11 I said: I shall no more at all see the salvation of God in the land of the living; I shall no more at all see the salvation of Israel on the earth; I shall no more at all see man.

12 My generation is at an end, and it is rolled away from me as a shepherd's tent. My life is cut off as by a weaver; whilst I was yet but beginning, he cut me off from morning even to night thou wilt make an end of me.

13 I hoped till morning, as a lion so hath he broken all my bones, from morning even to night thou wilt make an end of me.

14 I will cry like a young swallow, I will meditate like a dove. My eyes are weakened looking upward. Lord, I suffer violence answer thou for me.

15 What shall I say or what shall he answer for me, whereas he himself hath done it? I will recount to thee all my years in the bitterness of my soul.

16 O Lord, if man's life be such and the life of my spirit be in such things as these, thou shalt correct me and make me to live.

17 Behold, in peace is my bitterness most bitter, but thou hast delivered my soul that it should not perish; thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.

18 For the underworld shall not confess to thee, neither shall death praise thee, nor shall they that go down into the pit look for thy truth.

19 The living, the living, he shall give praise to thee, as I do this day. The

father shall make the truth known to the children.

20 O Lord, save me, and we will sing our psalms all the days of our life in the house of the Lord.

Ant. From the gate of the tomb, O Lord, deliver my soul.

Ant. 5 O all ye that pass by the way, attend and see if there be sorrow like unto my sorrow.

Psalm 150

Praise ye the Lord in his holy places, praise ye him in the firmament of his power.

2 Praise ye him for his mighty acts, praise ye him according to the multitude of his greatness.

3 Praise him with the sound of trumpet, praise him with psaltery and harp.

4 Praise him with timbrel and choir, praise him with strings and organs.

5 Praise him on high sounding cymbals, praise him on cymbals of joy; let every spirit praise the Lord.

Ant. O all ye that pass by the way, attend and see if there be sorrow like unto my sorrow.

L. My flesh shall rest in hope.

R. And thou wilt not suffer thy holy one to see corruption.

— STAND —

Ant. The women sitting near the tomb mourned, weeping for the Lord.

Canticle of Zachary (Benedictus)

(Luke 1:68-79)

✠ **B**LESSED be the Lord God of Israel because he hath visited and wrought the redemption of his people and hath raised up a horn of salvation to us in the house of David his servant,

As he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets, who are from the beginning:

Salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all that hate us,

To perform mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy testament,

The oath, which he swore to Abraham our father, that he would grant to us,

That being delivered from the hand of our enemies we may serve him without fear,

In holiness and justice before him all our days.

And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest, for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways,

To give knowledge of salvation to his people unto the remission of their sins

Through the bowels of the mercy of our God in which the Orient from on high hath visited us,

To enlighten them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to direct our feet into the way of peace.

Ant. The women sitting near the tomb mourned, weeping for the Lord.

The highest candle, still lit, is now taken from the hearse and concealed beneath the altar on the Epistle side. This candle is extinguished after the Office is complete.

L. Christ became for our sake obedient unto death, even to the death of the cross. For which cause God also hath exalted him and hath given him a name which is above all names.

Our Father...

L. Look down, O Lord, we beseech thee, upon this thy family for which our Lord Jesus Christ hesitated not to be delivered into the hands of wicked men and to undergo the punishment of the cross.

R. Who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

This Office is complete; nothing more is added.

ADVENT PRAYERS



St. Andrew Advent Prayer

Said daily beginning on St. Andrew's Feast Day through the Vigil of Christmas.

Hail and blessed be the hour and the moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Blessed Virgin Mary at midnight in Bethlehem in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my petitions. Through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing of the Advent Wreath

The blessing is only done once on the First Lord's Day in Advent before the lighting of the first candle.

L. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

LET US PRAY: O God, by whose word things are sanctified, pour forth thy blessing upon this wreath, and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ and may receive from thee abundant graces. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sprinkle the wreath with holy water.

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Before your main meal of the day, light the candle[s] on the Advent Wreath, per the following instructions, and say Daily Advent Antiphons for the appropriate week. After your meal, blow out the candle[s].

The Advent wreath is lit in sequence, with the lighting of each new candle bringing you closer to Christmas:

1) You light the first candle, which is purple, on the First Lord's Day in Advent and every day that week.

2) The second week, you light the first two purple candles on the Second Lord's Day in Advent and do the same every day that week.

3) On the Third Lord's Day in Advent, you light the first two purple candles plus the rose "joy" candle, and you light those same three candles every day that week.

4) On the Fourth Lord's Day in Advent, you light the first two purple candles, the rose candle, and the final purple candle (four candles total), and you light all four candles every day that week.

5) On Christmas Day, you light all of those candles plus the Christ candle, if your wreath has one.

Daily Advent Antiphons

Said daily beginning the 1st Lord's Day of Advent through the Vigil of Christmas. Begin with "Daily Prayer" and then recite the prayer for the appropriate week.

Daily Prayer

Drop down dew from above, ye heavens, and let the clouds rain the Just One. Let the earth be opened and bud forth the Savior.

First Week

Rejoice, O daughter of Sion, and be jubilantly glad, O daughter of Israel. Behold, thy Lord comes and in his day a great light shall arise. The

mountains shall drop down sweetness and the hills shall flow with milk and honey, for the Great Prophet shall come and he shall renew Jerusalem.

Antiphon: All. Come, let us adore our Lord and King who is about to come to us!

Behold, thy God comes, the Man of the house of David, to sit upon the throne. And you shall see and your heart shall rejoice.

Antiphon

Second Week

Behold, the Lord our protector comes, the Holy One of Israel, having on his head the regal crown. And he shall rule from sea to sea and from the river to the ends of the earth.

Antiphon

Behold, the Lord comes and he will not lie. Should he tarry, await him, for he shall assuredly come and shall not delay.

Antiphon

Third Week

The Lord shall come down as rain upon the fleece, and in his days shall justice spring up and abundance of peace. And all kings of the earth shall adore him, all nations shall serve him.

Antiphon

A Child is born to us, and a Son is given to us, and the government is upon his shoulder. And his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, God the Mighty, the Father of the World to Come, the Prince of Peace.

Antiphon

Fourth Week

And thou, Bethlehem Ephrata, art a little one among the thousands of Juda. Out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be the ruler in Israel. And his going forth is from the beginning from the days of eternity.

Antiphon

Our forerunner, Jesus, the Lamb undefiled, has entered the Holy of holies for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchisedech. He is the King of justice, having neither beginning of days nor end of life.

Antiphon

From 12/17 to 12/23

Said daily during Vespers, beginning the 17th day of the 12th month. If you do not pray Vespers, then pray the antiphons with the prayer before your meal.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Sing this

1) O come, O come, Emmanuel, /
And ransom captive Israel, / That
mourns in lonely exile here / Until the
Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel / Shall come to thee, O
Israel.

The "O" Antiphons

12/17: O Wisdom, who didst come out of the mouth of the most High, reaching from end to end and ordering all things mightily and sweetly: Come and teach us the way of prudence.

12/18: O Adonai and leader of the house of Israel, who didst appear to Moses in the flame of the burning bush and didst give unto him the law on Sinai: Come and with an outstretched arm redeem us.

12/19: O Root of Jesse, who dost stand for an ensign of the people, before whom kings shall keep silence and unto whom the Gentiles shall make their supplication: Come to deliver us, and tarry not.

12/20: O Key of David and Sceptre of the house of Israel, who dost open and no man doth shut, who dost shut and no man doth open: Come and bring forth from his prisonhouse the captive that sitteth in darkness and in the shadow of death.

12/21: O Dawn of the East, brightness of the light eternal and Sun of Justice: Come and enlighten them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

12/22: O King of the Gentiles and the desired of them, thou cornerstone that dost make both one: Come and deliver man, whom thou didst form out of the dust of the earth.

12/23: O Emmanuel, our King and lawgiver, the expected of the nations and their Savior: Come to save us, O Lord our God.

Advent Resolutions Prayer

This prayer can be said on the Lord's Day each week during Advent.

O Infant Savior, the prophets of old longed for thy coming into their world, we long for thy return to our modern world—another coming of

thyself and thy laws into our pagan times. Only then will we breathe in a Christian atmosphere in which joy replaces sorrow, in which love casts out darkness.

O Mary, our mother, be our model during this holy season. Christ was alive within thee during the first Advent; we want him to be alive within us more than ever during this Advent. May we not merely possess our precious Catholic faith—rather, may it take complete possession of us so that wherever we go, whatever we do or say, it will be the Christ Child that inspires us.

We resolve to make our Christmas a holy day with Christ instead of a holiday without him. We resolve to observe Christmas as the birthday of Christ and not as a day to give and receive presents. And we resolve to help, if possible, at least one worthy poor family in honor of the Holy Family of Bethlehem. Finally, we promise every day to give glory to God in the highest and to work and pray for peace on earth among men of good will. Amen.

On the Manger Scene and other Advent and Christmas decorations

On Christmas Decorations: Put up the Manger Scene and Christmas lights about two weeks before Christmas. But do not put in the Wise Men until the eve of Epiphany Day. And do not put up the indoor Christmas items until Christmas Eve, preferable after sundown. The Manger Scene, along with other Christmas decorations, should be taken down on 1/14.

LENTEN PRAYERS



The Penitential Psalms

Recite the [Act of Contrition](#), p. 17.

Antiphon: Remember not.

Psalm 6

2 O Lord, rebuke me not in thy indignation nor chastise me in thy wrath.

3 Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am weak. Heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled.

4 And my soul is troubled exceedingly. But thou, O Lord, how long?

5 Turn to me, O Lord, and deliver my soul. O save me for thy mercy's sake.

6 For there is no one in death that is mindful of thee, and who shall confess to thee in the underworld?

7 I have laboured in my groanings. Every night I will wash my bed, I will water my couch with my tears.

8 My eye is troubled through indignation. I have grown old amongst all my enemies.

9 Depart from me all ye workers of iniquity for the Lord hath heard the voice of my weeping.

10 The Lord hath heard my supplication, the Lord hath received my prayer.

11 Let all my enemies be ashamed and be very much troubled, let them be turned back and be ashamed very speedily.

Glory Be...

Psalm 31

1 Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven and whose sins are covered.

2 Blessed is the man to whom the Lord hath not imputed sin and in whose spirit there is no guile.

3 Because I was silent my bones grew old whilst I cried out all the day long.

4 For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me. I am turned in my anguish whilst the thorn is fastened.

5 I have acknowledged my sin to thee, and my injustice I have not concealed. I said I will confess against myself my injustice to the Lord, and thou hast forgiven the wickedness of my sin.

6 For this shall every one that is holy pray to thee in a seasonable time. And yet in a flood of many waters, they shall not come nigh unto him.

7 Thou art my refuge from the trouble which hath encompassed me, my joy, deliver me from them that surround me.

8 I will give thee understanding, and I will instruct thee in this way in which

thou shalt go. I will fix my eyes upon thee.

9 Do not become like the horse and the mule who have no understanding; with bit and bridle bind fast their jaws, who come not near unto thee.

10 Many are the scourges of the sinner, but mercy shall encompass him that hopeth in the Lord.

11 Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, ye just, and glory all ye right of heart.

Glory Be...

Psalm 37

2 Rebuke me not, O Lord, in thy indignation nor chastise me in thy wrath.

3 For thy arrows are fastened in me, and thy hand hath been strong upon me.

4 There is no health in my flesh because of thy wrath; there is no peace for my bones because of my sins.

5 For my iniquities are gone over my head and as a heavy burden are become heavy upon me.

6 My sores are putrified and corrupted because of my foolishness.

7 I am become miserable and am bowed down even to the end. I walked sorrowful all the day long.

8 For my loins are filled with illusions, and there is no health in my flesh.

9 I am afflicted and humbled exceedingly. I roared with the groaning of my heart.

10 Lord, all my desire is before thee and my groaning is not hidden from thee.

11 My heart is troubled, my strength hath left me, and the light of my eyes itself is not with me.

12 My friends and my neighbours have drawn near and stood against me. And they that were near me stood afar off.

13 And they that sought my soul used violence. And they that sought evils to me spoke vain things and studied deceits all the day long.

14 But I, as a deaf man, heard not, and as a dumb man, not opening his mouth.

15 And I became as a man that heareth not and that hath no reproofs in his mouth.

16 For in thee, O Lord, have I hoped; thou wilt hear me, O Lord my God.

17 For I said: Lest at any time my enemies rejoice over me and whilst my feet are moved, they speak great things against me.

18 For I am ready for scourges and my sorrow is continually before me.

19 For I will declare my iniquity and be distressed for my sin.

20 But my enemies live and are stronger than I, and they that hate me wrongfully are multiplied.

21 They that render evil for good have detracted me because I followed goodness.

22 Forsake me not, O Lord my God, do not thou depart from me.

23 Attend unto my help, O Lord, the God of my salvation.

Glory Be...

Psalm 50

3 Have mercy on me, O God, according to thy great mercy. And

according to the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my iniquity.

4 Wash me yet more from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

5 For I know my iniquity and my sin is always before me.

6 To thee only have I sinned and have done evil before thee that thou mayest be justified when thou speakest and be in the right when thou judgest.

7 For behold I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother conceive me.

8 For behold thou hast loved truth, the uncertain and hidden things of thy wisdom thou hast made manifest to me.

9 Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be cleansed; thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow.

10 To my hearing thou shalt give joy and gladness, and the bones that have been humbled shall rejoice.

11 Turn away thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

12 Create a clean heart in me, O God, and renew a right spirit within my bowels.

13 Cast me not away from thy face, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

14 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and strengthen me with a perfect spirit.

15 I will teach the unjust thy ways and the wicked shall be converted to thee.

16 Deliver me from blood, O God, thou God of my salvation, and my tongue shall extol thy justice.

17 O Lord, thou wilt open my lips and my mouth shall declare thy praise.

18 For if thou hadst desired sacrifice, I would indeed have given it, with burnt offerings thou wilt not be delighted.

19 A sacrifice to God is an afflicted spirit, a contrite and humbled heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

20 Deal favourably, O Lord, in thy good will with Sion that the walls of Jerusalem may be built up.

21 Then shalt thou accept the sacrifice of justice, oblations and whole burnt offerings; then shall they lay calves upon thy altar.

Glory Be...

Psalm 101

2 Hear, O Lord, my prayer, and let my cry come to thee.

3 Turn not away thy face from me in the day when I am in trouble, incline thy ear to me. In what day soever I shall call upon thee, hear me speedily.

4 For my days are vanished like smoke, and my bones are grown dry like fuel for the fire.

5 I am smitten as grass and my heart is withered because I forgot to eat my bread.

6 Through the voice of my groaning, my bone hath cleaved to my flesh.

7 I am become like to a pelican of the wilderness; I am like a night raven in the house.

8 I have watched and am become as a sparrow all alone on the housetop.

9 All the day long my enemies reproached me, and they that praised me did swear against me.

10 For I did eat ashes like bread and mingled my drink with weeping,

11 Because of thy anger and indignation, for having lifted me up thou hast thrown me down.

12 My days have declined like a shadow, and I am withered like grass.

13 But thou, O Lord, endurest forever, and thy memorial to all generations.

14 Thou shalt arise and have mercy on Sion, for it is time to have mercy on it, for the time is come.

15 For the stones thereof have pleased thy servants, and they shall have pity on the earth thereof.

16 And the Gentiles shall fear thy name, O Lord, and all the kings of the earth thy glory.

17 For the Lord hath built up Sion,
and he shall be seen in his glory.

18 He hath had regard to the prayer of
the humble, and he hath not despised
their petition.

19 Let these things be written unto
another generation, and the people
that shall be created shall praise the
Lord,

20 Because he hath looked forth from
his high sanctuary, from heaven the
Lord hath looked upon the earth,

21 That he might hear the groans of
them that are in fetters, that he might
release the children of the slain,

22 That they may declare the name of
the Lord in Sion and his praise in
Jerusalem,

23 When the people assemble
together and kings, to serve the Lord.

24 He answered him in the way of his
strength: Declare unto me the
fewness of my days.

25 Call me not away in the midst of
my days; thy years are unto
generation and generation.

26 In the beginning, O Lord, thou
foundedst the earth, and the heavens
are the works of thy hands.

27 They shall perish but thou
remainest, and all of them shall grow
old like a garment. And as a vesture
thou shalt change them, and they
shall be changed.

28 But thou art always the selfsame,
and thy years shall not fail.

29 The children of thy servants shall
continue, and their seed shall be
directed forever.

Glory Be...

Psalm 129 (De Profundis)

1 Out of the depths I have cried to
thee, O Lord.

2 Lord, hear my voice. Let thy ears be
attentive to the voice of my
supplication.

3 If thou, O Lord, wilt mark
iniquities, Lord, who shall stand it.

4 For with thee there is merciful
forgiveness; and by reason of thy law,
I have waited for thee, O Lord. My
soul hath relied on his word.

5 My soul hath hoped in the Lord.

6 From the morning watch even until
night, let Israel hope in the Lord.

7 Because with the Lord there is
mercy and with him plentiful
redemption.

8 And he shall redeem Israel from all
his iniquities.

Glory Be...

Psalm 142

1 Hear, O Lord, my prayer, give ear
to my supplication in thy truth; hear
me in thy justice.

2 And enter not into judgment with
thy servant, for in thy sight no man
living shall be justified.

3 For the enemy hath persecuted my
soul. He hath brought down my life to
the earth. He hath made me to dwell
in darkness as those that have been
dead of old.

4 And my spirit is in anguish within
me; my heart within me is troubled.

5 I remembered the days of old, I
meditated on all thy works, I
meditated upon the works of thy
hands.

6 I stretched forth my hands to thee;
my soul is as earth without water unto
thee.

7 Hear me speedily, O Lord, my spirit
hath fainted away. Turn not away thy
face from me lest I be like unto them
that go down into the pit.

8 Cause me to hear thy mercy in the
morning, for in thee have I hoped.
Make the way known to me wherein I
should walk, for I have lifted up my
soul to thee.

9 Deliver me from my enemies, O
Lord, to thee have I fled.

10 Teach me to do thy will, for thou
art my God. Thy good spirit shall lead
me into the right land.

11 For thy name's sake, O Lord, thou
wilt quicken me in thy justice. Thou
wilt bring my soul out of trouble,

12 And in thy mercy thou wilt
destroy my enemies. And thou wilt
cut off all them that afflict my soul,
for I am thy servant.

Glory Be...

Antiphon: Remember not, O Lord,
our offences nor those of our parents;
nor take thou revenge of our sins.

Recite [The Confiteor and Absolution](#),
p. 102.

The Stations of the Cross

When recited as a group: The leader announces all titles and leads the prayers written in italics; the leader (L), responders (R), and whole group (All) read their parts as designated. Stand for each Station unless otherwise noted. But kneel for the Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, and following invocation. Stand to sing the Stabat Mater verse that completes each Station, and sing it while proceeding to the next Station. Genuflect at "Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world."

L. Let each one, kneeling before the high altar, make an Act of Contrition and then say,

Preparatory Prayer

All. O most merciful Jesus, with a contrite heart and penitent spirit I bow down in profound humility before thy divine majesty. I adore thee as my supreme Lord and Master; I believe in thee, I hope in thee, I love thee above all things. I am heartily sorry for having offended thee, my supreme and greatest good. I resolve to amend my life; and I hope to obtain thy mercy. The sight of thy holy cross on which thou didst die inspires me with hope and consolation. I will, therefore, meditate on thy sufferings and visit the Stations of thy Passion in company with thy sorrowful Mother and my guardian angel with the intention of promoting thy honor and saving my soul.

O merciful Redeemer, who hast said "And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all things to myself," draw my heart and my love to thee, that I may perform this devotion as perfectly as possible and that I may live and die in union with thee. Amen.

First Station

Jesus Is Condemned to Death



L. We adore thee, O Christ, and we praise thee.

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world.

L. Jesus, most innocent, who never committed sin, was condemned to death, and moreover to the most ignominious death of the cross. To avoid insurrection, Pilate delivered Jesus into the hands of the Jews. A fearful crime—to condemn Innocence to death for the sake of temporal peace!

R. O innocent Jesus! I, having sinned, am guilty of everlasting death; but thou willingly dost accept the unjust sentence of death so that I might live. For whom, then, shall I henceforth live if not for thee, my Lord? If I loved men more than thee, I could not be thy servant. Let me, therefore, rather displease men and all the world than displease thee, O Jesus.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

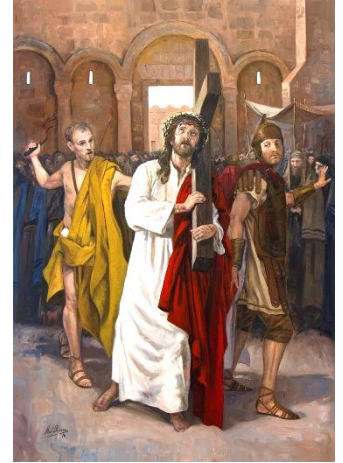
L. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us and on our suffering brothers in purgatory!

At the cross her station keeping, /
Stood the mournful Mother weeping, /
Close to Jesus to the last.

Second Station

Jesus Is Made to Carry His Cross



L. We adore thee, O Christ, and we praise thee.

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world.

L. When our divine Savior beheld the cross, he most willingly stretched out his bleeding arms, lovingly embraced it, and tenderly kissed it. And placing it on his bruised shoulders, he, although almost exhausted, joyfully carried it.

R. O my Jesus, I cannot be thy friend and follower if I refuse to carry the cross. O dearly beloved cross! I embrace thee, I kiss thee (*If you were wearing a crucifix, kiss it.*), I joyfully accept thee from the hands of my God. Above all, may I glory in the cross of my Lord and Redeemer. By it the world shall be crucified to me and I to the world, that I may be thine forever.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

L. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us and on our suffering brothers in purgatory!

Through her heart, his sorrow sharing, /
All his bitter anguish bearing, /
Now at length the sword has passed.

Third Station

Jesus Falls the First Time



L. We adore thee, O Christ, and we praise thee.

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world.

L. Our dear Savior, carrying the cross, was so weakened by its heavy weight as to fall exhausted to the ground. Our sins and misdeeds were the heavy burden which oppressed him. The cross was to him light and sweet, but our sins were galling and insupportable.

R. O my Jesus, thou didst bear my burden and the heavy weight of my sins. Should I, then, not bear in union with thee my easy burden of suffering and accept the sweet yoke of thy commandments? Thy yoke is sweet and thy burden is light; I willingly accept it. I will take up my cross and follow thee even in hard and difficult times.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

L. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us and on our suffering brothers in purgatory!

Oh, how sad and sore distressed /
Was that Mother highly blessed /
Of the sole-begotten One!

Fourth Station

Jesus Meets His Sorrowful Mother



L. We adore thee, O Christ, and we praise thee.

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world.

L. How painful, how sad, how sorrowful, it must have been for Mary to behold her beloved Son laden with the burden of the cross. What unspeakable pangs her tender heart experienced! How earnestly did she desire to die in place of Jesus or at least with him! Implore this sorrowful Mother, that she assist you in the hour of your death.

R. O Jesus, O Mary, I am the cause of the great and manifold pains which pierce thy loving hearts! Oh, that also my heart would feel and experience at least some of thy sufferings! O Mother of sorrows, let me participate in the sufferings which thou and thy Son endured for me; and let me experience thy sorrow so that, afflicted with thee, I may enjoy thy assistance in the hour of my death.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

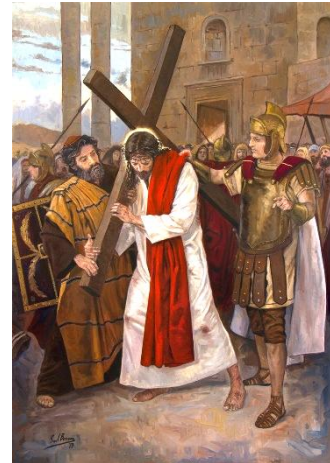
L. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us and on our suffering brothers in purgatory!

Christ above in torment hangs, /
She beneath beholds the pangs /
Of her dying, glorious Son.

Fifth Station

Simon of Cyrene Helps Jesus to Carry His Cross



L. We adore thee, O Christ, and we praise thee.

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world.

L. Simon of Cyrene was compelled to help Jesus carry his cross, and Jesus accepted his assistance. How willingly would he also permit you to carry the cross. He calls, but do you hear him? He invites you, but do you decline? What a reproach to bear the cross reluctantly!

R. O Jesus! Whosoever does not take up his cross and follow thee is not worthy of thee. Behold, I join thee in the way of thy cross; I will be thy assistant, following thy bloody footsteps, that I may come to thee to life everlasting.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

L. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us and on our suffering brothers in purgatory!

Is there one who would not weep, /
/ Whelmed in miseries so deep /
Christ's dear Mother to behold?

Sixth Station

Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus



L. We adore thee, O Christ, and we praise thee.

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world.

L. Veronica, impelled by devotion and compassion, presents her veil to Jesus to wipe his disfigured face and Jesus imprints on it his holy countenance, a great recompense for so small a service. What return do you make to your Savior for his great and manifold benefits?

R. Most merciful Jesus! What return shall I make for all the benefits thou hast bestowed upon me? Behold, I consecrate myself entirely to thy service. I offer and consecrate to thee my heart; imprint on it thy sacred image, never again to be effaced by sin.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

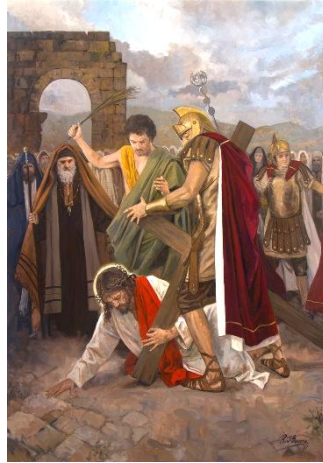
L. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us and on our suffering brothers in purgatory!

Can the human heart refrain /
From partaking in her pain, / In
that Mother's pain untold?

Seventh Station

Jesus Falls the Second Time



L. We adore thee, O Christ, and we praise thee.

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world.

L. The suffering Jesus, under the weight of his cross, again falls to the ground; but the cruel executioners do not permit him to rest a moment. Pushing and striking him, they urge him onward. It is our sins which oppresses Jesus. Witnessing this, how can I sin?

R. O Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me! Offer me thy helping hand, and aid me that I may not fall again into my former sins. From this very moment I will earnestly strive to reform; nevermore will I sin! Thou, O support of the weak, by thy grace, without which I can do nothing good, strengthen me to carry out faithfully this my resolution.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

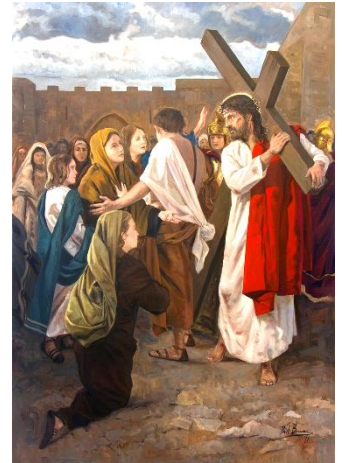
L. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us and on our suffering brothers in purgatory!

Bruised, derided, cursed, defiled, /
She beheld her tender Child, / All
with bloody scourges rent.

Eighth Station

The Women of Jerusalem Weep over Jesus



L. We adore thee, O Christ, and we praise thee.

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world.

L. These devoted women, moved by compassion, weep over the suffering Savior. But he turns to them, saying: "Weep not for me, who am innocent, but weep for yourselves and for your children." Weep thou also, for there is nothing more pleasing to our Lord and nothing more profitable for thyself than tears shed from contrition for thy sins.

R. O Jesus, who shall give to my eyes a torrent of tears that I may weep for my sins? I beseech thee, through thy bitter and bloody tears, to move my heart by thy divine grace so that from my eyes tears may flow abundantly and that I may weep over thy sufferings, and still more over their cause, my sins.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

L. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us and on our suffering brothers in purgatory!

For the sins of his own nation /
Saw him hang in desolation / Till
his spirit forth he sent.

Ninth Station

Jesus Falls the Third Time



L. We adore thee, O Christ, and we praise thee.

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world.

L. Jesus, arriving exhausted at the foot of Calvary, falls for the third time to the ground. His love for us, however, is not diminished, not extinguished. What a fearfully oppressive burden our sins must be to cause Jesus to fall so often! Had he, however, not taken them upon himself, they would have plunged us into the abyss of Gehenna.

R. Most merciful Jesus, I return thee thanks for giving me the grace and help to not continue in sin and to not fall, as I have so often deserved, into the depths of Gehenna. Kindle in me an earnest desire of amendment. Let me never again relapse, but vouchsafe me the grace to persevere in holiness.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

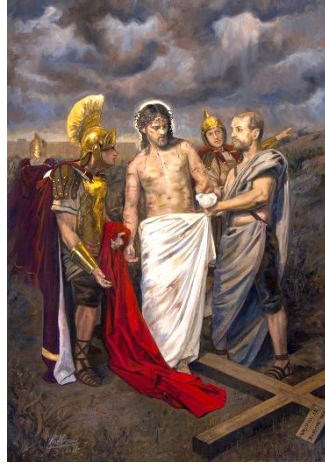
L. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us and on our suffering brothers in purgatory!

O thou Mother! fount of love! /
Touch my spirit from above, /
Make my heart with thine accord.

Tenth Station

Jesus Is Stripped of His Garments



L. We adore thee, O Christ, and we praise thee.

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world.

L. When our Savior arrived on Calvary, he was cruelly despoiled of his garments. How painful this must have been because they adhered to his wounded and torn body and with them parts of his bloody skin were removed! All the wounds of Jesus are renewed. Jesus was despoiled of his garments. How happy will I also die after laying aside my former self with all evil desires and sinful inclinations!

R. Help me, O Jesus, to be the new man you want me to be if I am not. Help me to be renewed according to thy will and desire. I will not spare myself, however painful this should be for me. Help me to conform my will when it conflicts with thine. I desire to die in order to live for thee forever.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

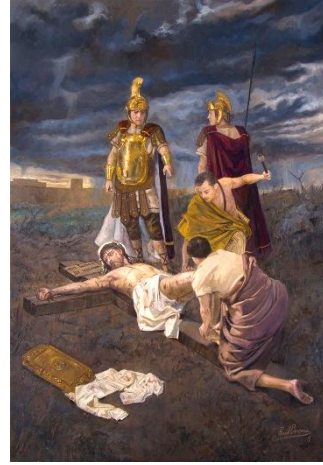
L. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us and on our suffering brothers in purgatory!

Make me feel as thou hast felt; /
Make my soul to glow and melt /
With the love of Christ, my Lord.

Eleventh Station

Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross



L. We adore thee, O Christ, and we praise thee.

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world.

L. Jesus, being stripped of his garments, was violently laid upon the cross and his hands and feet nailed thereto. In such excruciating pains he remained silent because it pleased his heavenly Father. He suffered patiently because he suffered for me. How do I act in sufferings and in troubles? Help me not to be fretful, impatient, and full of complaints!

R. O Jesus, gracious Lamb of God, I renounce forever my impatience. Crucify, O Lord, my flesh and its concupiscences; scourge, scathe, and punish me in this world, but spare me in the next. I commit myself to thee, resigning myself to thy holy will. May it be done in all things!

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

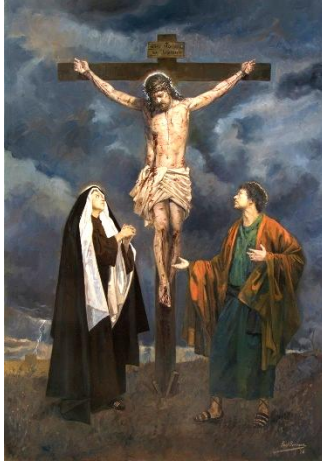
L. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us and on our suffering brothers in purgatory!

Holy Mother, pierce me through! /
In my heart each wound renew /
Of my Savior crucified.

Twelfth Station

Jesus Is Raised upon the Cross and Dies



L. We adore thee, O Christ, and we praise thee.

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Remain kneeling until the hymn.

L. Behold Jesus crucified! Behold his wounds received for love of you! His whole appearance betokens love: his head is bent to kiss you, his arms are extended to embrace you, his heart is open to receive you. O superabundance of love, Jesus, the Son of God, dies upon the cross so that man may live and be delivered from everlasting death!

R. O most amiable Jesus! Who will grant me that I may die for thee! I will at least endeavor to die to the world. How must I regard the world and its vanities when I behold thee hanging on the cross, covered with wounds? O Jesus, receive me into thy wounded heart. I belong entirely to thee; for thee do I ultimately desire to live and die.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

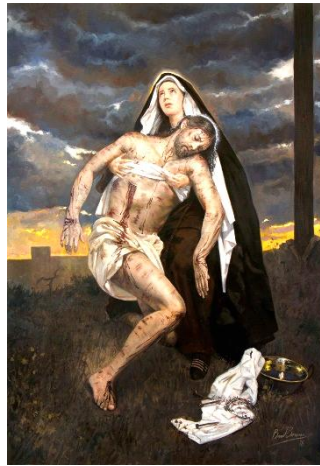
L. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us and on our suffering brothers in purgatory!

Let me share with thee his pain, /
Who for all our sins was slain, /
Who for me in torments died.

Thirteenth Station

Jesus Is Taken Down from the Cross and Placed in the Arms of His Mother



L. We adore thee, O Christ, and we praise thee.

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world.

L. Jesus did not descend from the cross but remained on it until he died. And when taken down from it, he, in death as in life, rested on the bosom of his Mother. Persevere in your resolutions of reform, and do not part from the cross; he who persevereth to the end shall be saved. Consider, moreover, how pure the heart should be that receives the body and blood of Christ in the adorable Sacrament of the Altar.

R. O Lord Jesus, thy lifeless body, mangled and lacerated, found a worthy resting place on the bosom of thy Virgin Mother. If I have unworthily received thee in Holy Communion while in mortal sin, please forgive me. Create in me a new heart, that I may worthily receive thy most sacred body and blood in Holy Communion and that thou mayest remain in me and I in thee forever.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

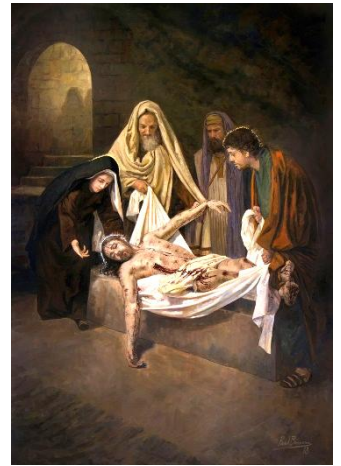
L. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us and on our suffering brothers in purgatory!

Let me mingle tears with thee, /
Mourning him who mourned for me, /
All the days that I may live.

Fourteenth Station

Jesus Is Laid in the Sepulchre



L. We adore thee, O Christ, and we praise thee.

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world.

L. The body of Jesus is interred in a sepulchre not his own. He would not even have a grave of his own because he was not of this world. You, who are so attached to the evil things of the world, henceforth despise them that you may not perish with them.

R. O Jesus, thou hast set me apart from the world; what, then, shall I seek therein? Thou hast created me for heaven; what, then, have I to do with this evil world? Depart from me, deceitful world, with thy vanities! Henceforth I will follow the way of the cross traced out for me by my Redeemer and journey onward to my heavenly home, there to dwell forever and ever.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

L. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us and on our suffering brothers in purgatory!

By the cross with thee to stay, /
There with thee to weep and pray, /
Is all I ask of thee to give.

Concluding Prayer

Kneel

All. Almighty and eternal God, merciful Father, who hast given to the human race thy beloved Son as an example of humility,

obedience, and patience to precede us on the way of life, bearing the cross: Graciously grant that we, inflamed by his love, may take up the sweet yoke of his gospel together with the mortification of the cross, following him as his true disciples, so that we shall one day gloriously rise, as he did, and joyfully hear the final sentence from him: "Come, ye blessed of my Father, and possess the kingdom which was prepared for you from the beginning," where thou reignest with the Son and the Holy Spirit, and where we hope to be with thee, forever and ever. Amen.

If there is a pope, pray the following prayers: I offer this Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be for the intentions of Pope N...

If there is no pope, pray the following prayers: I offer this Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be for a future pope and the papacy *(and if there is a spiritual ruler)* and for the intentions of our spiritual ruler N. ...

Stabat Mater (conclusion)
(Optional)

All (sing): Virgin of all virgins blest! / Listen to my fond request:
/ Let me share the grief of thine;

Let me, to my latest breath, / In my body bear the death / Of that dying Son of thine.

Wounded with his every wound, / Steep my soul till it hath swooned
/ In his very blood away.

Be to me, O Virgin, nigh, / Lest in flames I burn and die / In that awful Judgment Day.

Christ, when thou shalt call me hence, / Be thy Mother my defense, / Be thy cross, thy victory.

While my body here decays, / May my soul thy goodness praise
/ Safe in heaven with thee. Amen.

L. Pray for us, sorrowful Virgin.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

L. LET US PRAY: Grant, we beseech thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, that the most Blessed Virgin Mary, thy Mother, whose most holy soul was pierced with the sword of sorrow in the hour of thine own Passion, may intercede for us before the throne of thy mercy, now and at the hour of our death. Through thee, Jesus Christ, Savior of the world, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

THE HOLY ROSARY



How to Pray the Rosary

Begin the Rosary by making the Sign of the Cross with the rosary crucifix.

The Sign of the Cross

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

While holding the crucifix, pray the following Introductory Prayer and the Apostles' Creed:

Introductory Prayer

All. I unite with all the angels and saints in heaven. I unite with thee, O my Jesus, in order to praise worthily thy holy Mother and to praise thee in her and through her. I renounce all the distractions that I may have during this Rosary, which I wish to pray with modesty, attention, and devotion.

I offer thee, O most holy Trinity, this creed in honor of all the mysteries of our Faith, this Our Father and these three Hail Mary's in honor of the unity of thy essence and the trinity of thy Persons. I ask of thee a lively faith, a firm hope, and an ardent charity. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

L. I believe in God the Father almighty 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 the underworld; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

R. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the remission of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

On the single bead that follows the crucifix, pray the Our Father:

The Our Father

L. Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom

come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

R. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and let us not fall into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

On each of the next three beads, pray a Hail Mary with the petition for an increase of faith, hope, and charity:

The Hail Mary

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

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

On the single bead next to the medal, pray the Glory Be:

The Glory Be

L. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forever and ever. Amen.

Choose one of the sets of Mysteries (Joyful, Sorrowful, or Glorious), and holding the medal announce the title of the First Mystery. (For the titles of the Mysteries, refer to [The Rosary Mysteries](#), p. 86.) For example, "The First Joyful Mystery: the Annunciation." While holding the medal read the accompanying prayer ("We offer thee, O Lord Jesus...") and then pray the Our Father.

On each of the following ten beads, pray a Hail Mary while meditating on the First Mystery. On the single bead that follows, pray the Glory Be and the petition prayer for the Mystery ("May the grace of the Mystery of the..."). This completes the first decade. On that same bead, announce the Second Mystery, read its accompanying prayer and then pray the Our Father. On each of the ten beads that follow, pray a Hail Mary while meditating on the Second Mystery. Pray the Glory Be and the petition prayer for the Mystery on the single bead, thus ending the second decade. Continue in this way for the

third, fourth, and fifth decades, ending the fifth decade on the medal. On the medal pray the last Glory Be, the petition, and finish with [Ending Prayers for the Rosary](#), p. 89.

To continue with another chaplet (a set of five Mysteries) or the full 15-decade Rosary, do not pray the ending prayers for the Rosary at this point but simply announce the next Mystery on the medal and continue the prayers around the rosary as before, ending on the medal. Holding the medal, complete the Rosary with the [Ending Prayers for the Rosary](#), p. 89.

The Rosary Mysteries

The Joyful Mysteries

Unless otherwise noted, prayed on the 2nd and 5th weekdays throughout the year; the Lord's Day from the beginning of Advent until the beginning of Lent; from Christmas Day through Epiphany Day; and on the feast days of the Presentation in the Temple (1/4), the Annunciation (3/25), the Visitation (6/21), the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, and the Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (10/11)

1. The Annunciation



L. We offer thee, O Lord Jesus, this first decade in honor of thine incarnation in Mary's womb; and we ask of thee, through this Mystery and through her intercession, a profound humility. Amen.

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

L. Most joyful and Immaculate Heart of Mary. **R.** Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

L. May the grace of the Mystery of the Annunciation come down into our souls. Amen.

2. The Visitation



L. We offer thee, O Lord Jesus, this second decade in honor of the visitation of thy holy mother Mary to her cousin St. Elizabeth and the sanctification of St. John the Baptist; and we ask of thee, through this Mystery and through the intercession of thy holy Mother, charity toward our neighbor. Amen.

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

L. Most joyful and Immaculate Heart of Mary. **R.** Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

L. May the grace of the Mystery of the Visitation come down into our souls. Amen.

3. The Nativity



L. We offer thee, O Lord Jesus, this third decade in honor of thy nativity in the stable at Bethlehem; and we ask of thee, through this Mystery and through the intercession of thy holy Mother, detachment from the evil things of the world, non-idolization of

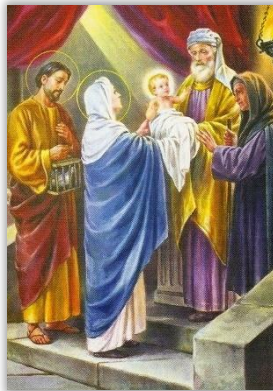
riches, and the spirit of poverty. Amen.

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

L. Most joyful and Immaculate Heart of Mary. **R.** Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

L. May the grace of the Mystery of the Nativity come down into our souls. Amen.

4. The Presentation in the Temple



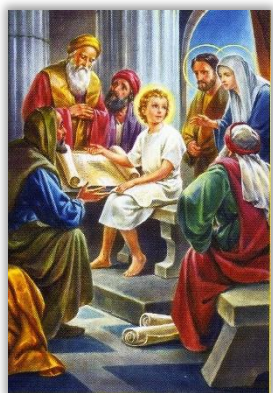
L. We offer thee, O Lord Jesus, this fourth decade in honor of thy Presentation in the temple and the Purification of Mary; and we ask of thee, through this Mystery and through the intercession of thy holy Mother, purity of soul and body. Amen.

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

L. Most joyful and Immaculate Heart of Mary. **R.** Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

L. May the grace of the Mystery of the Presentation in the Temple come down into our souls. Amen.

5. The Finding of Our Lord in the Temple



L. We offer thee, O Lord Jesus, this fifth decade in honor of Mary's finding thee in the temple; and we ask of thee, through this Mystery and through her intercession, the gift of true wisdom. Amen.

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

L. Most joyful and Immaculate Heart of Mary. **R.** Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

L. May the grace of the Mystery of the Finding of Our Lord in the Temple come down into our souls. Amen.

Continue with the [Ending Prayers for the Rosary](#), p. 89.

The Sorrowful Mysteries

Unless otherwise noted, prayed on the 3rd and 6th weekdays throughout the year; the Lord's Day throughout Lent; every day of Holy Week; and on the feast days of the Finding of the Holy Cross (5/3), the Most Precious Blood of Jesus (7/1), and the Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary (9/15).

1. The Agony in the Garden



L. We offer thee, O Lord Jesus, this sixth decade in honor of thine agony in the Garden of Olives; and we ask of thee, through this Mystery and through the intercession of thy holy Mother, contrition for our sins. Amen.

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

L. Most sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary. **R.** Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

L. May the grace of the Mystery of the Agony in the Garden come down into our souls. Amen.

2. The Scourging



L. We offer thee, O Lord Jesus, this seventh decade in honor of thy bloody scourging; and we ask of thee, through this Mystery and through the intercession of thy holy Mother, the grace of mortifying our senses. Amen.

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

L. Most sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary. **R.** Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

L. May the grace of the Mystery of the Scourging come down into our souls. Amen.

3. The Crowning with Thorns



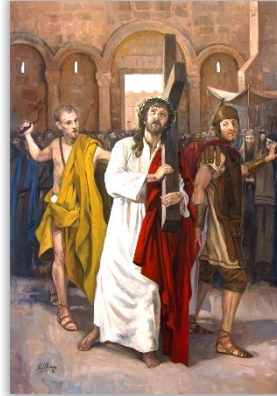
L. We offer thee, O Lord Jesus, this eighth decade in honor of thy being crowned with thorns; and we ask of thee, through this Mystery and through the intercession of thy holy Mother, contempt of the evil things of this world, and not to love or respect anyone or anything more than thee. Amen.

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

L. Most sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary. **R.** Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

L. May the grace of the Mystery of the Crowning with Thorns come down into our souls. Amen.

4. The Carrying of the Cross



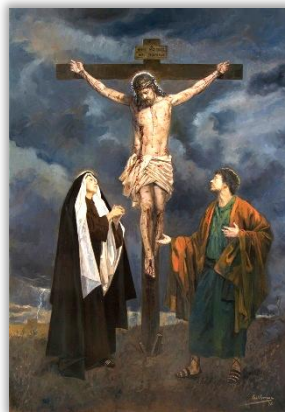
L. We offer thee, O Lord Jesus, this ninth decade in honor of thy carrying of the cross; and we ask of thee, through this Mystery and through the intercession of thy holy Mother, patience in bearing our crosses. Amen.

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

L. Most sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary. **R.** Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

L. May the grace of the Mystery of the Carrying of the Cross come down into our souls. Amen.

5. The Crucifixion



L. We offer thee, O Lord Jesus, this tenth decade in honor of thy crucifixion and ignominious death on Calvary; and we ask of thee, through this Mystery and through the

intercession of thy holy Mother, the conversion of sinners, the perseverance of the just, and the relief of the souls in purgatory. Amen.

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

L. Most sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary. **R.** Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

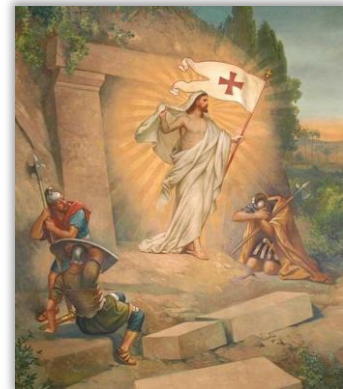
L. May the grace of the Mystery of the Crucifixion come down into our souls. Amen.

Continue with the [Ending Prayers for the Rosary](#), p. 89.

The Glorious Mysteries

Unless otherwise noted, prayed on the 4th and 7th weekdays throughout the year; the Lord's Day from Resurrection Day until Advent; every day of Resurrection Week; every day from Pentecost through its octave; and on the feast days of the Ascension, the Assumption (8/15), the Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary.

1. The Resurrection



L. We offer thee, O Lord Jesus, this eleventh decade in honor of thy glorious resurrection; and we ask of thee, through this Mystery and through the intercession of thy holy Mother, love of God and fervor in thy service. Amen.

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

L. Most glorious and Immaculate Heart of Mary. **R.** Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

L. May the grace of the Mystery of the Resurrection come down into our souls. Amen.

2. The Ascension



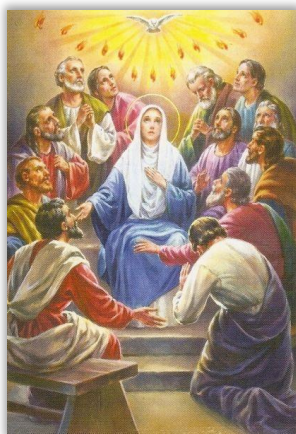
L. We offer thee, O Lord Jesus, this twelfth decade in honor of thy triumphant ascension into heaven; and we ask of thee, through this Mystery and through the intercession of thy holy Mother, an ardent desire for heaven, our true home. Amen.

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

L. Most glorious and Immaculate Heart of Mary. **R.** Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

L. May the grace of the Mystery of the Ascension come down into our souls. Amen.

3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit



L. We offer thee, O Lord Jesus, this thirteenth decade in honor of the mystery of Pentecost; and we ask of thee, through this Mystery and through the intercession of thy holy Mother, the coming of the Holy Spirit into our souls. Amen.

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

L. Most glorious and Immaculate Heart of Mary. **R.** Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

L. May the grace of the Mystery of the Descent of the Holy Spirit come down into our souls. Amen.

4. The Assumption



L. We offer thee, O Lord Jesus, this fourteenth decade in honor of the resurrection and triumphant assumption of thy holy Mother into heaven; and we ask of thee, through this Mystery and through her intercession, a tender devotion to so good a Mother. Amen.

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

L. Most glorious and Immaculate Heart of Mary. **R.** Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

L. May the grace of the Mystery of the Assumption come down into our souls. Amen.

5. The Coronation of the Blessed Virgin



L. We offer thee, O Lord Jesus, this fifteenth decade in honor of the coronation of thy holy Mother; and we ask of thee, through this Mystery and through her intercession, perseverance in grace and a crown of glory hereafter. Amen.

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

L. Most glorious and Immaculate Heart of Mary. **R.** Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

L. May the grace of the Mystery of the Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary come down into our souls. Amen.

Continue with the [Ending Prayers for the Rosary](#), p. 89.

Ending Prayers for the Rosary

Hail, Holy Queen

All. Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy, hail 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 toward us; and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary!

L. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

The Rosary Prayer

L. LET US PRAY:

All. O God, whose only-begotten Son by his life, death, and resurrection has purchased for us the rewards of everlasting life, grant, we beseech thee, that by meditating upon these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Recite the [Exorcism Prayer of St. Michael the Archangel](#), p. 139, and end by saying the following invocation 3 times:

L. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

R. Have mercy on us.

Recite the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be for the intentions of the Holy Father (or if the Holy See is vacant, for a future Roman Pontiff and the papacy and for the spiritual

non-pope ruler of the Church if there is one).

The Rosary is then completed by making the Sign of the Cross with the rosary crucifix.

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

Short Form of the Rosary

To pray the short form of the Rosary, refer to the diagram and the following prayers found in [How to Pray the Rosary](#), p. 86.

Begin by making the Sign of the Cross with the rosary crucifix. Holding the crucifix, pray the Apostles' Creed. On the single bead next to the crucifix, pray the Our Father. On each of the following three beads, pray a Hail Mary with the petition for an increase in faith, hope, and charity; and on the single bead next to the medal, pray the Glory Be.

Choose one of the sets of Mysteries (Joyful, Sorrowful, or Glorious). Holding the medal, begin the first decade by announcing the title of the First Mystery. (For the titles of the Mysteries, refer to [The Rosary Mysteries](#), p. 86.) For example, "The First Joyful Mystery: the

Annunciation." On the same medal pray the Our Father. On each of the ten beads that follow, pray a Hail Mary while meditating on the First Mystery; and on the single bead that follows, pray the Glory Be. This completes the first decade. On that same bead, announce the Second Mystery and pray the Our Father. On each of the ten beads that follow, pray a Hail Mary while meditating on the Second Mystery. Pray the Glory Be on the single bead, thus completing the second decade.

Continue in this way for the third, fourth, and fifth decade, ending the fifth decade on the medal. Holding the medal, pray the [Hail Holy Queen](#), p. 89, then the [Exorcism Prayer of St. Michael](#), p. 18, and then make the Sign of the Cross.

THE HOLY HOUR OF REPARATION



When recited as a group: Unless otherwise noted, the leader announces prayer titles and begins all prayers and invocations (short prayers in italics); the leader (L) and responders (R) alternate at each asterisk (); and sections labeled "All" are said together.*

KNEEL

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

Here make the intention for the Holy Hour.

I offer up this Holy Hour, first and foremost, to make reparation for all the blasphemies against the Lord our God, our Holy Mother Mary, all the angels and saints, and against our holy Catholic Church and faith; and then for the faithful, our suffering brothers in purgatory, and for the conversion of unbelievers.

All (sing): *O Sacrament most holy, O Sacrament divine! All praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine!*

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

All. Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of thy faithful and kindle in

them the fire of thy love. Send forth thy Spirit and they shall be sanctified, and thou shalt renew the face of the earth.

LET US PRAY: O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit didst instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in his consolation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Heart of Jesus, ✠ I put my trust in thee!

Act of Contrition

All. O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended thee; and I detest all my sins because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of Gehenna, but most of all because they offend 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 works of satisfaction, and to amend my life. Amen.

O Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, ✠ have mercy on us!

Spiritual Communion

All. My Jesus, I believe that thou art really present in the most Blessed

Sacrament of the Altar. I love thee above everything else, and I long to receive thee into my soul. I cannot now receive thee in Holy Communion, but I beg thee to come to me at least spiritually. I embrace thee as already there and unite myself entirely to thee. Grant that I may never be separated from thee!

I adore thee every moment, ✠ O living Bread from heaven, great Sacrament!

Offering of the Holy Hour

L. My sweet Jesus, I desire to spend this hour with thee, to console thee, and to make some reparation by the love of my poor heart for the agony thou didst suffer in Gethsemane. ✠ In that lone hour thou wast forsaken; and the creatures whom thou didst create to love thee, loved thee not. ✠ The weight of all our sins, and mine as well, pressed on thee; and for the sorrow which I caused thee then by my sins, I will endeavor to repay thee now by my love. ✠ Strengthen it, my Jesus, that it may in some small measure give thee consolation.

*Sacred Heart of Jesus,
strengthened in thine agony by an
angel, * comfort us in our agony.*

Opening Prayer to the Blessed Sacrament

L. My Lord Jesus Christ, it is thy great love for men that keeps thee day and night in this Sacrament, full of pity and love, expecting, inviting, and welcoming those who visit thee in Catholic churches. I believe that thou art really present in the Sacrament of the Altar. * From the depths of my heart, I adore thee and I thank thee for the many graces thou hast given me, especially for the gift of thyself in this Sacrament, for the gift of thy holy Mother as my intercessor, and for the privilege of visiting thee in this church. *

I now speak to thy most loving heart with a threefold intention: to thank thee for the great gift of thyself, to atone for all the insults which thy enemies heap upon thee in this Sacrament, and to adore thee wherever thy Eucharistic presence is dishonored or forgotten. *

My Jesus, I love thee with my whole heart. I am very sorry for my ingratitude to thy infinite goodness. I now resolve, with the help of thy grace, never to offend thee again. * I consecrate to thee my entire self, my whole will, my affections, my desires, and all that I have. * From now on do with me and mine as thou pleasest. I ask for and desire only thy love, final perseverance, and the grace always to do thy holy will. *

I implore thee to intercede for sinners and also for the souls in purgatory, especially for those who were most devoted to the Blessed Sacrament and thy holy Mother. * And lastly, my dear Savior, I unite all my desires with the desires of thy most loving heart. Thus united, I present them to thy eternal Father and beg him in thy name and for love of thee to hear and answer them. Amen.

*Jesus, meek and humble of heart, *
make our hearts like unto thine.*

Act of Faith

L. O my God, I firmly believe all the sacred truths which thy Holy Catholic

Church believes and teaches * because thou hast revealed them, who canst neither lie nor be deceived.

Act of Hope

L. O my God, relying on thy infinite goodness and promises, I hope to obtain pardon of my sins, the assistance of thy grace, and life everlasting, * through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Act of Charity

L. O my God, I love thee above all things with my whole heart and soul because thou art all good and worthy of all love. * I love my neighbor as myself for the love of thee. I forgive all who have injured me and ask pardon of all whom I have injured.

*Jesus, I live for thee; Jesus, I die for
thee; * Jesus, I am thine in life and in
death. Amen.*

Act of Love

L. O good and merciful Savior, it is the desire of my heart to return thee love for love. My greatest sorrow is that thou art not loved by all men. May my heart never grow cold, selfish, or ungrateful. * Deeply sensible of my own weakness and poverty, I trust that thy grace will enable me to offer thee an act of pure love. * And I wish to offer thee this act of love in reparation for the coldness and neglect thy creatures show thee in the sacrament of thy love. * O Jesus, my sovereign good, I love thee, not for the sake of the reward which thou hast promised to those who love thee, but purely for thyself. * I love thee above all things that can be loved, above all pleasures, and in fine above myself, professing in the presence of heaven and earth that I will live and die purely and simply in thy holy love, * and that if to love thee thus I must endure persecution and suffering, I am perfectly satisfied, and I will ever say with St. Paul: "Nothing shall separate me from the love of Christ." *

O Jesus, supreme Master of our hearts, I love thee, I adore thee, I praise thee, I thank thee because I am now all thine own. * Rule over me and transform my soul into the likeness of thyself so that it may

praise and glorify thee forever in the abode of the saints. Amen.

*Sweet heart of Jesus, * have mercy on
us and on non-Catholics*

Prayer to Christ the King

L. O Christ Jesus, I acknowledge thee King of the universe. All that thou hast created has been created for thee. Make full use of thy rights over me. * I renew the promises I made in baptism when I renounced Satan and all his pomps and works, and I promise to live a good Christian life. * And especially I undertake to help, to the extent of my means, to secure the triumph of the rights of God and of thy Catholic Church. * Divine heart of Jesus, I offer thee my efforts to obtain that all hearts may acknowledge thy sacred royalty and that the kingdom of thy peace may be established throughout the entire world. Amen.

*Jesus, King and center of our hearts, *
through the advent of thy kingdom,
grant us peace.*

Litany of the Sacred Heart

(See p. 109 for Litany)

*Sacred Heart of Jesus, * I believe in
thy love for me.*

Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

L. Most sweet Jesus, Redeemer of the human race, look down upon us humbly prostrate before thy altar. *[bow down]* * We are thine and thine we wish to be; but to be more surely united with thee, behold each one of us freely consecrates himself today to thy most Sacred Heart. *

Many, indeed, have never known thee; many, too, despising thy precepts have rejected thee. * Have mercy on them, most merciful Jesus, and draw them to thy Sacred Heart. *

Have mercy, O Lord, not only on the faithful who have never forsaken thee but also on the prodigal children who have abandoned thee. * Grant that they may quickly return to thy Father's house lest they die of wretchedness and hunger. *

Have mercy, O Lord, on those who are deceived by heresy or schism and call them back to the harbor of truth and unity of faith, to thy one flock and one Shepherd, that they may hail thee as Christ the King. *

Have mercy, O Lord, on those who are involved in the darkness of idolatry and Islamism, and refuse not to draw them into the light of thy kingdom. *

Turn thine eyes of mercy toward the unbelieving Jews, the children of the race that was once thy chosen people. * O Jesus, our Savior, of old they called down upon themselves thy blood, may it now descend upon them as a laver of salvation and lift the veil of darkness from their hearts. *

Grant to thy Church, O Lord, assurance of freedom and immunity from harm. Grant peace and order to all Catholic nations, and make the earth resound from pole to pole with one cry:

All. Praise to the divine Heart that wrought our salvation; to it be all glory and honor forever. Amen.

*Sacred Heart of Jesus, * thy
kingdom come!*

Act of Reparation

L. O sweet Jesus, whose overflowing love for men is requited by so much forgetfulness, negligence, and contempt, * behold us prostrate before thy altar [*bow down*], eager to repair by a special act of homage the cruel indifference and injuries to which thy loving heart is everywhere subjected. *

Mindful, alas, that we ourselves have had a share in such great indignities, which we now deplore from the depths of our hearts. * We humbly ask thy pardon and declare our readiness to atone by voluntary expiation not only for our own sins but also for the sins of those who, straying far from the path of salvation, refuse in their obstinate infidelity to follow thee, their Shepherd and Leader, or renouncing the vows of their baptism have cast off the sweet yoke of thy law. *

We are now resolved to expiate each and every deplorable outrage

committed against thee. We are determined to make amends for the manifold offences against Christian modesty in unbecoming dress and behavior, * for all the foul seductions laid to ensnare the feet of the innocent, for the frequent violation of the Lord's Day and other holy days, and the shocking blasphemies uttered against thee and thy saints. *

We wish also to make amends for the insults to which thy Vicar on earth⁴ and thy Catholic priests are subjected, for the profanation by conscious neglect or terrible acts of sacrilege of the very sacrament of thy divine love, * and lastly for the public crimes of nations who resist the divine rights and teaching authority of the Catholic Church, which thou hast founded. *

Would, O divine Jesus, we were able to wash away such abominations with our blood. We now offer, in reparation for these violations of thy divine honor, the satisfaction thou didst once make on the cross to thy eternal Father and which thou dost continue to renew on our altars; * we offer it in union with the acts of atonement of thy Virgin Mother, the angels and saints in heaven, the souls in purgatory, and the faithful on earth. And we sincerely promise to make recompense, as far as we can with the help of thy grace, for all the neglect of thy great love and for the sins we and others have committed in the past. * Henceforth we will live a life of unwavering faith, of purity of conduct, of perfect observance of the precepts of the gospel. * We promise to the best of our power to prevent others from offending thee and to teach the Catholic faith to all who sincerely ask about it. *

O loving Jesus, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our model in reparation, deign to receive the voluntary offering we make of this act of expiation; * and by the crowning gift of perseverance, keep us faithful unto death in our duty and the allegiance we owe to thee so that we may all one day come to that happy home where thou with the Father and the Holy Spirit livest and reignest, God, forever and ever. Amen.

⁴ When the Holy See is vacant, replace the words "thy Vicar on earth" with "the Papacy."

*Praise and adoration ever more be
given * to the Most Holy Sacrament.*

The Holy Rosary

Apostles' Creed; Our Father; 3 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

*The First Sorrowful Mystery:
The Agony of Jesus in the Garden*

L. "My soul is sorrowful unto death!" O Jesus, who with divine sadness in thy agony didst save the world and preparest for us the joys of heaven, heal all our sorrows; accept our sorrow for having so greatly offended thee Lord our God!

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

STAND

*The Second Sorrowful Mystery:
Jesus Is Scourged at the Pillar*

L. "My people, what have I done to you? Wherein have I offended you? Laden with my gifts, you scourge me like the least of slaves." O Jesus, forgive the impiety against the Catholic Church, thy mystic body!

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

*The Third Sorrowful Mystery:
Jesus Is Crowned with Thorns*

L. O Jesus, sated with outrages in this Mystery, with what eloquence dost thou show us that lifted up from earth we ever return to it again! May this divine lesson abolish our pride!

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

*The Fourth Sorrowful Mystery:
Jesus Carries His Cross*

L. "They forced the Cyrenean to take up Jesus' cross." Each day we also receive our crosses from thy hand. O Jesus, grant that we may carry them, not by force but for love.

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

KNEEL

*The Fifth Sorrowful Mystery:
Jesus Dies on the Cross*

L. "Behold thy Mother!" I thank thee, O my Savior, for this admirable gift,

this last will of thy love. Grant that I may respond to it by a generous love toward thy afflicted Mother.

Our Father; 10 Hail Mary's; Glory Be.

Finish the Rosary for the Holy Hour by praying the [Ending Prayers for the Rosary](#), p. 89, ending after the three "Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us" invocations.

*Lord, I thank thee * that thou didst die on the cross for my sins.*

To the Queen of the Most Holy Rosary

L. O Queen of the most holy Rosary, in these times of brazen impiety show again thy power with the signs which accompanied thy victories of old; * and from the throne where thou art seated, dispensing pardon and grace, in pity watch over the Church of thy Son, his Vicar,⁵ and every order of the Catholic clergy and laity suffering in grievous warfare. *

Hasten, O powerful destroyer of heresy, hasten the hour of mercy, seeing that the hour of judgment is daily challenged by innumerable offences. * Obtain for me, kneeling suppliant in thy presence, the grace which may enable me to live a holy life on earth and to obtain everlasting happiness with the just in heaven, * whilst with the faithful throughout the world, O Queen of the most holy Rosary, I salute thee and cry out:

All. Queen of the most holy Rosary, pray for us!

*Sacred Heart of Jesus, * I give myself to thee through Mary.*

To Jesus Abandoned

L. With Mary Immaculate let us adore, thank, implore, and console the most beloved and sacred heart of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. *

O divine Jesus, in so many Catholic tabernacles without visitor or worshipper, or in tabernacles in non-Catholic churches, I offer thee my poor heart. May its every throb be an act of love for thee. * Thou art always watching beneath the sacramental

veils; in thy love thou dost never sleep and thou art never weary of thy vigil for sinners. * O Jesus, may the flame of my heart burn and beam always in company with thee.

All (sing): *O Sacrament most holy, O Sacrament divine! All praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine!*

Veneration of the Thorn-Crowned Head of the Savior



L. And plating a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head. They began to spit upon him, and they gave him blows. Others smote his face and said: "Prophecy, who is it that struck thee?" *

O holy Redeemer! Thou art clothed with a scarlet cloak, a reed is placed in thy hands for a scepter, and the sharp points of a thorny crown are pressed into thy adorable head. *

My soul, thou canst never imagine the sufferings, the insults and indignities offered to our blessed Lord during this scene of pain and mockery. *

The apostate Jews mock thee; I salute thee and offer thee supreme homage as King of heaven and earth, the Redeemer of the world, the eternal Son of the living God. *

O my afflicted Savior! O King of the world, thou art ridiculed as a mock king. I believe in thee and adore thee as the King of kings and Lord of lords, as the supreme Ruler of heaven and earth. *

O Jesus! I devoutly venerate thy sacred head pierced with thorns,

struck with a reed, overwhelmed with pain and derision. *

I adore thy precious blood flowing from thy bleeding wounds. To thee be all praise, all thanksgiving, and all love for evermore. *

O meek Lamb, victim for sin! May thy thorns penetrate my heart with fervent love, that I may never cease to adore thee as my God, my King, and my Savior.

L. Behold, O God our protector.

R. And look upon the face of thy Christ.

L. Let us pray: O my beloved Savior, at sight of thy most holy face disfigured by suffering, at sight of thy Sacred Heart so full of love, I cry out: "Lord Jesus, imprint on my heart thy sacred wounds so that I may read therein sorrow and love: sorrow, to endure every sorrow for thee; love, to love nothing more than thee."

All. Amen.

*We adore thee, O Christ, and we praise thee * because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world.*

To Our Lord on the Cross

L. My crucified Jesus, mercifully accept the prayer which I now make to thee for help in the moment of my death, when at its approach all my senses shall fail me. *

When, therefore, O sweetest Jesus, my weary and downcast eyes can no longer look up to thee, be mindful of the loving gaze which I now turn to thee, and have mercy on me. *

When my parched lips can no longer kiss thy most sacred wounds, remember then those kisses which I now imprint on thee, and have mercy on me. * *(If you were wearing a crucifix, kiss it.)*

When my cold hands can no longer embrace thy cross, forget not the affection with which I embrace it now, and have mercy on me. * *(If you were wearing a crucifix, embrace it with your right hand.)*

And when at length my swollen and lifeless tongue can no longer speak, remember that I called upon thee now.

⁵ When the Holy See is vacant, replace the words "his Vicar" with "the Papacy."

All. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, to thee I commend my soul. Amen.

*Eternal Father, I offer thee the wounds of our Lord Jesus Christ * to heal the wounds of our souls.*

Devotion in Honor of the Five Holy Wounds

L. Most loving Savior of my soul, as I kneel before thee, who art crucified on the cross, my conscience tells me that it is I who have nailed thee to that cross with these hands of mine as often as I have fallen into sin, wearying thee with my monstrous ingratitude. *

My God, my chief and most perfect good, worthy of all my love, seeing thou hast ever loaded me with blessings, I cannot now undo my sins as I would most willingly, * but I can and will loathe them, grieving greatly for having offended thee who art infinite goodness. * And now, kneeling at thy feet, I will try at least to compassionate thee, to give thee thanks, to ask of thee pardon and contrition. Wherefore with heart and lips I say:

If you are wearing a crucifix, kiss the appropriate wound on it before each set of prayers.

To the Wound of the Left Foot

L. Holy wound of the left foot of my Jesus, I adore thee! I compassionate thee, O my Jesus, for that most bitter pain which thou didst suffer. * I thank thee for the love whereby thou wast wearied in overtaking me on the way to ruin and didst bleed amid the thorns and brambles of my sins. I offer to the Eternal Father the pain and love of thy most sacred humanity in atonement for my sins, all of which I detest with sincere and bitter contrition.

To the Wound of the Right Foot

L. Holy wound of the right foot of my Jesus, I adore thee! I compassionate thee, O my Jesus, for that most bitter pain which thou didst suffer. * I thank thee for the love which pierced thee with such torture and shedding of blood in order to remit my sins. * I offer to the Eternal Father all the pain and love of thy most sacred humanity; * and I pray

unto him for grace to weep over my transgressions with burning tears and to enable me to persevere in the good which I have begun, without ever swerving again from my obedience to the commandments of my God.

To the Wound of the Left Hand

L. Holy wound of the left hand of my Jesus, I adore thee! I compassionate thee, O my Jesus, for that most bitter pain which thou didst suffer. * I thank thee for having, in thy love, spared me the scourges of everlasting damnation which my sins have merited. * I offer to the Eternal Father the pain and love of thy most sacred humanity, * and I pray him to teach me how to turn to good account my span of life and bring forth in it worthy fruits of penance and so disarm the angry justice of my God.

To the Wound of the Right Hand

L. Holy wound of the right hand of my Jesus, I adore thee! I compassionate thee, O my Jesus, for that most bitter pain which thou didst suffer. * I thank thee for thy graces lavished on me with such love, even when I was a sinner. * I offer to the Eternal Father all the pain and love of thy most sacred humanity, * and I pray thee to purify my heart and its affections and make me do all my actions in accordance with the will of God.

To the Wound of the Sacred Side

L. Holy wound in the side of my Jesus, I adore thee! I compassionate thee, O my Jesus, for the cruel insult thou didst suffer. * I thank thee, my Jesus, for the love which suffered thy side and heart to be pierced, that the last drops of blood and water might issue forth, making my redemption to abound. * I offer to the Eternal Father this outrage and the love of thy most sacred humanity; * and I pray that my soul may enter once and for all into that most loving heart, eager and ready to receive the greatest sinners who repent, and from it may never more depart.

*Sweet heart of my Jesus, * grant that I may ever love thee more and more.*

STAND

Prayer for an Increase of Holy Communions

L. O sweet Jesus, who came into the world to remit our sins by sanctifying grace, and who to preserve and sustain us didst will to be the remedy of our daily infirmities and to be our food, humbly we pray thee, by thy heart all on fire for love of us, pour out thy Holy Spirit upon those who are unhappily in deadly sin so that they may be converted to thee, confess their sins, receive the life of sanctifying grace, and receive thee in Holy Communion along with all others who are in the state of grace. * May they approach devoutly to thy holy altar, whereby receiving thee in Holy Communion they may obtain the remission of their venial sins and punishment due to their sins, the nourishing of the life of grace in their hearts, the purifying more and more of their souls, and at last the attainment of everlasting life. Amen.

*Heart of Jesus, burning with love for us, * inflame our hearts with love of thee.*

KNEEL

Prayer for Those in Their Last Agony

L. O most merciful Jesus, lover of souls, I pray thee, by the agony of thy most Sacred Heart and by the sorrows of thy Immaculate Mother, grant sinners who are now in their last agony the grace of conversion if they are not of the faithful and the grace of repentance if they are of the faithful who are guilty of mortal sin. * And cleanse in thy most precious blood those who cooperate with thy grace. Amen.

*Heart of Jesus agonizing, * have mercy on the dying.*

All. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph!

Prayer for the Holy Father

L. O God, the Shepherd and Ruler of all the faithful, look down with favor upon thy servant, **N.**, who has been chosen 1. the supreme pastor of thy Church 2. the ruler of thy Catholic Church. * Grant, we beseech thee, that both his word and example may benefit those over whom he has been

placed so that together with the flock entrusted to his care he may attain unto life everlasting, through Christ our Lord. Amen. *

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, pour the fullness of thy blessings upon thy Holy Catholic Church, the Pope or our Spiritual Ruler, and all the clergy. * Bless the faithful. Grant perseverance to the just, mercy to the penitents and catechumens, conversion to sinners, and enlightenment to unbelievers. Assist the dying, deliver the souls in purgatory, and extend over hearts the gentle dominion of thy love. Amen.

*Lord Jesus, shelter our Holy Father the Pope, or our Spiritual Ruler under the protection of thy Sacred Heart. * Be thou his light, his strength, and his consolation.*

Prayer for Peace

L. Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace!

Where there is unrighteous hatred – let me sow love, *

Where there is injury – pardon, *

Where there is doubt – faith, *

Where there is despair – hope, *

Where there is darkness – light, *

Where there is sadness – joy. *

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

To be consoled – as to console, *

To be understood – as to understand, *

To be loved – as to love, *

For it is in giving – that we receive, *

It is in pardoning – that we are pardoned, *

It is in dying – that we are born to everlasting life.

✠ *By the sign of the holy cross, * deliver us from our enemies, O our God!*

Prayer for Mercy for the Holy Souls in Purgatory

L. Have mercy, O gentle Jesus, on the souls detained in purgatory. Thou who for their ransom didst take upon thyself our human nature and suffer the most cruel death, * pity their sighs and tears shed when they raise their longing eyes toward thee; and by virtue of thy Passion, cancel the penalty due to their sins. * May thy blood, O tender Jesus, thy precious blood, descend into purgatory to

solace and refresh those who there languish in captivity. * Reach forth thy hand to them and lead them into the realms of refreshment, light, and peace. Amen.

Optional:

L. Everlasting rest grant unto *N.*, O Lord. **R.** And let perpetual light shine upon him.

L. May he rest in peace. **R.** Amen.

*Divine heart of Jesus, * convert sinners, save the dying, set free the holy souls in purgatory.*

Prayer for Our Daily Neglects

L. Eternal Father, I offer thee the Sacred Heart of Jesus with all its love, suffering, and merits:

All. First – To expiate any sins I have committed this day and during all my life.

Glory Be...

All. Second – To purify the good I have done badly this day and during all my life.

Glory Be...

All. Third – To supply for the good I ought to have done and have neglected this day and during all my life.

Glory Be...

*O Heart of love, I put all my trust in thee, * for I fear all things from my own weakness but I hope for all things from thy goodness.*

Period of Silent Adoration

L. “Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth.” (1 Kings 3:10)

R. “Lord, what wilt thou have me do?” (Acts 9:6)

Spend three minutes in silent adoration and prayer.

Prayer for Final Perseverance

L. O Jesus, my Savior, my God, by thy Sacred Heart, by the pure heart of thy Virgin Mother, by heaven, and by whatever is pleasing to thee on earth, I beg and entreat thee, grant me holy perseverance, grant me patience. * Grant me grace and courage so that I may efficaciously employ the means which thou hast given me.

Say three times:

Sweet heart of Jesus, * be my salvation; *

Sweet heart of Mary, * be my love.

Closing Prayer to the Blessed Sacrament

L. As this Hour of adoration closes, O Jesus, I renew my faith and trust in thee. I am refreshed after these moments with thee * and I count myself among a privileged number, even as thy disciples were, who shared thy presence. *

Realizing that my visit to thee is of little avail unless I try to live a better life and set a better example, I am resolved to go forth again to my duties and my concerns with a renewed spirit of perseverance and good will. * In my daily life I will try to love and serve God well and love my neighbor also, for these two things go together. * I will try to be a true disciple, indeed; help me, O Jesus, in this my resolution. *

Bless me, dear Lord, before I go; and bless all the faithful and catechumens who are here and those who could not come, especially the sick and the dying. * Bless our homes and our Catholic children, and bless our life and the hour of our death. * Grant the grace of conversion to our non-Catholic family members and friends and to other non-Catholics. *

Grant rest to the souls of the faithful departed, and bring them into the light of thy divine glory. * May we who have worshipped thee and been blessed by thee here on earth come to behold the radiant glory of thy unveiled countenance in heaven, forever and ever. Amen.

Say three times:

*Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, * thy kingdom come!*

**For the Intentions of the
Holy Father**

*If there is a pope, pray the following
prayers:* I offer this Our Father, Hail
Mary, and Glory Be for the intentions
of Pope **N**...

*If there is no pope, pray the following
prayers:* I offer this Our Father, Hail
Mary, and Glory Be for a future pope
and the papacy (*and if there is a
spiritual ruler*) and for the intentions
of our spiritual ruler **N**. ...

All (sing): *O Sacrament most holy, O
Sacrament divine! All praise and all
thanksgiving be every moment thine!*

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

CONFESSION

Prayers before Examination of Conscience

An in depth examination of conscience, as this one is, is only necessary once a year, the best time being in Lent. Your daily examination at night applies to sins you may have committed during the day and thus should be brief.

Reflect that this confession may be the last of your life; therefore prepare yourself for it as if you were lying sick upon your deathbed and already at the brink of the grave. Ask God to give you the grace to make a good examination of conscience, the light to see your sins clearly, and the strength to make a sincere confession and to amend your life. If you do not have true sorrow for your sins and a firm purpose of amendment, then your confessed sins will not be remitted even if the priest gives you absolution. For the sake of brevity, this book contains a brief but good examination of conscience.

Prayer to Jesus

O my Lord Jesus Christ, Judge of the living and the dead, before whom I must appear one day to give an exact account of my whole life, enlighten me, I beseech thee, and give me a humble and contrite heart so that I may see wherein I have offended thine infinite majesty and may judge myself now with such a just severity that thou mayest judge me then with mercy and clemency.

Invocation of the Holy Spirit

O Holy Spirit, Source of all light, Spirit of wisdom, of understanding, and of knowledge, come to my assistance and enable me to make a good confession.

Enlighten me and help me now to know my sins, as one day I shall be forced to recognize them before thy judgment seat. Bring to my mind the evil which I have done and the good which I have neglected. Permit me not to be blinded by self-love. Grant me, moreover, thy grace for a sincere

confession, a heartfelt sorrow for my sins and a firm purpose of amendment so that I may be forgiven and admitted into thy friendship. Amen.

Examination of Conscience

Preliminary Examination

There are two kinds of sins that we commit ourselves: mortal sins and venial sins. Mortal sins are major offences against God and thus are deadly sins. The guilt of only one mortal sin places a Catholic who was in a state of grace and thus on the road to heaven in a state of damnation and thus on the road to Gehenna. Venial sins are minor offences against God which hence are not deadly sins but if not confessed can lead to mortal sins. Faults are the least offences against God but if not confessed can lead to venial sins.

When did you make your last confession? Did you have sufficient sorrow to awaken contrition?

Did you omit to confess a mortal sin either intentionally or through forgetfulness?

Did you intentionally neglect to do the penance imposed on you, or were you so careless as to forget it?

Have you carried out the promise of amendment and the good resolutions you made at your last confession, or have you paid no heed to them?

Examine your conscience in regard to the Ten Commandments, the deadly sins, the nine ways of being accessory to another's sin, the spiritual and corporal works of mercy, and the six precepts of the Church.

The Ten Commandments

First: *I am the Lord thy God... Thou shalt not have strange gods before me... Thou shalt not adore them nor serve them.*

Have you denied or doubted matters of faith (dogmas)? Have you denied the faith by sins of omission by not professing the faith when obliged to,

or not condemning heresy or idolatry when obliged to, or not denouncing or punishing heretics or idolaters when obliged to?⁶

Have you murmured against God because of adversity or the prosperity of others? Have you despaired or presumed of God's mercy?

Have you believed in fortune-tellers or consulted them? Have you believed in or read the messages in fortune cookies? Have you had your palm read? Have you believed in, read, or used horoscopes or any other form of astrology? Have you used a Ouija board or Tarot cards? Have you believed in or practiced Santería, Voodoo, Brujería, the Kabala, or any other form of witchcraft? Have you made use of any superstitious practices?

Have you sinned against the faith by performing an act of religious communion with heretics, schismatics, idolaters, or other men who do not adhere to the Catholic Church?

Have you sinned by being in religious communion with pre-catechumens, catechumens, or unbelievers?

Have you neglected your daily prayers or omitted religious duties or practices through motives of sloth, laziness, or human respect? Have you neglected to study the Catholic faith? Have you neglected to perform acts of exterior and interior mortification when required? Have you fasted or done other voluntary penances when you were not supposed to (such as on non-penitential days)?⁷

Have you read, viewed, or listened to forbidden items without permission?⁸ Have you spoken with irreverence of the Catholic Church, Catholic faith, Catholic clerics, Catholic religious, or

⁶ See RJMI book [Sins of Omission](#).

⁷ See RJMI book [Penance Is Necessary for Salvation](#).

⁸ For a list of some forbidden things, see [Profession of Faith for the Days of the Great Apostasy](#) and go to "A List of Some Sinful Things to Condemn and Avoid." And see RJMI article [The Catholic Way to Read about or View Idols, False Gods, and False Religions](#).

sacred objects? However, it is not irreverence but your duty to denounce a superior and thus a priest, bishop, and even a pope when his sins merit it.⁹

Second: *Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that shall take the name of the Lord his God in vain.*

Have you blasphemed? Have you taken the name of God in vain? Profaned anything relating to the Catholic religion? Have you sworn falsely, rashly, or in slight and trivial matters? Have you cursed yourself or unjustly cursed others or any creature? Have you provoked others so as to make them curse or blaspheme God?

Third: *Remember thou keep holy the Lord's Day.*

Have you kept holy the Lord's Day and all other days commanded to be kept holy? Have you bought or sold things not of necessity on that day? For exceptions see RJMI article, [The Law of No Unnecessary Word on the Lord's Day](#). Done or commanded some unnecessary servile work? (Some Catholics, such as policemen, firemen, doctors and nurses, can work at their jobs on the Lord's Day.) Have you missed Mass through your own fault? Have you been willfully distracted at Mass or distracted others?

Fourth: *Honor thy father and thy mother.*

Have you honored and obeyed your parents, superiors, and masters according to your just duty? Have you lied to them? Have you disobeyed them when obedience was due? However, you must not obey your parents or any other superior when they command you to do or believe something sinful. Have you failed in due reverence to aged persons?

Fifth: *Thou shalt not murder.*

Have you unjustly procured, desired, or hastened the death of anyone?

⁹ See RJMI book [Non-Catholics Cannot Hold Offices in the Catholic Church](#): "A Pope Can Be Put on Trial, Judged, and Sentenced."

Have you hated anyone other than devils and damned humans (whom you must hate)? While you must love all men while they live, you do not have to like all men. You must not like obstinate sinners and must abhor them and even punish or kill them if justice demands it and if possible.¹⁰

Have you unjustly oppressed anyone? Unjustly desired revenge? Not forgiven injuries? Unjustly refused to speak to others? Unjustly used provoking language? Unjustly injured others? Have you given scandal?

Sixth and Ninth: *Thou shalt not commit adultery. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife.*

Have you dressed immodestly?¹¹ Been in lewd company? Read impure books? Have you indulged in any impure thoughts, looked at any impure pictures or objects, willfully listened to any impure conversations, told or listened to impure or immodest jokes or stories or music, or in general spoken of impure things? Have you done any impure things or desired to do any while alone or with others?

Have you committed or desired sexual acts with any person or thing other than your spouse if you have one (such as fornication, adultery, homosexuality, bestiality, or masturbation, all of which are mortal sins)? The only lawful and thus non-sinful sexual acts and desires are those between a husband and his wife. However, some sexual acts and desires between a husband and his wife are sinful.¹² Hence have you committed or desired a forbidden and thus sinful sexual act with your spouse? Sexual acts and desires between a husband and his wife are lawful and thus good if they are done or desired for the right reason, in the right way, at the right time, and in the right place. Outside of any of these parameters, the sexual act between spouses is sinful. However, any sexual act or desire while dreaming when you sleep is not sinful.

¹⁰ See RJMI [Brief on just wars and capital and corporal punishment](#).

¹¹ See RJMI book [Modesty Rules for Men and Women](#).

¹² See RJMI book [When Sexual Pleasure Is Good](#).

Have you tried to prevent pregnancy before, during, or after the sexual act? If so, this is the mortal sin of contraception.

(For detailed information, see RJMI book [When Sexual Pleasure Is Good](#); and RJMI book [Natural Family Planning to Prevent Conception is Contraception](#).)

Have you willingly and without a lawful reason looked upon the extreme immodesty of yourself or others? If so, you committed a mortal sin of immodesty even if you were not motivated by any sexual desire.

Have you coveted your neighbor's gender by trying or desiring to change from male to female or female to male (known as Transgenderism), which is not only a mortal sin of immorality but also of heresy?

Seventh and Tenth: *Thou shalt not steal. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's goods.*

Have you stolen anything, or helped or advised others to steal? Have you received anything or part of anything that you knew to be stolen? Do you owe money and not pay it when you can? Have you paid your tithes to the Church? Have you paid your taxes to the State? Have you bought anything with the intention of never paying for it or at least knowing you never could pay for it? Have you made restitution when told to do so by your confessor, or have you put it off from time to time? Have you failed to give back what you borrowed? Have you found anything and not tried to discover its owner, or have you kept it in your possession after you knew to whom it belonged? Have you cheated in business or at games? Have you unjustly damaged another man's goods, or negligently spoiled them? Have you, without good reason, violated copyright laws? One good reason is a wartime situation when things you need for enlightenment, edification, sustenance, and entertainment are withheld or made difficult to possess and hold on to. Have you coveted anything that belongs to another?

Have you been negligent in your work and chores? Did you do your best when working and doing chores?

Or were your chores or work careless, incomplete, or faulty? Did you complain or murmur when asked to help others or when doing your work or chores? Or worse, did you not help a brother who was truly in need when it was in your power to help him?

Did you hold back just wages or money set aside for the poor?

Eighth: *Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.*

Have you lied or unjustly injured anyone by your talk?¹³ Have you judged rashly? Did you commit a sin of calumny by denouncing someone for sin or of being suspect of sin while not having sufficient evidence or, even worse, while knowing they were not guilty or suspect?

Did you commit the sin of detraction by unnecessarily revealing a person's sin to others? Have you flattered others?

Have you broken or not kept a just vow or just promise?

The Six Precepts of the Church

1. To hear Mass on the Lord's Day and other Holy Days of Obligation.¹⁴

2. To fast and abstain on the days appointed. For exceptions, see RJMI article [Things Catholics Must Believe and Do](#): Special rules regarding fasting.

3. To receive the Holy Eucharist at least once a year during the Paschal season.¹⁵

4. To go to Confession at least once a year unless you are guilty of mortal sin or need counsel.¹⁶

5. To give tithes to support the Catholic Church and her Catholic pastors.

6. To observe all the laws of the Catholic Church.

¹³ Not all falsehoods are lies. See RJMI article [A Lie Is a Sinful Falsehood](#).

¹⁴ If a Catholic priest and thus a Catholic Mass is not available, then you are not bound to this obligation.

¹⁵ See previous footnote.

¹⁶ If a Catholic priest is not available in the foreseeable future, confess your sins to God and he will remit them.

Nine Ways of Being Accessory to Another's Sin

1. By counsel. 2. By command. 3. By consent. 4. By provocation. 5. By praise or flattery. 6. By concealment. 7. By partaking. 8. By silence. 9. By defense of the ill done.

The Eight Spiritual Works of Mercy

1. To admonish sinners. 2. To instruct the ignorant. 3. To counsel the doubtful. 4. To comfort the sorrowful. 5. To bear wrongs patiently. 6. To forgive all injuries. 7. To pray for the living and the faithful departed. 8. To punish sinners when necessary and if possible.

The Seven Corporal Works of Mercy

1. To feed the hungry. 2. To give drink to the thirsty. 3. To clothe the naked. 4. To ransom the captive. 5. To give shelter to the homeless. 6. To visit the sick. 7. To bury the dead.

Sins and Opposing Virtues	
Heresy, Idolatry, or Apostasy	Faith
Disobedience, Rebellion, or Schism	Obedience and Humility
Blasphemy	Faith and Fear and Love of God
Irreverence	Reverence
Avarice, Greed, Stinginess, or Covetousness	Generosity, the Spirit of poverty, Contentment
Sloth and Laziness	Spiritual and Physical Diligence
Disordered Life	Discipline, Good Habits, and a Good Daily Routine
Pride	Humility
Sexual Sins	Chastity or Lawful Marital Intercourse
Unrighteous Anger	Mildness, Justice, and Mercy
Envy, Jealousy, Spite, or Malice	Humility and Love
Stoicism	Enjoy the good temporal and spiritual things God has given you in moderation.
Gluttony, Alcoholism, or Over-Recreation	Temperance and Moderation
Wastefulness	Frugality
Squalor	Diligence and Hygienic Cleanliness
Lies and Calumnies	Truth and Justice
Sinful Provocation	Kindness and Love
Wickedness and Sinful Cruelty	Goodness and Love
Evilness	Holiness
Despair	Hope
Selfishness	Love of Others and Self-Sacrifice
Feminism	Humility. Offer humble and joyful obedience and submission to men who have authority over you, such as your father, husband, and Catholic clerics, in all things but sin.
Sinful disrespect or unjust treatment of women	Love and Gentleness. Women are not to be disrespected or unjustly treated. But if there is a good reason, they can be disrespected, punished and treated harshly.
Idolization of women	Women are human and prone to sin just like men. Hence if they sin, they must be condemned and be punished if necessary and possible, just like men, which includes corporal and capital punishment if they merit it.
Cowardliness	Fortitude
Unforgiving	Merciful
Self-Righteousness	Humble Dependence on God, and Love and Mercy toward Sinners and Inferiors
Murmuring and Sinful Complaining	Self-Sacrifice and Resignation
Detraction	Mercy, Forgiveness, Love of Men, Restraint, Prudence
Sinful Hatred	Love: You must love the person you hate and thus truly desire his salvation. But you must abhor obstinate mortal sinners and condemn and avoid them if possible while still loving them.
Racism	Humility and Love: You must be humble and love all races and thus not hate any race, or look upon it as sub-human or incapable of salvation. But you must abhor and condemn a grossly sinful race, while still loving it. ¹⁷
Sinful Curiosity (regarding dogmas that are above the understanding of men)	Faith and Humility
Sinful Curiosity (regarding the acts and traits of men, vain curiosity of things you can know but should not know)/ Gossip	Respect, Indifference, Love of Men
Infidelity/ Unfaithfulness	Fidelity/ Faithfulness
Sinful Distrust	Trust
Sinful Disloyalty	Honor, Loyalty
Sinful Disrespect	Respect
Discord and Sinful Arguing	Humility, Love, Peace
Stealing	Justice, the Spirit of poverty, Generosity, Contentment
Ignorance	Knowledge and Wisdom
Animal Abuse	Love of God's creation, which includes animals. If they are to be killed, it must be done as painlessly as possible. While under certain circumstances, humans can be tortured, animals must never be tortured.
Animal or earth worship	Love God above all things and thus above animals and the earth. Animals and the earth are creations of God and thus are not God. This earth will pass away, but God's Word will never pass away.
Are you a bad steward of the earth	Be a good steward of the earth. It is against the natural law to destroy nature instead of being good stewards of the earth by deliberately causing or threatening permanent harm to the ecosystem for the sake of money or some other temporal benefit. ¹⁸
For a detailed list of sins against the faith and morals, see RJMI's Profession of Faith for the Days of the Great Apostasy .	

¹⁷ See RJMI *Profession of Faith for the Days of the Great Apostasy* [God Loves All Men and Races and Wants All Men to Be Saved and Against Racism](#).

¹⁸ See RJMI's *Profession of Faith for the Days of the Great Apostasy*: [Against Idolizers of Nature and Destroyers of Nature](#).

Prayers before Confession

Sorrow and Amendment

O my God, I am very sorry for all my sins. I promise that I will try to be good and never hurt thee again by sin. Dear Jesus, help me. Mother of God, pray that I may please thy Son by true sorrow for my sins.

Receive My Confession

Receive my confession, O most loving and gracious Lord Jesus Christ, only hope for the salvation of my soul. Grant to me true contrition so that I may by penance make satisfaction for my many sins. Savior of the world, O good Jesus, who didst give thyself to the death of the cross to save sinners, look upon me, a repentant sinner; have pity on me and give me the light to know my sins, true sorrow for them, and a firm purpose of never committing them again.

O gracious Virgin Mary, Immaculate Mother of Jesus, I implore thee to obtain for me by thy powerful intercession these graces from thy divine Son.

St. Joseph, pray for me.

Manner of Confessing

Sometime before you enter the confessional, examine your conscience so that you will have a list of your sins to confess.

When your turn comes, go into the confession box. Make the Sign of the Cross and wait until the priest opens the little window. Say what you have been taught to say, or you may say:

“Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It has been (*say how long*) since my last confession. Since then I have committed these sins...”

Now tell all your sins and how many times you have committed each. If there is something you don’t know how to tell, just say, “Please help me, Father,” and the priest will help you. After you have told all your sins, say what you have been taught to say, or you may say:

“That is all, Father.”

The priest will absolve you of your sins unless there is a reason not to, which he will tell you (for example, if he believes that you do not have a firm purpose of amendment). The priest will tell you what to do for your penance. Then he will tell you to say the [Act of Contrition](#), p. 17. When your confession is done, leave the confessional. You must then do the penance that the priest imposed on you.

If no Catholic priest is available in the foreseeable future to confess to, confess to God and he will remit your sins, as long as your confession was sincere. And if your sin was mortal, you must take on some penance for it.¹⁹ If it was venial, then the penances you do during Advent, Lent, and Ember days will suffice.

Prayers after Confession

The Confiteor and Absolution

I confess to Almighty God, to Blessed Mary ever Virgin, to blessed Michael the Archangel, to blessed John the Baptist, to the holy apostles Peter and Paul, to all the saints, and to you, brethren, that I have sinned exceedingly in thought, word, and deed, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault. Therefore I beseech Blessed Mary ever Virgin, blessed Michael the Archangel, blessed John the Baptist, the holy apostles Peter and Paul, all the saints, and you, brethren, to pray to the Lord our God for me.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to life everlasting. Amen.

May the almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon ✠, absolution, and remission of our sins. Amen.

May My Confession Be Acceptable

May my confession, O Lord, by the merits of thy mother Blessed Mary ever Virgin and of all the saints, be pleasing and acceptable in thy sight.

Let thy goodness and mercy supply for whatever is wanting in my contrition and in the purity and integrity of my confession. Deign to mercifully regard me perfectly and entirely absolved in heaven. Who livest and reignest, God, forever and ever. Amen.

Thanksgiving for Remittance of Sins

O almighty and most merciful God, I give thee thanks with all the powers of my soul for this and all other mercies, graces, and blessings bestowed on me; and prostrating myself at thy sacred feet, I offer myself to be henceforth forever thine. Let nothing in life or death ever separate me from thee! I renounce with my whole soul all my treasons against thee and all the abominations and sins of my past life. I renew my promises made in baptism, and from this moment I dedicate myself forever to thy love and service. Grant that for the time to come I may detest sin more than death itself and avoid all such occasions and companies as have unhappily brought me to it. This I resolve to do by the aid of thy divine grace, without which I can do nothing good. Amen.

¹⁹ For an example of some voluntary penances, see RJMI book [Penance Is Necessary for Salvation](#): Types of penances (voluntary and involuntary).

SPECIAL MASS PRAYERS



Prayers before Mass

Prayer to God the Father

O almighty Lord of heaven and earth, behold I, a repentant sinner, appear before thee this day to offer up unto thee, by the hands of our High Priest, Jesus Christ thy Son, the sacrifice of his body and blood, in union with that sacrifice which he offered to thee upon the cross and in remembrance of his Passion and death. I offer it for thine honor, praise, adoration, and glory; for obtaining contrition and pardon and remission for my sins; for the sanctification and salvation of myself and others; for the suffering souls in purgatory (*here mention their names*); in thanksgiving for all thy blessings bestowed upon thy whole Church, whether triumphant in heaven or militant on earth or suffering in purgatory, and especially for those bestowed upon me, thy servant; and for obtaining grace and blessings both for myself and for thy Church (*here mention your particular requests*). Almighty Lord, be pleased to assist me by thy grace so that I may conduct myself properly during Mass with love and devotion, as I ought to do in thy divine presence, and that I may so commemorate the Passion and death of thy Son as to partake most plentifully of the fruits thereof. Through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayer to God the Son

O Lord Jesus Christ, to whom belongeth all that is in heaven and on earth, I desire to consecrate myself wholly unto thee and to be thine for evermore. This day do I offer myself unto thee; and I offer thee, without ceasing, my praise and thanksgiving for thy most holy sacrifice on the cross. Receive me, O my Savior, in union with the holy oblation of thy precious body and blood, in the presence of angels, that this holy Sacrifice of the Mass may avail unto my salvation. Amen.

Prayer to God the Holy Spirit

Antiphon: Remember not, O Lord, our offences nor those of our fathers; and take not vengeance on our sins. (P.T. Alleluia.)

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

Our Father...

L. I said: Lord, have mercy upon me.
R. Heal my soul, for I have sinned against thee.

L. Turn thou a little toward us, O Lord.
R. And be entreated for thy servants.

L. Let thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us.
R. As we have hoped in thee.

L. Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness.
R. And let thy saints rejoice.

L. From my secret sins cleanse me, O Lord.

R. And from those of others, spare thy servant.

L. O Lord, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto thee.

LET US PRAY: O most gracious God, in thy loving kindness incline thy ears unto our prayers and enlighten our hearts with the grace of the Holy Spirit, that

priest: I may worthily celebrate

non-priest: we may worthily receive

thy mysteries and love thee with an everlasting love.

O God, unto whom every heart is open, every desire known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee and worthily praise thy holy name.

Burn our reins and our hearts, O Lord, with the fire of the Holy Spirit, that we may serve thee with an undefiled body and please thee with a pure heart.

We beseech thee, O Lord, that the Comforter who proceedeth from thee and thy Son may enlighten our minds and lead us into all truth, as thy Son hath promised.

We beseech thee, O Lord, that the power of the Holy Spirit may be with

us, mercifully cleansing our hearts and defending them from all harm.

O God, who didst teach the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that in the same Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in his consolation.

Cleanse our thoughts, we beseech thee, O Lord, by thy visitation, that when our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, shall come, he may find within us a dwelling prepared for him. Who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

Offering of All Catholic Masses in the World

O Jesus, victim for sin and font of all grace, I unite myself with all the Catholic Masses which at this time are being offered throughout the world. I place them into the hands of Mary, the Mediatrix of all graces, that by this sacrifice of thy body and blood she may obtain perseverance of all the faithful; deliverance of souls from purgatory; relief for the sick and dying; and conversion of pagans, infidels, and other sinners. Amen.

Prayers before Holy Communion

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary

O Blessed Virgin Mary, loving and merciful mother, I, a wretched and unworthy sinner, come before thee with the heartfelt prayer that in thy goodness thou wouldst deign graciously to be near me and all who throughout the whole Catholic Church are to worthily receive the body and blood of thy Son this day, even as thou didst stand by thy most dear Son as he hung on the cross, that aided by thy gracious help we may worthily offer up a pure and acceptable sacrifice in the sight of the most high and undivided Trinity. Amen.

Prayer to St. Joseph

O blessed St. Joseph, happy man to whom it was given not only to see and to hear that God whom many

kings longed to see and saw not, to hear and heard not, but also to carry him in your arms, to embrace him, to clothe him, and to guard and defend him.

L. Pray for us, O blessed Joseph.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY: O God, who hast given us a royal priesthood, we beseech thee that as blessed Joseph was found worthy to touch with his hands and to bear in his arms thine only-begotten Son, born of the Virgin Mary, so may we be made fit, by cleanliness of heart and a blameless life, to minister or assist thy holy altar or to be present during Mass. May we this day, with reverent devotion, partake of the sacred body and blood of thine only-begotten Son; and may we in the world to come be accounted worthy of receiving an everlasting reward. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Spiritual Communion

This prayer is for those who did not receive Holy Communion.

My Jesus, I believe that thou art really present in the most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love thee above everything else, and I long to receive thee into my soul. I cannot now receive thee in Holy Communion, but I beg thee to come to me at least spiritually. I embrace thee as already there and unite myself entirely to thee. Grant that I may never be separated from thee!

Prayers after Holy Communion or Mass

Corpus et Sanguinis Christi

Body of Christ, save me;
Blood of Christ, inebriate me;
Divinity of Christ, sanctify me;
Water from the side of Christ, wash me;
Passion of Christ, strengthen me;
Oh my 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 death, call me
And bid me come unto thee
So that with thy saints I may praise thee,
Forever and ever. Amen.

Thanksgiving

How delectable is the sweetness of thy body and blood! How admirable is the tranquility and how perfect the peace of him who receives thee after the contrite and sincere confession of his sins! Be thou blessed a thousand times, my Jesus! When I was in sin, I was unhappy; but now not only is my soul at peace but I seem to have a foretaste of the peace of heaven! Ah, how true it is that our hearts were made for thee, my beloved Lord, and that they rest only when they rest in thee! Therefore do I give thee thanks and firmly purpose evermore to avoid sin and its occasions and to fix my abode in thy Sacred Heart, whence I look for help to love thee even unto death. Amen.

Pierce My Soul

Pierce my inmost soul, O most sweet Lord Jesus Christ, with the most joyous and healthful wound of thy love, with true and serene and most holy charity, that my soul may ever languish and melt with love and longing for thee, that it may yearn for thee and faint for thy courts and long to be with thee. Grant that my soul may hunger after thee, the refreshment of holy souls, our daily and supersubstantial Bread, having all sweetness and savor and every delight of taste. Let my heart ever hunger after and feed upon thee, upon whom the angels desire to look. And may my inmost soul be filled with the sweetness of thy savor; may it ever thirst after thee, the fountain of life, the fountain of wisdom and knowledge, the fountain of eternal light, the torrent of pleasure, the richness of the house of God; may it ever seek thee, find thee, run to thee, meditate upon thee, speak of thee, and do all things to the praise and glory of thy name, with humility and love and delight, with ease and affection, and with perseverance unto the end. Mayest thou be ever my hope, my entire assurance, my riches, my delight, my pleasure, my joy, my

rest and tranquility, my sweetness, my refreshment, my refuge, my help, my wisdom, my portion, my possession, and my treasure, in whom may my heart and mind be fixed and firm and rooted immovably, henceforth and forever. Amen.

I Give Thee Thanks

I give thee thanks, O holy Lord, Father almighty, eternal God, who hast vouchsafed, not for any merits of mine but solely out of the condescension of thy mercy, to satisfy me, a repentant sinner, with the precious body and blood of thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. I pray that this Holy Communion be not to me a condemnation unto punishment but a saving plea unto forgiveness. May it be unto me the armor of faith and the shield of good will. May it be the emptying out of my vices; the extinction of all concupiscence and lust; the increase of charity and patience, of humility and obedience and all virtues; a strong defense against the snares of all enemies, visible and invisible; the perfect quieting of all my evil impulses, both carnal and spiritual; a firm cleaving unto thee, the one true God; and a pledge of a blessed destiny. And I beseech thee that thou wouldst vouchsafe to bring me, a repentant sinner, to that ineffable banquet where thou, with thy Son and the Holy Spirit, art to thy saints true light, fullness of contentment, everlasting joy, gladness, and perfect bliss. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Adorn and Enrich My Soul

My Lord Jesus Christ, most sweet and most kind, who even now of thy great goodness hast entered into this poor and humble abode, adorn it and enrich it with thy treasures so that it may increase in holiness and virtue. Take up thy rest therein, that my heart may find its ultimate rest in thee. Give me, O Lord, a heart completely transformed by love; give me a life that shall be all thine and a holy death that shall be the beginning of everlasting life. That is what I look for, pray for, and hope for from thee, my eternal God, by virtue of this Blessed Sacrament. Amen.

Thanksgiving to the Holy Trinity for the Incarnation

Most holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, behold us prostrate [*bow down*] before thy divine presence. We humble ourselves profoundly and beg of thee the forgiveness of our sins.

We adore thee, almighty Father, and with hearts overflowing we thank thee that thou hast given us thy divine Son Jesus to be our Redeemer and that he hath bequeathed himself to us in the most august Eucharist, even to the end of the world, revealing unto us the wondrous love of his heart in this mystery of faith and love.

Glory Be...

O Word of God, dear Jesus our Redeemer, we adore thee and with hearts overflowing we thank thee for having taken human flesh upon thee and becoming for our redemption both priest and victim in the Sacrifice of the Cross, a sacrifice which, through the exceeding love of thy Sacred Heart, thou dost renew upon our altars. O High Priest, O divine Victim, grant us the grace to honor thy holy sacrifice in the most adorable Eucharist in union with the homage offered thee by the Virgin Mary and of all thy Holy Catholic Church, triumphant, suffering, and militant. We offer ourselves wholly to thee. Of thine infinite goodness and mercy, do thou accept our offering, unite it to thine own, and grant us thy blessing.

Glory Be...

O Holy Spirit the Paraclete, we adore thee, and with hearts overflowing we give thee thanks that thou hast, with such great love for us, wrought the ineffable blessing of the incarnation of the Word of God, a blessing which is extended and enlarged in the most august sacrament of the Eucharist. By this adorable mystery of the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, do thou grant unto us and all poor sinners thy holy grace. Pour forth thy holy gifts upon us and in an especial manner upon the visible head of the Church, the supreme Roman Pontiff,²⁰ and upon the Catholic bishops, priests,

and other ministers of thy sanctuary. Amen.

Glory Be...

²⁰ If the Holy See is vacant, replace "the visible head of the Church, the supreme Roman Pontiff" with "the papacy."

BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



O Salutaris Hostia (O Saving Victim)

Latin Version:

O salutaris Hostia / Quae coeli pandis ostium: / Bella premunt hostilia / Da robur, fer auxilium.

Uni trinoque Domino / Sit sempiterna gloria: / Qui vitam sine termino, / Nobis donet in patria. / Amen.

English Version:

O saving Victim, opening wide / The gate of heaven to man below! / Our foes press on from every side; / Thine aid supply, thy strength bestow. /

To the One and Three Lord / all praise and thanks to thee extend forever more. / Oh, grant us life that shall not end / In our true native land with thee. / Amen.

Tantum Ergo (Therefore, so Great a Sacrament)

Latin Version

Tantum ergo Sacramentum / Veneremur cernui: / Et antiquum documentum / Novo cedat ritui: / Praestet fides supplementum / Sensuum defectui.

Genitori, Genitoque / Laus et jubilatio, / Salus, honor, virtus quoque / Sit et benedictio: / Procedenti ab utroque / Compar sit laudatio. / Amen.

L. Panem de caelis praestitisti eis. (T.P. Alleluia.)

R. Omne delectamentum in se habentem. (T.P. Alleluia.)

L. OREMUS: Deus, qui nobis, sub sacramento mirabili, passionis tuae memoriam reliquisti: tribue, quaesumus, ita nos corporis et sanguinis tui sacra mysteria venerari, ut redemptionis tuae fructum in nobis jugiter sentiamus. Qui vivis et regnas in saecula saeculorum.

R. Amen.

English Version:

Down in adoration falling, / Lo! the sacred Host we hail, / Lo! O'er ancient forms departing, / Newer rites of grace prevail; / Faith for all defects supplying / Where the feeble senses fail.

To the everlasting Father, / And the Son who reigns on high, / With the Holy Spirit proceeding / Forth from each eternally, / Be salvation, honor, blessing, / Might, and endless majesty. / Amen.

L. Thou hast given them Bread from heaven. (P.T. Alleluia.)

R. Having within it all sweetness. (P.T. Alleluia.)

L. LET US PRAY: O God, who in this wonderful sacrament has left us a memorial of thy Passion, grant us, we beseech thee, so to reverence the sacred Mystery of thy body and blood, that we may ever perceive

within us the fruit of thy redemption.

R. Amen.

The Divine Praises

If said with others, the leader recites the invocation first and then the others repeat it. For example, L. Blessed be God, R. Blessed be God.

Blessed be God.

Blessed be his holy name.

Blessed be the God of Abraham,

Isaac, and Jacob.

Blessed be God the Father, God the

Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Blessed be the most holy Trinity.

Blessed be the God of the Holy Catholic Church.

Blessed be God the Father, unbegotten and unproceeding.

Blessed be God the Father, anchor of the Most Holy Trinity,

Blessed be God the Father who eternally begot the Son.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man.

Blessed be the name of Jesus.

Blessed be his most sacred heart.

Blessed be his most precious blood.

Blessed be Jesus in the most holy Sacrament of the Altar.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, sanctifier of souls.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, giver of all good gifts.

Blessed be the great mother of God,
 Mary, most holy.
 Blessed be her holy and immaculate
 conception.
 Blessed be her glorious assumption.
 Blessed be the name of Mary, virgin
 and mother.
 Blessed be St. Joseph, her holy and
 chaste spouse.
 Blessed be God in his angels and in
 his saints.

Adoro Te (I Adore Thee)

Latin Version:

- 1) Adoro te devote / Latens Deitas, /
 Quae sub his figuris / Vere latitas: /
 Tibi se cor meum / Totum subjicit, /
 Quia te contemplans totum deficit.
- 2) Visus, tactus, gustus / In te fallitur,
 / Sed auditu solo / Tuto creditur: /
 Credo quidquid dixit / Dei Filius: /
 Nil hoc verbo veritatis verius.
- 3) In cruce latebat / Sola Deitas, / At
 hic latet simul / Et humanitas: / Ambo
 tamen credens / Atque confitens, /
 Peto quod petivit latro paenitens.

4) Plagas, sicut Thomas / Non
 intueor: / Deum tamen meum / Te
 confiteor: / Fac me tibi semper /
 Magis credere, / In te spem habere, te
 diligere.

5) O memoriale / Mortis Domini, /
 Panis vivus vitam / Praestans homini,
 / Praesta meae menti / De te vivere, /
 Et te illi semper dulce sapere.

6) Pie pellicane / Jesu Domine, / Me
 immundum munda / Tuo sanguine, /
 Cujus una stilla / Salvum facere, /
 Totum mundum quit ab omni scelere.

7) Jesu, quem velatum / Nunc aspicio,
 / Oro fiat illud / Quod tam sitio: / Ut
 te revelata / Cernens facie, / Visu sim
 beatus tuae gloriae. / Amen.

English Version:

- 1) O hidden Godhead, humbly I adore
 thee, Who truly are beneath the forms
 in view; To thee I bow my heart and
 bend the knee. Since contemplating
 thee all fails for me.
- 2) Sight, touch, and taste in thee are
 each deceived; The ear alone most
 safely is believed. I firmly hold

whate'er God's Son has spoken, Than
 Truth's own word there is no truer
 token.

3) God only on the cross was hid
 from view, But here hides Deity and
 manhood too; And I, in both
 professing firm belief, Make mine the
 prayer of the repentant thief.

4) Thy wounds, as Thomas saw, I do
 not see; Yet thee confess my Lord
 and God to be. My faith confirm and
 childlike trust impart; And may I love
 thee, Lord, with all my heart.

5) O blest memorial of our Lord's
 own dying; O living Bread, to mortals
 life supplying; Make thou my soul
 henceforth on thee to live; Ever a
 taste of heavenly sweetness give.

6) O loving Pelican! O Jesu Lord!
 Cleanse me in thy blood, Of which a
 single drop, for sinners spilt, Can
 purge the entire world from all its
 guilt.

7) O Jesus, whom at present veiled I
 see, What I so thirst for, grant to me:
 That I may see thy blessed self
 unveiled And may find rest thy glory
 in beholding. Amen.

LITANIES

Weekly Litany Schedule

If you have time, it would be good to follow this schedule:

1st Weekday: Litany of God the Father

2nd Weekday: Litany of the Most Holy Name of Jesus

3rd Weekday: Litany of God the Holy Spirit

4th Weekday: Litany of St. Joseph

5th Weekday: Litany of St. Michael the Archangel

6th Weekday: Litany of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

7th Weekday: Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Litany of God the Father



Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
 Lord, have mercy on us.
 Christ, hear us.
Christ, 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.
 Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy on us.

God the Father Almighty, whose home and throne is in heaven, *Have mercy on us. (repeat after each versicle)*
 God the Father, anchor of the Most Holy Trinity,
 God the Father, unbegotten and unproceeding,
 God the Father, who eternally begot the Son,
 God the Father and God the Son, from whom God the Holy Spirit eternally proceeds,
 God the Father, who art one essence with thy Son and the Holy Spirit,
 God the Father, whose person is distinct from the persons of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
 God the Father, overseer of creation,
 God the Father, who ordained that man be made in thine own image and likeness,
 God the Father, who created all things through thy Son,
 God the Father, who gives grace to men through thy Holy Spirit,
 God the Father, who makes men holy through thy Holy Spirit,
 God the Father, who visited Abraham and Sarah,
 God the Father, who spoke to Moses in the burning bush,
 God the Father, who gave Moses the Ten Commandments,
 God the Father, overseer of the Immaculate Conception,
 God the Father, spiritual Father to the Blessed Virgin Mary,
 God the Father, overseer of the Incarnation,
 God the Father, who sent thy Son into this world,
 God the Father, who at Jesus' baptism said, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased",
 God the Father, who overshadowed and glorified thy Son during his transfiguration,
 God the Father, who always hears thy Son, as at Lazarus' tomb,
 God the Father, who glorified thy Son in Jerusalem with thy voice from Heaven,
 God the Father, who comforted thy Son during his passion,

God the Father, who accepted thy Son's holy sacrifice as an odor of sweetness and salvation,
 God the Father, who redeemed the world through thy Son,
 God the Father, whom we petition in the Our Father Prayer,
 God the Father, exemplar of Patriarchy, Theocracy, and Monarchy,

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

L. God the Father, Father to the Elect.

R. May we also be of the Elect.

LET US PRAY: Almighty God the Father, from the fullness of my soul I adore thee. I am deeply grateful that I am made in thy image and likeness, and that thou holdest me in thy loving embrace. Direct me to love and obey thee with all my heart, with all my soul, and with my whole mind. O, my Father, my soul longs to be united to thee and to rest in thee forever. Grant that the Holy Spirit may touch my soul so that I may love thee as he does; and as thy Beloved Son, Jesus, does; and as our Holy Mother Mary does. This I ask, O dear Father, who livest in unity with thy Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Litany of the Most Holy Name of Jesus



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

Lord, have mercy on us.
 Jesus, hear 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.
 Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy on us.

Jesus, Son of the living God,
Have mercy on us. (repeat after each versicle)

Jesus, splendor of the Father,
 Jesus, brightness of eternal light,
 Jesus, king of glory,
 Jesus, sun of justice,
 Jesus, son of the Virgin Mary,
 Jesus, most amiable,
 Jesus, most admirable,
 Jesus, mighty God,
 Jesus, father of the world to come,
 Jesus, messenger of great counsel,
 Jesus, most powerful,
 Jesus, most patient,
 Jesus, most obedient,
 Jesus, meek and humble of heart,
 Jesus, lover of virginity and chastity,
 Jesus, lover of marriage and continency,
 Jesus, lover of lawful conception and childbearing,
 Jesus, lover of us,
 Jesus, God of peace,
 Jesus, author of life,
 Jesus, model of all virtues,
 Jesus, zealous for souls,
 Jesus, our God,
 Jesus, our refuge,
 Jesus, father of the poor,
 Jesus, treasure of the faithful,
 Jesus, good shepherd,
 Jesus, true light,
 Jesus, eternal wisdom,
 Jesus, infinite goodness,
 Jesus, our way and our life,
 Jesus, joy of angels,
 Jesus, king of patriarchs,
 Jesus, master of apostles,
 Jesus, teacher of evangelists,
 Jesus, strength of martyrs,
 Jesus, light of confessors,
 Jesus, purity of virgins,
 Jesus, crown of all saints,

Be merciful,
Spare us, O Jesus.
 Be merciful,
Graciously hear us, O Jesus.

From all evil,

Deliver us, O Jesus. (repeat after each versicle)

From all sin,
 From thy wrath,
 From the snares of the devil,
 From everlasting death,
 From the spirit of fornication,
 From the neglect of thine inspirations,
 Through the mystery of thy holy incarnation,
 Through thy nativity,
 Through thine infancy,
 Through thy divine life,
 Through thy labors,
 Through thine agony and Passion,
 Through thy cross and dereliction,
 Through thy sufferings,
 Through thy death and burial,
 Through thy resurrection,
 Through thy ascension,
 Through thine institution of the most Holy Eucharist,
 Through thy joys,
 Through thy glory,

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Spare us, O Jesus.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Jesus.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us, O Jesus.

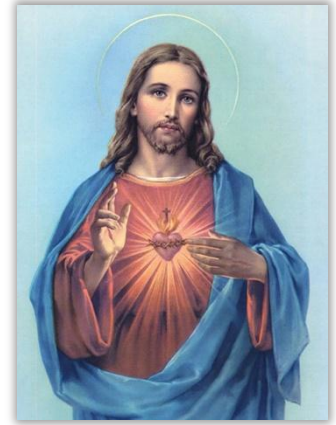
L. Jesus, hear us.

R. Jesus, graciously hear us.

LET US PRAY: O Lord Jesus Christ, who saidst: Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you, grant, we beseech thee, to us thy supplicants, the gift of thy divine love, that we may love thee with our whole heart and in all our words and works, and never cease from praising thee.

O Lord, grant us a perpetual fear as well as love of thy most holy name, for thou never ceasest to govern those whom thou foundest upon the strength of thy love. Who livest and reignest forever and ever. Amen.

Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus



Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
 Lord, have mercy on us.
 Christ, hear us.
Christ, 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.
 Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy on us.

Heart of Jesus, Son of the eternal Father,
Have mercy on us. (repeat after each versicle)

Heart of Jesus, formed in the womb of the Virgin Mother,
 Heart of Jesus, united to the eternal Word,
 Heart of Jesus, of infinite majesty,
 Heart of Jesus, holy temple of God,
 Heart of Jesus, tabernacle of the most High,
 Heart of Jesus, house of God and gate of heaven,
 Heart of Jesus, burning furnace of charity,
 Heart of Jesus, vessel of justice and love,
 Heart of Jesus, full of all goodness and love,
 Heart of Jesus, abyss of all virtues,
 Heart of Jesus, most worthy of all praise,
 Heart of Jesus, king and center of our hearts,
 Heart of Jesus, in whom are all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge,

Heart of Jesus, in whom dwells the fullness of the divinity,
 Heart of Jesus, in whom the Father is well pleased,
 Heart of Jesus, of whose goodness we have all received,
 Heart of Jesus, desire of the everlasting hills,
 Heart of Jesus, patient and abounding in mercy,
 Heart of Jesus, rich unto all that call upon thee,
 Heart of Jesus, fountain of life and holiness,
 Heart of Jesus, propitiation for our sins,
 Heart of Jesus, filled with reproaches,
 Heart of Jesus, bruised for our offenses,
 Heart of Jesus, obedient even unto death,
 Heart of Jesus, pierced with a lance,
 Heart of Jesus, source of all consolation,
 Heart of Jesus, our life and resurrection,
 Heart of Jesus, our peace and reconciliation,
 Heart of Jesus, victim for sin,
 Heart of Jesus, hope of those who believe in thee,
 Heart of Jesus, salvation of them that die in thee,
 Heart of Jesus, delight of all the saints,
 Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.
 Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Lord.
 Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

L. Jesus, meek and humble of heart.
R. Make our hearts like unto thine.

LET US PRAY: Almighty and eternal God, consider the heart of thy dearly beloved Son and the praise and satisfaction he offers thee on the behalf of sinners; appeased by worthy homage, pardon those who implore thy mercy, in the name of the same Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

Litany of the Holy Spirit



Lord, have mercy on us,
Christ, have mercy on us.
 Lord, have mercy on us,
 Father all powerful,
Have mercy on us.
 Jesus, eternal Son of the Father,
 Redeemer of the world,
Save us.
 Holy Spirit, sanctifier of souls,
Sanctify us.
 Holy Trinity,
Hear us.
 Holy Spirit, who proceedest from the Father and the Son,
Enter our hearts.
 Holy Spirit, who art equal to the Father and the Son,
Enter our hearts.
 Promise of God the Father and the Son,
Have mercy on us. (repeat after each versicle)
 Ray of heavenly light,
 Author of all good,
 Source of heavenly water,
 Consuming fire,
 Ardent charity,
 Spiritual unction,
 Spirit of love and truth,
 Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
 Spirit of counsel and fortitude,
 Spirit of knowledge and piety,
 Spirit of the fear of the Lord,
 Spirit of grace and prayer,
 Spirit of peace and meekness,
 Spirit of modesty and innocence,
 Holy Spirit, the Comforter,
 Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier,

Holy Spirit, who governest the Catholic Church,
 Gift of God, the most High,
 Spirit who enlightens and sanctifies men,
 Spirit of the adoption of the children of God,

Holy Spirit,
Inspire us with horror of sin.
 Holy Spirit,
Come and renew the face of the earth.
 Holy Spirit,
Shed thy light in our souls.
 Holy Spirit,
Engrave thy law in our hearts.
 Holy Spirit,
Inflame us with the flame of thy love.
 Holy Spirit,
Open to us the treasures of thy graces.
 Holy Spirit,
Teach us to pray well.
 Holy Spirit,
Enlighten us with thy heavenly inspirations.
 Holy Spirit,
Lead us in the way of salvation.
 Holy Spirit,
Grant us perfect knowledge and belief in the Catholic faith.
 Holy Spirit,
Inspire in us the practice of good.
 Holy Spirit,
Grant us the merits of all virtues.
 Holy Spirit,
Make us persevere in justice.
 Holy Spirit,
Be thou our everlasting reward.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Send us thy Holy Spirit.
 Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Pour down into our souls the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
 Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Grant us the Spirit of wisdom and piety.

L. Come, Holy Spirit! Fill the hearts of thy faithful.
R. And kindle in them the fire of thy love.

LET US PRAY: Grant, O God, merciful Father, that thy divine Spirit may enlighten, inflame, and purify us, that he may penetrate us with his heavenly dew and make us fruitful in good works. Through our Lord Jesus

Christ, thy Son, who with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, liveth and reigneth forever and ever. Amen.

Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, hear us.
Christ, 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.
Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy on us.

Holy Mary,
Pray for us. (repeat after each versicle)

Holy Mother of God,
Holy Virgin of virgins,
Mother of Christ,
Mother of divine grace,
Mother most pure,
Mother most chaste,
Mother inviolate,
Mother undefiled,
Mother most amiable,
Mother most admirable,
Mother of good counsel,
Mother of our Creator,
Mother of our Savior,
Virgin most prudent,
Virgin most venerable,
Virgin most renowned,
Virgin most powerful,
Virgin most merciful,

Virgin most faithful,
Mirror of justice,
Seat of wisdom,
Cause of our joy,
Spiritual vessel,
Vessel of honor,
Most perfect vessel of devotion,
Mystical rose,
Tower of David,
Tower of ivory,
House of gold,
Ark of the covenant,
Gate of heaven,
Morning star,
Health of the sick,
Refuge of repentant sinners,
Comforter of the afflicted,
Help of Christians,
Queen of angels,
Queen of patriarchs,
Queen of prophets,
Queen of apostles,
Queen of martyrs,
Queen of confessors,
Queen of virgins,
Queen of all saints,
Queen conceived without original sin,
Queen assumed into heaven,
Queen of the most holy Rosary,
Queen of peace,

Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

L. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY: Grant, we beseech thee, O Lord God, that by the glorious intercession of Blessed Mary, ever virgin, we thy servants may enjoy purity of heart, soundness of mind, health of body, and be delivered from present sorrows and enter into that joy which hath no end. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Litany of St. Joseph



Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, hear us.
Christ, 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.
Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy on us.

Holy Mary,
Pray for us. (repeat after each versicle)
St. Joseph,
Illustrious son of David,
Light of the patriarchs,
Spouse of the Mother of God,
Chaste guardian of the Virgin,
Foster father of the Son of God,
Diligent protector of Christ,
Head of the Holy Family,
Joseph most just,
Joseph most chaste,
Joseph most prudent,
Joseph most strong,
Joseph most obedient,
Joseph most faithful,
Mirror of patience,
Lover of the spirit of poverty,
Model of laborers,
Glory of home life,
Guardian of virgins,
Pillar of families,
Consolation of the afflicted,
Hope of the sick,
Patron of the dying,
Terror to demons,
Protector of the Holy Catholic Church,

Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

L. He made him the lord of his
household.

R. And prince over all his
possessions.

LET US PRAY: O Lord, who in thine
ineffable providence didst vouchsafe
to choose blessed Joseph to be the
spouse of thy most holy Mother,
grant, we beseech thee, that we may
have him for our intercessor in
heaven whom we venerate as our
protector on earth. Who livest and
reignest with the Father in the unity
of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever
and ever. Amen.

Litany of Good St. Anne



Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, hear us.
Christ, 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.
Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy on us.

Holy Mary, Queen of angels and of
saints,
*Pray for us. (repeat after each
verse)*
St. Anne,

St. Anne, mother of Mary, the Queen
of heaven,
St. Anne, instrument of the Holy
Spirit,
St. Anne, faithful spouse of St.
Joachim,
St. Anne, mirror of the married,
St. Anne, example of widows,
St. Anne, model of patience,
St. Anne, mother of confidence,
St. Anne, mother of constancy,
St. Anne, mother of prayer,
St. Anne, mother of blessing,
St. Anne, vessel of sanctity,
St. Anne, merciful mother,
St. Anne, comfortress of the afflicted,
St. Anne, help of the poor,
St. Anne, protectress of virgins,
St. Anne, support of the oppressed,
St. Anne, refuge of thy clients,

Through thy love for Jesus and Mary,
*We beseech thee, hear us. (repeat
after each verse)*

Through thy virtues and merits,
Through thy goodness and mercy,
Through thy compassion and charity,
Through the graces bestowed on thee
by God,

Through the joys thou didst
experience with Jesus and Mary,
Through the happiness thou dost
enjoy forever,
Through the honor given thee by the
saints in heaven,

Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

L. Pray for us, St. Anne.

R. That we may be made worthy of
the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY: O God, who didst
vouchsafe to endow blessed Anne
with grace so that she might be
worthy to become the mother of her
who brought forth thine only-
begotten Son, mercifully grant that
we who devoutly venerate her
memory may also be helped by her
powerful intercession. Through Christ
our Lord, who livest and reignest
with thee in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

Litany of St. John the Baptist



Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, hear us.
Christ, 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.
Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy on us.

Holy Mary, pray for us *(repeat after
each verse)*

Queen of Prophets,
Queen of Martyrs,
St. John the Baptist,
St. John the Baptist, who in thy
mother's womb, adored the
Messias,
Precursor of Christ,
Glorious forerunner of the Sun of
Justice,
Greatest among the prophets,
Minister of Christ's baptism,
Special friend and favorite of Christ,
Heavenly contemplative,
Burning and shining lamp of the
world,
Zealous for God's holy law,
Intrepid preacher of truth,
A voice crying in the wilderness,
Preacher of repentance,
Preacher of justice,
Instructor of the people of God,
Example of mortification and
penance,
Example of humility,
Glorious martyr of zeal for God's
holy law,
St. John the Baptist, who gloriously
fulfilled thy mission,

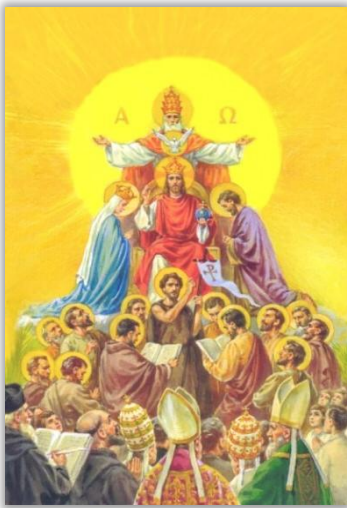
Glorious martyr,
Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

L. Pray for us, O glorious St. John the Baptist,

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY: **L.** O God, who hast honored this world by the birth of St. John the Baptist, grant that thy faithful people may rejoice in the way of everlasting salvation, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. **R.** Amen.

Litany of the Saints



*On the vigils of Resurrection Day and Pentecost, the invocations marked * are omitted. On Rogation Days no invocations are omitted. The major rogation is held on 25 April; the minor rogations are held on 2nd and 4th Weekdays preceding Ascension Day.*

The versicle and response for each invocation are said once (or twice when said during long processions).

Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, hear us.
Christ, 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.
Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy on us.

Holy Mary,
Pray for us. (repeat after each versicle)

Holy Mother of God,
Holy Virgin of virgins,
St. Michael,
St. Gabriel,
St. Raphael,
All ye holy Angels and Archangels,
All ye holy orders of blessed Spirits,
St. Joseph,
St. John the Baptist,
All ye holy Patriarchs and Prophets,
St. Peter,
St. Paul,
St. Andrew,
*St. James the Greater,
St. John,
*St. Thomas,
*St. James the Less,
*St. Philip,
*St. Bartholomew,
*St. Matthew,
*St. Simon,
*St. Thaddeus,
*St. Matthias,
*St. Barnabas,
*St. Luke,
*St. Mark,
All ye holy Apostles and Evangelists,
All ye holy Disciples of our Lord,
*All ye Holy Innocents,
St. Stephen,
St. Laurence,
St. Vincent,
*Ss. Fabian and Sebastian,
*Ss. John and Paul,
*Ss. Cosmas and Damian,
*Ss. Gervase and Protase,
All ye holy Martyrs,
St. Sylvester,
*St. Ambrose,
St. Augustine,
*St. Martin of Tours,
*St. Nicholas,
All ye holy Bishops and Confessors,
All ye holy Doctors,
St. Benedict,
St. Dominic,
All ye holy Priests and Levites,
All ye holy Monks and Hermits,
St. Anne,
St. Elizabeth,
St. Mary Magdalen,
St. Agatha,

*St. Lucy,
St. Agnes,
St. Cecilia,
*St. Catherine of Alexandria,
St. Anastasia,
All ye holy Virgins and Widows,
All ye holy men and women, Saints of God,
Make intercession for us.
Be merciful,
Spare us, O Lord.
Be merciful,
Graciously hear us, O Lord.

From all evil,
O Lord, deliver us. (repeat after each versicle)

From all sin,
*From thy wrath,
From threatening dangers,
*From sudden and unprovided death,
*From the snares of the devil,
*From unrighteous anger, hatred, and ill will,
*From the spirit of fornication,
*From lightning and tempest,
*From the scourge of earthquake,
*From plague, famine, and war,
From everlasting death,
Through the mystery of thy holy incarnation,
Through thy coming,
Through thy nativity,
Through thy baptism and holy fasting,
Through thy cross and Passion,
Through thy death and burial,
Through thy holy resurrection,
Through thine admirable ascension,
Through the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete,
In the Day of Judgment,

We repentant sinners,
We beseech thee, hear us. (repeat after each versicle)
That thou wouldst spare us,
*That thou wouldst pardon us,
*That thou wouldst bring us to true penance,
That thou wouldst vouchsafe to govern and preserve thy holy Catholic Church,
That thou wouldst vouchsafe to preserve our Holy Father²¹ and all ecclesiastical orders in holy religion,

²¹ When the Holy See is vacant, replace "our Holy Father" with "the papacy."

That thou wouldst vouchsafe to
humble the enemies of thy holy
Church,
That thou wouldst vouchsafe to give
peace and concord to all Catholic
kings and princes,²²
*That thou wouldst vouchsafe to
grant peace and concord to all
Christian people,
*That thou wouldst vouchsafe to
restore to the unity of the Church
those who have strayed from the
truth, and lead unbelievers to the
light of the gospel,
That thou wouldst vouchsafe to
confirm and preserve us in thy holy
service,
*That thou wouldst lift up our minds
to heavenly desires,
That thou wouldst be merciful to all
our benefactors,
*That thou wouldst grant to us, our
brethren, relatives, and benefactors
all the grace and other helps we
need to be saved,
That thou wouldst vouchsafe to give
and preserve the fruits of the earth,
That thou wouldst vouchsafe to grant
everlasting rest to the faithful
departed,

*In the conferring of Major Orders,
the bishop, turning to those to be
ordained, blesses them thrice, saying:*

That thou wouldst vouchsafe to ✠
bless these chosen ones,
That thou wouldst vouchsafe to ✠
bless and ✠ hallow these chosen ones,
That thou wouldst vouchsafe to ✠
bless, ✠ hallow, and ✠ consecrate
these chosen ones,

That thou wouldst vouchsafe
graciously to hear us,
*Son of God,
Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

²² If to your knowledge there are no Catholic
kings or princes, then omit this versicle.

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

Our Father...

Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
make haste to help me, O Lord. Let
them be ashamed and confounded
that seek after my soul. Let them be
turned backward and put to confusion
that desire evils to me. Let them be
turned back with shame that say unto
me: Aha, Aha. Let all those that seek
thee be joyful and glad in thee, and
let such as love thy salvation say
continually: Let the Lord be
magnified. But I am poor and needy;
help me, O God. Thou art my helper
and my deliverer; O Lord, make no
tarrying.

Glory Be...

L. Save thy servants.
R. Who hope in thee, O my God.

L. Be unto us, O Lord, a tower of
strength.
R. From the face of the enemy.

L. Let not the enemy prevail against
us.
R. Nor the son of iniquity have power
to hurt us.

L. O Lord, deal not with us according
to our sins.
R. Neither requite us according to our
iniquities.

*Omit the following prayer when the
Holy See is vacant or read Number 2
instead of Number 1 if there is a non-
pope ruler*

L. Let us pray for *N.* our Sovereign
Pontiff *or N.* our Spiritual ruler
R. The Lord preserve him, and give
him life, and make him blessed upon
the earth, and deliver him not up to
the will of his enemies.

L. Let us pray for our benefactors.
R. Vouchsafe, O Lord, for thy name's
sake, to be merciful to all those who
do us good. Amen.

L. Let us pray for the faithful
departed.
R. Everlasting rest grant unto them, O

Lord, and let perpetual light shine
upon them.

L. May they rest in peace.
R. Amen.

L. For our absent brethren.
R. Save thy servants, who hope in
thee, O my God.

L. Send them help, O Lord, from thy
holy place.
R. And from Sion protect them.

L. O Lord, hear my prayer.
R. And let my cry come unto thee.

L. The Lord be with thee.
R. And with thy spirit.

*Forty Hours' Devotion continues with
Ending prayers for Forty Hours'
Devotion, p. 115. For the Litany of
the Saints, continue here:*

Ending Prayers

LET US PRAY: O God, whose
property is to have mercy and to
spare, receive our humble petition,
that all thy servants who are bound by
the chains of sin may by the
compassion of thy goodness
mercifully be absolved.

Graciously hear, we beseech thee, O
Lord, the prayers of thy suppliants
and pardon the sins of those who
confess to thee, that in thy bounty
thou mayest grant us both pardon and
peace.

In thy clemency, O Lord, show unto
us thine unspeakable mercy, that thou
mayest both loose us from all our sins
and deliver us from the punishment
which we deserve for them.

O God, who by sin art offended and
by confession and penance pacified,
mercifully regard the prayers of thy
people making supplication to thee
and turn away the scourges of thine
anger which we deserve for our sins.

*Omit the following prayer when the
Holy See is vacant or read Number 2
instead of Number 1 if there is a non-
pope ruler:*

Almighty and everlasting God, have
mercy upon thy servant *N.*, our
Sovereign Pontiff *or N.* our Spiritual
Ruler and direct him according to thy
clemency in the way of everlasting
salvation, that by thy grace he may

both desire those things that are pleasing to thee and perform them with all his strength.

Concluding Prayers:

O God, from whom all holy desires, good counsels, and just works do proceed, grant unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts being set to obey thy commandments, and the fear of our enemies being removed, we may by thy protection pass our time in peace.

Inflame, O Lord, our reins and hearts with the fire of the Holy Spirit, that we may serve thee with an undefiled body and please thee with a pure heart.

O God, the Creator and Redeemer of all men, give to the souls of thy servants departed the remission of their sins and punishment due to their sins, that through our pious supplications they may obtain the pardon which they have always desired.

Direct, we beseech thee, O Lord, our actions by thy holy inspirations and carry them on by thy gracious assistance, that every prayer and work of ours may begin always from thee and through thee be happily ended.

Almighty and everlasting God, who hast dominion over the living and the dead and art merciful to all those who thou foreknowest shall be thine by faith and good works, we humbly beseech thee that they for whom we intend to pour forth our prayers, whether this present world still detain them in the flesh or the world to come hath already received them out of their bodies, may through the intercession of all thy saints, by the clemency of thy goodness, obtain remission of their sins and punishment due to their sins. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, who with thee liveth and reigneth in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

R. Amen.

L. The Lord be with thee.
R. And with thy spirit.

L. May the almighty and merciful Lord graciously hear us.

R. Amen.

L. And may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

If praying the Long Exorcism Prayer, continue at [Long Exorcism Prayer](#), p. on page 137.

Litany for the Forty Hours' Devotion

Pray the Litany of the Saints up to the Ending Prayers, then pray the following Ending Prayers for the Forty Hours' Devotion:

Ending Prayers for the Forty Hours' Devotion

LET US PRAY: O God, who in this wonderful sacrament has left us a memorial of thy Passion, grant us, we beseech thee, so to reverence the sacred mysteries of thy body and blood, that we may ever perceive within us the fruit of thy redemption.

According to the season, pray one of the following prayers of the Blessed Virgin:

From Advent to Christmas Day:

O God, who wast pleased that thy Word, at the message of an angel, should take flesh in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary, grant to us thy humble servants that we, who believe her to be truly the Mother of God, may be assisted by her intercession before thee.

From Christmas Day through 1/13:

O God, who by the fruitful virginity of Blessed Mary hast offered to mankind the rewards of everlasting salvation, grant, we beseech thee, that we may experience her intercession, by whom we received the author of life, our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son.

From 1/14 to Resurrection Day, and from the day after the Octave Day of Pentecost to Advent:

Grant, we beseech thee, O Lord God, that by the glorious intercession of Blessed Mary, ever virgin, we thy servants may enjoy purity of heart, soundness of mind, health of body,

and be delivered from present sorrows and enter into that joy which hath no end.

From Resurrection Day through the Octave Day of Pentecost:

O God, who didst vouchsafe to give joy to the world through the resurrection of thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant, we beseech thee, that through his mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life.

Omit the following prayer when the Holy See is vacant or read Number 2 instead of Number 1 if there is a non-pope ruler.

Almighty and eternal God, have mercy on thy servant **N.**, our Sovereign Pontiff **or N.** our Spiritual Ruler, and direct him according to thy clemency in the way of everlasting salvation, that by thy grace he may desire those things that are agreeable to thee and perform them with all his strength.

Concluding prayers:

O God, our refuge and our strength, fountain of all goodness, mercifully give ear to the fervent prayers of thy Church and grant that what we ask with faith we may effectually obtain.

Almighty and eternal God, in whose hands are all the powers and all the rights of kingdoms, come to the assistance of thy Christian people, that all pagan and heretical nations, who trust in their own violence and craft, may be broken by the might of thy right hand.

Almighty and eternal God, who hast dominion over the living and the dead and art merciful to all who thou foreknowest will be thine by faith and good works, we humbly beseech thee that they for whom we have determined to offer up our prayers, whether this present world still detains them in the flesh or purgatory hath already received them out of their bodies, may by the clemency of thy goodness, and all thy saints interceding for them, obtain pardon and remission of their sins. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, who

with thee liveth and reigneth in the
unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever
and ever.

R. Amen.

L. O Lord, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto thee.

L. May the almighty and most
merciful Lord graciously hear us.

R. And may he ever keep us. Amen.

L. May the souls of the faithful
departed, through the mercy of God,
rest in peace.

R. Amen.

Litany of the Old and New Testament Saints

(by RJMI)



*This litany can be prayed as a Litany
of the Saints or as part of the Forty
Hours' Devotion.*

Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ, hear us.

Christ, 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.

Holy Trinity, one God,

Have mercy on us.

Holy Mary,

*Pray for us. (repeat after each
versicle)*

Holy Mother of God,

Holy Virgin of virgins,

St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus,

St. Michael,

St. Gabriel,

St. Raphael,

All ye holy Angels and Archangels,

All ye holy orders of blessed Spirits,

Ss. Adam and Eve,

St. Abel,

St. Seth,

St. Enoch,

St. Noe,

Ss. Abraham and Sara,

Ss. Isaac and Rebecca,

Ss. Jacob and Lia, Rachael, Bala, and
Zelpha,

St. Joseph, son of Jacob,

St. Moses,

St. Josue,

St. Caleb,

St. Tobias the Elder,

All ye holy Patriarchs and Matriarchs,

St. Debbora,

St. Gedeon,

St. Samson,

St. Samuel,

All ye holy Judges,

St. Elias,

St. Eliseus,

St. Holda,

St. Nathan,

St. Isaias,

St. Jeremias,

St. Baruch,

St. Ezechiel,

St. Daniel,

Ss. Ananias, Azarias, and Misael,

St. Osee,

St. Joel,

St. Amos,

St. Abdias,

St. Jonas,

St. Micheas,

St. Nahum,

St. Habacuc,

St. Sophonias,

St. Aggeus,

St. Zacharias,

St. Malachias,

St. Job,

St. Simeon,

St. Anna,

St. John the Baptist,

St. Agabus,

The four daughters of Philip the
Deacon,

All ye holy Prophets and
Prophetesses,

Ss. Elcana and Anna,

Ss. Manue and his wife,

Ss. Booz and Ruth,

Ss. Tobias the Younger and Sara,

Ss. Joachim and Anne,

Ss. Zachary and Elizabeth,

All ye holy Spouses and Parents,

St. Peter,

St. Paul,

St. Andrew,

St. James,

St. John,

St. Thomas,

St. James,

St. Philip,

St. Bartholomew,

St. Matthew,

St. Simon,

St. Thaddeus,

St. Matthias,

All ye holy Apostles of Our Lord,

St. Lazarus,

St. Mark,

St. Luke,

St. Timothy,

St. Barnabas,

St. Joseph the Just,

St. Philemon,

St. Titus,

St. Philip the Deacon,

All ye holy Evangelists and Disciples
of our Lord,

St. Linus,

St. Anacletus I,

St. Clement I,

St. Sixtus I,

St. Cornelius,

St. Sylvester I,

St. Leo I,

St. Gregory I,

All ye holy Popes,

St. Eleazar,

The holy Seven Machabean Martyrs
and their mother,

Ss. Symphorosa and her seven sons,

Ss. Boniface & Thecla and their

twelve sons,

All ye Holy Innocents,

St. Stephen,

St. Laurence,

St. Vincent,

Ss. Fabian and Sebastian,

Ss. John and Paul,

Ss. Cosmas and Damian,

Ss. Gervase and Protase,

St. George,

St. Christopher,

St. Agatha,

St. Agnes,

Ss. Perpetua and Felicitas,

St. Barbara,

St. Dymphna,

St. Philomena,

St. Lucy,

St. Cecilia,

St. Catherine of Alexandria,

St. Anastasia,

All ye holy Martyrs,

St. Ignatius of Antioch,

St. Polycarp,

St. Irenaeus,

St. Ignatius of Lyons,

St. Cyprian,

St. Athanasius,

St. Cyril of Jerusalem,

St. Martin of Tours,
 St. Ambrose,
 St. Augustine,
 St. Patrick,
 St. Nicholas,
 All ye holy Church Fathers, Bishops,
 Confessors, and Doctors,

St. Aaron,
 St. Phinees,
 St. Paul the Hermit,
 St. Antony of the Desert,
 St. Benedict,
 St. Dominic,
 St. Anthony of Padua,
 All ye holy Levites, Priests, Monks,
 and Hermits,
 St. King David,
 St. King Ezechias,
 St. King Josias,
 St. Queen Esther,
 St. Mardochai,
 St. Esdras,
 St. Nehemias,

The Holy Machabees: Mathathias and
 his sons John, Simon, Judas,
 Eleazar, and Jonathan,

Holy Emperor St. Constantine,
 Holy Empress St. Helena,
 Holy Emperor St. Charlemagne,
 King St. Stephen of Hungary,
 All ye holy Rulers,
 St. Rahab,
 St. Judith,

St. Susanna, daughter of Helcias,
 St. Mary of Cleophas,
 St. Mary Magdalen,
 Ss. Martha and Mary of Bethany,
 Ss. Joanna and Susanna,
 St. Mary Salome,
 St. Monica,

All ye holy Virgins, Widows, and
 other blessed Women,

All ye holy men and women, Saints
 of God,

Make intercession for us.

Be merciful,

Spare us, O Lord.

Be merciful,

Graciously hear us, O Lord.

*Go to the Litany of the Saints and
 continue at [From all evil](#), p. 113.*

Litany of St. Michael



Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ, hear us.

Christ, 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.

Holy Trinity, one God,

Have mercy on us.

Holy Mary, Queen of Angels,

*Pray for us. (repeat after each
 versicle)*

St. Michael, the Archangel,

One of the seven who stand before
 the throne of God,

Most glorious attendant of the most
 holy Trinity,

Strengthened by God,

Defender of the Divine glory,

First to defend the Kingship of Christ
 and Queenship of Mary,

Glorious prince of the heavenly army,

Leader of the angelic host,

Standard-bearer of God's army,

Invincible prince and warrior,

Vanquisher of Satan,

Vanquisher of all the rebel angels,

Terror to the evil spirits,

Victorious in battle against evil,

Standing at the right hand of the Altar
 of Incense,

Guardian of paradise,

Guardian of the Israelites in their

journey through the desert,

Defender of the dead body of Moses,

Guardian and defender of the

Catholic Church,

Guardian and defender of the

Catholic faith,

Protector of the Sovereign Pontiff,

Bulwark of orthodox believers,

Powerful intercessor of Catholics,

Brave defender of those who hope in
 God,

Strength of those who fight under the
 standard of the Cross,

Guardian of our souls and bodies,

Angel of peace,

Helper of those in agony,

Light and confidence of souls at the
 hour of death,

Charged by the Lord to receive the
 elect after death,

Charged by the Lord to cast the
 reprobates into Gehenna,

Consoler of the souls in purgatory,

St. Michael, our prince,

St. Michael, our advocate,

St. Michael, who shall rise up and
 defend Catholics in the final days,

Lamb of God, who takest away the
 sins of the world,

Spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takest away the
 sins of the world,

Graciously hear us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takest away the
 sins of the world,

Have mercy on us.

L. Pray for us, O glorious St.
 Michael.

R. That we may be made worthy of
 the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY: O God, who has
 given us St. Michael the Archangel,
 the most glorious prince of the
 heavenly army, as a mighty defender,
 grant that we who venerate him may
 have him as our intercessor in heaven
 and our guardian and protector on
 earth. May he, thy faithful and mighty
 warrior, shield us in the fierce battle
 that rages on earth. This we ask
 through our Lord Jesus Christ, thy
 Son, who liveth and reigneth with
 thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 God, forever and ever. Amen.

Litany of St. Gabriel



Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
 Lord, have mercy on us.
 Christ, hear us.
Christ, 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.
 Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy on us.
 Jesus, King of angels,
Have mercy on us.

Mary, Queen of angels,
Pray for us. (repeat after each versicle)
 St. Gabriel the Archangel,
 St. Gabriel, whose strength comes
 from God,
 Teacher of the nations,
 Angel of the Incarnation,
 Messenger of God's revelation,
 Bearer of the good news of the
 redemption,
 God's faithful ambassador to Zachary
 and the Virgin Mary,
 Faithful servant of the God-Man,
 Angel of consolation at the Savior's
 agony,
 Friend and consoler of the Mother of
 God,
 Guide and helper of St. Joseph,
 Teacher and support of the Prophet
 Daniel,
 Patron of parents and teachers,
 Guide to union with Jesus and Mary,
 Consoler of those who suffer,
 Strength of the weak,
 Patron saint of modern
 communications,

Lamb of God, who takest away the
 sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.
 Lamb of God, who takest away the
 sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Lord.
 Lamb of God, who takest away the
 sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

L. Pray for us, St. Gabriel the
 Archangel.
R. That we may be made worthy of
 the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY: O God the Father,
 who in a wonderful way thou dost
 guide the work of angels and men,
 grant that those who serve thy
 majesty constantly in heaven may
 teach and guide us and keep our lives
 safe from all harm on earth. Grant
 this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
 thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with
 thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 God, forever and ever. Amen.

End by praying [The Angelus](#), p. 5.

Litany of St. Raphael



Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
 Lord, have mercy on us.
 Christ, hear us.
Christ, 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.
 Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy on us.
 Jesus, King of angels,
Have mercy on us.

Mary, Queen of angels,
Pray for us. (repeat after each versicle)
 St. Raphael the Archangel,
 St. Raphael, whose name means
 "God has healed,"
 St. Raphael, worthy to be numbered
 among the good angels in God's
 kingdom,
 St. Raphael, one of the seven spirits
 who stand before the most High,
 St. Raphael, ministering to God in
 heaven,
 St. Raphael, noble and mighty
 messenger of God,
 St. Raphael, devoted to the holy will
 of God,
 St. Raphael, who offered to God the
 prayers of the elder Tobias,
 St. Raphael, traveling companion of
 the young Tobias,
 St. Raphael, who guarded thy friends
 from danger,
 St. Raphael, who found a worthy wife
 for Tobias,
 St. Raphael, who delivered Sara from
 the evil spirits,
 St. Raphael, who healed the elder
 Tobias of his blindness,
 St. Raphael, guide and protector on
 our journey through life,
 St. Raphael, strong helper in time of
 need,
 St. Raphael, conqueror of evil,
 St. Raphael, guide and counselor,
 St. Raphael, protector of pure souls,
 St. Raphael, patron angel of youth,
 St. Raphael, angel of joy,
 St. Raphael, angel of happy meetings,
 St. Raphael, angel of chaste
 courtship,
 St. Raphael, angel of those seeking a
 marriage partner,
 St. Raphael, angel of happy marriage,
 St. Raphael, angel of home life,
 St. Raphael, angel guardian of the
 Christian family,
 St. Raphael, protector of travelers,
 St. Raphael, patron of health,
 St. Raphael, angelic physician,
 St. Raphael, helper of the blind,
 St. Raphael, healer of the sick,
 St. Raphael, patron of physicians,
 St. Raphael, consoler of the afflicted,
 St. Raphael, support of the dying,
 St. Raphael, herald of blessings,
 St. Raphael, defender of the Catholic
 Church,
 Lamb of God, who takest away the
 sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

L. Pray for us, O glorious St. Raphael
the Archangel.

R. That we may be made worthy of
the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY: O God, who
graciously gave the Archangel
Raphael as a companion to thy
servant Tobias on his journey, grant
us, thy servants, that we may ever
benefit from his protection and be
strengthened by his help. Through
Christ our Lord. Amen.

Litany of the Holy Angels



Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, hear us.
Christ, 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.
Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy on us.
Jesus, King of angels,
Have mercy on us.

Mary, Queen of angels,
*Pray for us. (repeat after each
versicle)*

Holy Mother of God,
Holy Virgin of virgins,
St. Michael, who was ever the
defender of the people of God,
St. Michael, who drove from heaven
Lucifer and his rebel angels,

St. Michael, who cast Satan down to
Gehenna, the enemy of our
brethren,
St. Gabriel, who expounded to Daniel
the heavenly vision,
St. Gabriel, who foretold to Zachary
the birth and ministry of John the
Baptist,
St. Gabriel, who announced to the
Blessed Virgin Mary the
Incarnation of the Divine Word,
St. Raphael, who led Tobias safely
through his journey to his home
again,
St. Raphael, who delivered Sara from
the devil,
St. Raphael, who restored sight to
Tobias the elder,
All ye holy angels, who stand around
the high and lofty throne of God,
Who cry to him continually: Holy,
Holy, Holy,
Who dispel the darkness of our minds
and give us light,
Who are the messengers of heavenly
things to men,
Who have been appointed by God to
be our guardians,
Who always behold the face of God
the Father who is in heaven,
Who rejoice over one sinner doing
penance,
Who struck the Sodomites with
blindness,
Who led Lot out of the midst of the
ungodly,
Who ascended and descended on the
ladder of Jacob,
Who delivered the divine law to
Moses on Mount Sinai,
Who brought good tidings when
Christ was born,
Who ministered to him in the desert,
Who comforted him in his agony,
Who sat in white garments at his
sepulchre,
Who appeared to the disciples as he
ascended into heaven,
Who shall go before him bearing the
standard of the Cross when he
comes to judge,
Who shall gather together the elect at
the end of the world,
Who shall separate the wicked from
among the just,
Who offer to God the prayers of those
who pray,
Who assist us at the hour of death,
Who carried Lazarus the beggar into
Abraham's bosom,

Who conduct the souls of the just to
heaven,
Who perform signs and wonders by
the power of God,
Who are sent to guard, assist, and
inspire men and intercede for them
with the hope of their salvation,
Who are set over kingdoms and
provinces,
Who have often put to flight armies
of enemies,
Who have often delivered God's
servants from prison and other
perils of this life,
Who have often consoled the holy
martyrs in their torments,
Who cherish with particular care the
bishops of the Catholic Church,
All ye holy orders of blessed Spirits,

From all dangers,
*Deliver us, O Lord. (repeat after each
versicle)*

From the snares of the devil,
From all heresy and schism,
From plague, famine, and war,
From sudden and unprovided death,
From everlasting death,

We repentant sinners,
*We beseech thee, hear us. (repeat
after each versicle)*
Through thy holy angels,
That thou wouldst spare us,
That thou wouldst pardon us,
That thou wouldst govern and
preserve thy Holy Catholic Church,
That thou wouldst protect the pope,²³
bishops, and all other ministers of
the Catholic Church,
That thou wouldst grant peace and
security to all good Catholic rulers,
That thou wouldst give and preserve
the fruits of the earth,
That thou wouldst grant everlasting
rest to the faithful departed,

Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takest away the
sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

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

²³ When the Holy See is vacant, replace "pope" with "papacy."

Our Father...

Praise the Lord, all ye Angels, thou who art mighty in strength, who fulfill his commandments, listening to the voice of his words: He has given his angels charge over you to keep you in all his ways.

LET US PRAY: O God, who dost arrange the services of angels and men in a wonderful order, mercifully grant that our life may be protected on earth by those who always do thy service in heaven.

Almighty and eternal God, who in thine unspeakable providence dost send thy angels to keep guard over us, grant that we may be continually defended by their protection and may rejoice forever in their company. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

Litany of the Holy Guardian Angels



Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.
Jesus, hear 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.
Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy on us.

Holy Mary, Queen of angels,
Pray for us. (repeat after each versicle)

Angel of heaven, who art my guardian,
Angel of heaven, whom I revere as my superior,
Angel of heaven, who gives me charitable counsel,
Angel of heaven, who gives me wise direction,
Angel of heaven, my heavenly teacher,
Angel of heaven, who loves me tenderly,
Angel of heaven, who art my consoler,
Angel of heaven, who art attached to me as a good brother,
Angel of heaven, who instructs me in the duties and truth of salvation,
Angel of heaven, who art to me a charitable shepherd,
Angel of heaven, who art witness of all my actions,
Angel of heaven, who helps me in all my undertakings,
Angel of heaven, who continually watches over me,
Angel of heaven, who intercedes for me,
Angel of heaven, who carries me in thy hand,
Angel of heaven, who directs me in all my ways,
Angel of heaven, who defends me with zeal,
Angel of heaven, who conducts me with wisdom,
Angel of heaven, who guards me from all danger,
Angel of heaven, who dissipates the darkness and enlightens my heart and mind,

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

Jesus, hear us.
Jesus, graciously hear us.

L. Pray for us, O Guardian Angels.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY: Almighty and everlasting God, who in the counsel of thine ineffable goodness hast appointed to all men, from their

mother's womb, a special Angel Guardian of their soul and body, grant that we may so love and honor them whom thou hast so mercifully given us, that protected by the bounty of thy grace and by their assistance we may merit to behold with them and all the angelic host the glory of thy countenance in the heavenly kingdom. Thou who livest and reignest forever and ever. Amen.

Litany of St. Brigid



Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, hear us.
Christ, 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.
Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy on us.

Holy Mary, Queen of virgins,
Pray for us. (repeat after each versicle)
Saint Brigid,
Mary of the Gael,
St. Brigid, Patroness of Ireland,
St. Brigid, shining light of virtue and sanctity,
St. Brigid, consecrated spouse of Jesus Christ,
St. Brigid, foundress of Kildare,
St. Brigid, cornerstone of the monastic institute in the Isle of saints,
St. Brigid, great model of Irish virgins,
St. Brigid, mother of religious,
St. Brigid, pattern of religious perfection,

St. Brigid, intercessor for the Irish Catholic Church,
 St. Brigid, mediatrix for the Irish race,
 St. Brigid, protectress of the holy faith planted by Saint Patrick,
 St. Brigid, enjoying with him the clear vision of God,
 St. Brigid, whose desire was to give glory to God, to help save souls, and to perform good works,

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,

Graciously hear us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

Christ, hear us.

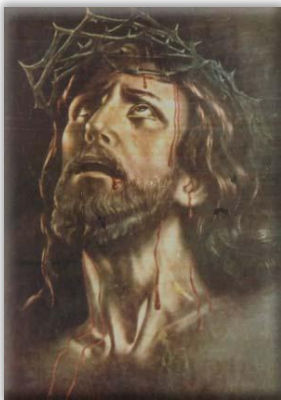
Christ, graciously hear us.

L. Pray for us, O glorious Saint Brigid.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY: O God, Who dost rejoice with the memory of the blessed Saint Brigid, thy virgin and abbess, mercifully grant that we may be assisted by her merits, by whose chastity we are illumined. Through Jesus Christ Thy Son Our Lord. Amen.

Litany of Humility



O Jesus, meek and humble of heart,
Hear me.

From the desire of being esteemed,
Deliver me, Jesus. (repeat after each versicle)

From the desire of being loved by the world,
 From the desire of being the center of attention,
 From the desire of being extolled,
 From the desire of being honored,
 From the desire of being praised,
 From the desire of being preferred to others,
 From the pride of not correcting myself when I am wrong,
 From loving family, friends, and possessions more than God,
 From the desire of being consulted,
 From the desire of being approved,
 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,

That others may be loved more than I,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

(repeat after each versicle)

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.

LET US PRAY: **Act of love to the Blessed Virgin Mary:** O Mary, my Mother, how greatly I love thee! And yet how little is my love! Thou teachest me all that is necessary for me to know because thou teachest me what Jesus is for me and what I ought to be for Jesus. Amen.

Litany for the Dying

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Holy Mary,

Pray for him. (repeat after each versicle)

All ye holy Angels and Archangels,

Holy Abel,
 All ye Choirs of the Just,
 Holy Abraham,
 St. John the Baptist,
 St. Joseph,
 All ye Patriarchs and Prophets,
 St. Peter,
 St. Paul,
 St. Andrew,
 St. John,
 All ye holy Apostles and Evangelists,
 All ye holy Disciples of our Lord,
 All ye Holy Innocents,
 St. Stephen,
 St. Laurence,
 All ye holy Martyrs,
 St. Sylvester,
 St. Augustine,
 All ye holy Bishops and Confessors,
 St. Benedict,
 All ye holy Monks and Hermits,
 St. Anne,
 St. Mary Magdalen,
 St. Lucy,
 All ye holy Virgins and Widows,

All ye holy Saints of God,
Make intercession for him.

Be merciful,

Spare him, O Lord.

Be merciful,

Graciously hear us, O Lord.

Be merciful,

O Lord, deliver him.

From thy wrath,
O Lord, deliver him. (repeat after each versicle)

From the peril of death,

From an evil death,

From the pains of Gehenna,

From all evil,

From the power of the devil,

Through thy nativity,

Through thy cross and Passion,

Through thy death and burial,

Through thy glorious resurrection,

Through thine admirable ascension,

Through the grace of the Holy Spirit,
 the Comforter,

In the Day of Judgment,

We repentant sinners,

We beseech thee, hear us.

That thou spare him,

We beseech thee, hear us.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

NOVENAS

Notes

Some novenas have the same prayer for every day and some have different prayers for every day. Just follow the instruction for each novena.

Novena to God the Father



O God, my heavenly Father, I adore thee, and I count myself as nothing before thy Divine Majesty. Thou art the source of all being, life, truth, and goodness. Lowly as I am, I honor thee, I praise thee, I thank thee, and I love thee in union with Jesus Christ thy Son, our Savior, in the merciful kindness of his Sacred Heart and through his infinite merits and in union with thy Holy Spirit, sanctifier of souls and giver of all good gifts. I desire to serve thee, to please thee, to obey thee, and to love thee always in union with Mary Immaculate, Mother of God and our Mother. I also desire to love my neighbor for the love of thee. Heavenly Father, I thank thee for making me thy child when I entered the Catholic Church. With childlike confidence, I ask thee for this special favor:

(Mention your request here...)

I pray that I may do thy Will. Grant me what thou knowest to be best for my soul and for the souls of those for whom I pray. Give me thy Holy Spirit to enlighten me, to correct me, and to guide me in the way of thy commandments and holiness, while I strive for the happiness of heaven and the earthly paradise to come where I hope to glorify thee forever. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

Novena in Honor of the Most Holy Face of Jesus

This novena may be said at any time but especially in the nine days leading up to Shrove Day.

"I firmly wish that my face, reflecting the intimate pains of my soul, the suffering and love of my heart, be more honored! Whoever gazes upon me already consoles me."

Daily Consolation and Preparatory Prayer

(Console the holy face of Jesus by gazing upon it and reflecting upon his great sufferings for the love of us.)



The Holy Shroud of Turin

O most holy and blessed Trinity, through the intercession of holy Mary, whose soul was pierced through by a sword of sorrow at the sight of the Passion of her divine Son, we ask thy help in making a perfect novena of reparation with Jesus, united with all his sorrows, love, and abandonment. We now implore all the angels and saints to intercede for us as we pray this novena to the most holy face of Jesus and for the glory of the most holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

First Day

(Begin with "Daily Consolation and Preparatory Prayer")

"Have mercy on me, O God, according to thy great mercy. And according to the multitude of thy tender mercies, blot out my iniquity." (Ps. 50:3)

O most Holy Face of Jesus, look with tenderness on repentant sinners. Thou art a merciful God, full of love and compassion. Keep us pure of heart so that we may gaze upon thy holy face. Mary our mother, intercede for us; St. Joseph, pray for us. O Jesus, through the merits of thy precious blood and thy holy face, grant us our petition *(here make your petition)*. Pardon and mercy.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

O bleeding Face, O Face divine, be every adoration thine. *(three times)*

Second Day

(Begin with "Daily Consolation and Preparatory Prayer")

"Wash me yet more from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my iniquity, and my sin is always before me." (Ps. 50:4-5)

O most Holy Face of Jesus, we are truly sorry that we have hurt thee so much by sinning and by failing to do all the good works we can. Immaculate Heart of Mary and St. Joseph, intercede for us; help us to console the most holy face of Jesus. Pray that we may share in the tremendous love thou hast for one another and for the most holy and blessed Trinity. O Jesus, through the merits of thy precious blood and thy holy face, grant us our petition *(here make your petition)*. Pardon and mercy.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

O bleeding Face, O Face divine, be every adoration thine. *(three times)*

Third Day

(Begin with "Daily Consolation and Preparatory Prayer")

"To thee only have I sinned and have done evil before thee, that thou mayest be justified when thou speakest and be in the right when

thou judgest. For behold I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother conceive me.” (Ps. 50:6-7)

O Jesus! Cast upon us a look of mercy. Turn thy face toward each of us as thou didst once turn thy face to Veronica, not that we may see thy face with our bodily eyes, for this we do not deserve, but turn it toward our hearts so that we may ever draw from this fountain of strength the vigor necessary to sustain the combats of life. Mary our mother and St. Joseph, pray for us. O Jesus, through the merits of thy precious blood and thy holy face, grant us our petition (*here make your petition*). Pardon and mercy.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

O bleeding Face, O Face divine, be every adoration thine. (*three times*)

Fourth Day

(Begin with “Daily Consolation and Preparatory Prayer”)

“For behold thou hast loved truth; the uncertain and hidden things of thy wisdom thou hast made manifest to me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be cleansed; thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow.” (Ps. 50:8-9)

O Lord Jesus Christ, who said “Learn of me because I am meek and humble of heart,” (Mt. 11:29) and who manifested upon thy holy face the sentiments of thy divine heart, grant that we may love to meditate frequently upon thy divine features. May we read therein thy love, firmness, manliness, gentleness, and humility and learn to form our hearts in the practice of these virtues which thou dost desire to see shine in thy servants. Mary our mother and St. Joseph, help us. O Jesus, through the merits of thy precious blood and thy holy face, grant us our petition (*here make your petition*). Pardon and mercy.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

O bleeding Face, O Face divine, be every adoration thine. (*three times*)

Fifth Day

(Begin with “Daily Consolation and Preparatory Prayer”)

“To my hearing thou shalt give joy and gladness, and the bones that have been humbled shall rejoice. Turn away thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.” (Ps. 50:10-11)

Holy Face of Jesus, sacred countenance of God, how great is thy patience with mankind, how great is thy forgiveness. We have sinned, yet thou dost love us. This gives us hope. For the glory of thy holy face and the Blessed Trinity, hear and answer us. Mary our mother, intercede for us; St. Joseph, pray for us. O Jesus, through the merits of thy precious blood and thy holy face, grant us our petition (*here make your petition*). Pardon and mercy.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

O bleeding Face, O Face divine, be every adoration thine. (*three times*)

Sixth Day

(Begin with “Daily Consolation and Preparatory Prayer”)

“Create a clean heart in me, O God, and renew a right spirit within my bowels. Cast me not away from thy face, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.” (Ps. 50:12-13)

May our hearts be cleansed, O Lord, by the inpouring of the Holy Spirit; and may he render them fruitful by watering them with his heavenly dew. Mary, chaste spouse of the Holy Spirit, intercede for us; St. Joseph, pray for us. O Jesus, through the merits of thy precious blood and thy holy face, grant us our petition (*here make your petition*). Pardon and mercy.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

O bleeding Face, O Face divine, be every adoration thine. (*three times*)

Seventh Day

(Begin with “Daily Consolation and Preparatory Prayer”)

“Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation, and strengthen me with a perfect spirit. I will teach the unjust

thy ways, and the wicked shall be converted to thee.” (Ps. 50:14-15)

Lord Jesus! After contemplating thy features disfigured by grief, after meditating upon thy Passion with compunction and love, how can our hearts fail to be inflamed with a holy hatred of sin, which even now outrages thy adorable face! Lord, suffer us not to be content with mere compassion but give us grace to follow thee closely in this Calvary so that thy opprobrium may fall upon us and we may thus have a share, small though it may be, in expiation of sin. Mary our mother, intercede for us; St. Joseph, pray for us. O Jesus, through the merits of thy precious blood and thy holy face, grant us our petition (*here make your petition*). Pardon and mercy.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

O bleeding Face, O Face divine, be every adoration thine. (*three times*)

Eighth Day

(Begin with “Daily Consolation and Preparatory Prayer”)

“Deliver me from blood, O God, thou God of my salvation, and my tongue shall extol thy justice. O Lord, thou wilt open my lips and my mouth shall declare thy praise.” (Ps. 50:16-17)

Most merciful Face of Jesus, who in this vale of tears was so moved by our misfortunes as to be the healer of the sick and the Good Shepherd of souls gone astray, allow not Satan to draw us away from thee. Keep us always under thy loving protection, together with all those who endeavor to console thee. Mary our mother, intercede for us; St. Joseph, pray for us. O Jesus, through the merits of thy precious blood and thy holy face, grant us our petition (*here make your petition*). Pardon and mercy.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

O bleeding Face, O Face divine, be every adoration thine. (*three times*)

Ninth Day

(Begin with “Daily Consolation and Preparatory Prayer”)

“For if thou hadst desired sacrifice, I would indeed have given it; with burnt offerings thou wilt not be

delighted. A sacrifice to God is an afflicted spirit; a contrite and humbled heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. Deal favorably, O Lord, in thy good will with Sion, that the walls of Jerusalem may be built up.” (Ps. 50:18-20)

O sacred Face of our Lord and God, what words can we say to express our gratitude? How can we speak of our joy that thou hast deigned to hear us, that thou hast chosen to answer us in our hour of need. We say this because thou hast promised in thy loving kindness to answer the prayers and pleadings of those who love and obey thee in all things. Mary our mother, we thank thee for thy intercession on our behalf. St. Joseph, we thank thee for thy prayers. O Jesus, through the merits of thy precious blood and thy holy face, grant us our petition (*here make your petition*). Pardon and mercy.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

O bleeding Face, O Face divine, be every adoration thine. (*three times*)

Recite the following Act of Consecration:

Act of Consecration

“For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God, in the face of Christ Jesus.” (2 Cor. 4:6)

O Lord Jesus Christ, we believe most firmly in thee and we love thee. Thou art the eternal Son of God and the incarnate Son of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Thou art the Lord and absolute ruler of all creation; therefore we acknowledge thee as the universal sovereign of all creatures and the Lord and supreme ruler of all mankind. In acknowledging this thy dominion, we consecrate ourselves to thee now and forever. Loving Jesus, we place ourselves under the protection of thy holy face and of thy virgin mother, sorrowful Mary. We promise to be faithful to thee for the rest of our lives and to observe with fidelity thy holy commandments. May we never deny thee and thy divine rights over us and all mankind. Grant us the grace to never sin again; nevertheless, if we should fail, O

divine Savior, have mercy on us and restore us to thy grace. Radiate thy divine countenance upon us, and bless us now and forever. Embrace us at the hour of death and bring us to thy kingdom for life everlasting, through the intercession of thy blessed Mother, of all thy saints who behold thee in heaven, and the just who glorify thee on earth. O Jesus, be mindful of us forever and never forsake us; protect our family. O Mother of Sorrows, by the everlasting glory which thou dost enjoy in heaven, through the merits of thy bitter anguish in the sacred Passion of thy Son, obtain for us the grace that the precious blood shed by Jesus for the redemption of our souls and bodies be not shed in vain. We love thee, O Mary our mother. Embrace us and bless us; protect us in life and in death. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forever and ever. Amen.

Novena to the Holy Spirit



Recited from the day after Ascension Day through the Vigil of Pentecost.

Foreword

The novena to the Holy Spirit is the oldest of all novenas since it was first made at the direction of our Lord when he sent his Apostles back to Jerusalem to await the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Day under the New Covenant. Addressed to God the Holy Spirit, the third Person of the Blessed Trinity, it is a powerful plea for the grace, faith, wisdom, strength, fear, and love needed by every Catholic to be saved.

First Day

Holy Spirit! Lord of Light! / From thy clear celestial height / Thy pure beaming radiance give!

The Holy Spirit: God the Holy Spirit, the third divine Person of the most holy Trinity, inspires and sanctifies souls. He gives men the grace to know, fear, love, worship, and obey God and thus to save their souls. And he dwells in sanctified souls; that is, in the souls of the faithful who are in the state of grace. Without the Holy Spirit and his grace and other spiritual gifts, no man can do or think anything good. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of light, of strength, and of love. With his bountiful gifts he inflames the heart with the fear and love of God; enlightens the mind with true wisdom, the Catholic faith; and strengthens the will so that we can obey all of God’s commandments. Hence we ought to invoke the Divine Spirit daily, for “the Spirit also helpeth our infirmity. For we know not what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself asketh for us with unspeakable groanings.” (Rom. 8:26)

Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, who hast vouchsafed to regenerate us by water and the Holy Spirit and hast given us forgiveness of sins, vouchsafe to send forth from heaven thy Holy Spirit upon us, the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, the Spirit of Counsel and Fortitude, the Spirit of Knowledge and Piety, and fill us with the Spirit of Holy Fear. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be; Act of Consecration to the Holy Spirit; Prayer for Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Act of Consecration to the Holy Spirit

On my knees before the great multitude of heavenly witnesses, I offer myself, soul and body, to thee, eternal Spirit of God. I adore the brightness of thy purity, the unerring keenness of thy justice, and the might of thy love. Thou art the strength and light of my soul. In thee I live and move and am. I desire never to grieve thee by unfaithfulness to grace, and I pray with all my heart to be kept from

every sin. Mercifully guard my every thought; and grant that I may always watch for thy light, and listen to thy voice, and follow thy gracious inspirations. I cling to thee and give myself to thee and ask thee, by thy compassion, to watch over me in my weakness. Holding the pierced feet of Jesus, and looking at his five wounds, and trusting in his precious blood, and adoring his opened side and stricken heart, I implore thee, adorable Spirit, helper of my infirmity, so to keep me in thy grace that I may never sin against thee. Give me grace, O Holy Spirit, Spirit of the Father and the Son, to say to thee always and everywhere: "Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth. What wilt thou have me do?" Amen.

Prayer for Gifts of the Holy Spirit

O Lord Jesus Christ, who before ascending into heaven didst promise to send the Holy Spirit to finish thy work in the souls of thy Apostles and disciples, deign to grant the same Holy Spirit to me that he may perfect in my soul the work of thy grace and thy love.

Grant me the Spirit of Fear, that I may be filled with a loving fear and reverence toward God and may dread in any way to displease him;

The Spirit of Piety, that I may find the service of God sweet and amiable;

The Spirit of Fortitude, that I may bear my cross with thy help and may overcome with courage all the obstacles that oppose my salvation;

The Spirit of Knowledge of the Catholic faith, that I may know God and know what God has called me to be and grow perfect in the science of the saints;

The Spirit of Understanding, to enlighten my mind with the light of thy divine truth;

The Spirit of Counsel, that I may ever choose the surest way of pleasing God and gaining heaven;

The Spirit of Wisdom, that I may place the things of heaven above the perishable things of this world.

Mark me, dear Lord, with the sign of thy true disciples and animate me in all things with thy Spirit. Amen.

Second Day

Come, thou Father of the poor! /
Come, with treasures which endure! /
Come, thou light of all that live!

The Gift of Fear: The gift of fear fills us with a sovereign respect for God and makes us dread nothing so much as to offend him by sin. It is a fear that arises not only from the thought of Gehenna but, more importantly, from sentiments of love, reverence, and filial submission to our heavenly Father. It is the fear that is the beginning of wisdom, detaching us from the worldly pleasures that could in any way separate us from God. "They that fear the Lord will prepare their hearts and in his sight will sanctify their souls." (Eccus. 2:20)

Prayer

Come, O Blessed Spirit of Holy Fear, penetrate my inmost heart, that I may set thee, my Lord and God, before my face forever. Help me to shun all things that can offend thee, and make me worthy to appear before the pure eyes of thy divine majesty in heaven, where thou livest and reignest in the unity of the ever Blessed Trinity, God, forever and ever. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be; Act of Consecration to the Holy Spirit; Prayer for Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Third Day

Thou, of all consolers best, / Visiting the troubled breast / Dost refreshing peace bestow.

The Gift of Piety: Piety is a gift of God which makes us devout, reverent, and zealous in his service. It begets in our hearts a filial affection for God as our most loving Father. It inspires us to love and respect, for his sake, persons and things consecrated to him, as well as those who are vested with his authority. A Catholic who is filled with the gift of piety finds the practice of his religion not a burdensome duty but a delightful service. Where there is love, there is no labor.

Prayer

Come, O Blessed Spirit of Piety, possess my heart. Kindle therein such a love for God that I may find

satisfaction in his service, and for his sake lovingly submit to all legitimate authority. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be; Act of Consecration to the Holy Spirit; Prayer for Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Fourth Day

Thou in toil art comfort sweet, / Pleasant coolness in the heat, / Solace in the midst of woe.

The Gift of Fortitude: By the gift of fortitude, the soul is strengthened against natural fear and supported to the end in the performance of duty. Fortitude imparts to the will an impulse and energy which move it to undertake without hesitancy the most arduous tasks, to face dangers, to trample underfoot human respect, and to endure without complaint the slow martyrdom of even lifelong tribulation. "He that shall persevere to the end, he shall be saved." (Mt. 24:13)

Prayer

Come, O Blessed Spirit of Fortitude, uphold my soul in time of troubles and adversity, sustain my efforts after holiness, strengthen my weakness, give me courage against all the assaults of my enemies, that I may never be overcome and separated from thee, my God and greatest good. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be; Act of Consecration to the Holy Spirit; Prayer for Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Fifth Day

Light immortal! Light divine! / Visit thou these hearts of thine, / And our inmost being fill!

The Gift of Knowledge of the Catholic Faith: The gift of knowledge of the Catholic faith enables the soul to evaluate created things at their true worth—in their relation to God. It unmasks the pretense of creatures, reveals their deceptions, and points out their only true purpose as instruments in the service of God. It shows us the loving care of God even in adversity and directs us to glorify him in every circumstance of life. Guided by its light, we put first things first and prize the friendship of God

above all else. Knowledge of the Catholic faith is a fountain of life to him that possesses it.

Prayer

Come, O Blessed Spirit of Knowledge, grant me the gift of knowledge of the Catholic faith and to know the will of the Father and the knowledge of things necessary for my vocation and station in life. And may this knowledge be a source of edification, enlightenment, and usefulness and not of vanity and pride. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be; Act of Consecration to the Holy Spirit; Prayer for Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Sixth Day

If thou take thy grace away, / Nothing pure in man will stay, / All his good is turned to ill.

The Gift of Understanding:

Understanding, as a gift of the Holy Spirit, helps us to grasp the meaning of the truths of our holy religion, our Catholic faith, without which we cannot be saved. By faith we know them, but by understanding we learn to appreciate and relish them. It enables us to penetrate the inner meaning of revealed truths and through them to be quickened to newness of life. Our faith ceases to be sterile and inactive but inspires a mode of life that bears eloquent testimony to the faith that is in us. We begin to “walk worthy of God in all things pleasing, and increasing in the knowledge of God.” (Col 1:10)

Prayer

Come, O Spirit of Understanding, and enlighten our minds that we may know and believe all the mysteries of salvation and may merit at last to see the eternal light of thy Light and in the light of thy glory to have a clear vision of thee and the Father and the Son. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be; Act of Consecration to the Holy Spirit; Prayer for Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Seventh Day

Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
/ On our dryness pour thy dew; /
Wash the stains of guilt away!

The Gift of Counsel: The gift of counsel enables us to consult knowledgeable, wise, and reputable persons regarding uncertain matters in order to form a proper judgment. It enables us to judge rightly what must be done, especially in difficult circumstances. Counsel applies the principles furnished by faith, knowledge, and understanding to the innumerable concrete cases that confront us in the course of our daily duty as parents, teachers, public servants, and Christian citizens.

Prayer

Come, O Spirit of Counsel, help, guide, and inspire me in all my ways and judgments that I may always do thy holy will. Incline my heart to that which is good, turn it away from all that is evil, and direct me by the straight path of thy commandments to that goal of everlasting life for which I long. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be; Act of Consecration to the Holy Spirit; Prayer for Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Eighth Day

Bend the stubborn heart and will; /
Melt the frozen, warm the chill; /
Guide the steps that go astray!

The Gift of Wisdom: Wisdom enables us to evaluate our overall knowledge and understanding in order to see things in their proper perspective. Of wisdom it is written “all good things came to me together with her and innumerable riches through her hands.” (Wis. 7:11) It is the gift of wisdom that strengthens our faith, fortifies hope, perfects charity, and promotes the practice of virtue. Wisdom enlightens the heart and mind to discern and relish things divine, in the appreciation of which earthly joys pale in comparison whilst the cross of Christ yields a divine sweetness, according to the words of the Savior: “Take up thy cross and follow me...for my yoke is sweet and my burden light.” (Mt. 16:24, 11:30)

Prayer

Come, O Spirit of Wisdom, and reveal to my soul the mysteries of heavenly things, their exceeding greatness, power, and beauty. Teach me to love them above and beyond all

the passing joys and satisfactions of earth. Help me to attain them and possess them forever. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be; Act of Consecration to the Holy Spirit; Prayer for Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Ninth Day

Thou, on those who evermore / Thee confess and thee adore, / In thy bountiful gifts descend; / Grant them comfort when they die; / Grant them life with thee on high; / Grant them joys which never end. Amen.

Other Gifts of the Holy Spirit: The Holy Spirit is the giver of all good spiritual gifts, not just the ones mentioned previously. The Holy Spirit gives men gifts that move them toward justification and perfection, gifts to embrace and fulfill a vocation, and gifts of special powers. Some gifts that move men toward justification and perfection are faith, hope, charity, prudence, temperance, fortitude, justice, fear of the Lord, counsel, understanding, piety, wisdom, knowledge, chastity, peace, patience, humility, mildness, moderation, goodness, longsuffering, fidelity, joy, and benignity. Some vocational gifts are the priesthood, governing, managing, soldiery, law enforcement, ranching, farming, perpetual virginity, marriage, widowhood, and carpentry. Some special power gifts are miracles, prophecy, casting out devils, and discernment.

Prayer

Come, O Divine Spirit, and grant me all the spiritual gifts I need to be a good Catholic and be saved, to live a holy and honest life, to faithfully and joyfully fulfill my vocation, and to humbly thank thee for any special powers that thou mayest give me for the glory of God and the salvation of souls. May I never weary in the service of God; but by continued faithful submission to thy inspirations, may I merit to be united forever with thee in the love of the Father and the Son. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be; Act of Consecration to the Holy Spirit; Prayer for Gifts of the Holy Spirit; Prayer to the Holy Spirit.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of thy faithful and kindle in them the fire of thy love. Send forth thy Spirit and they shall be sanctified, and thou shalt renew the face of the earth.

LET US PRAY: O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit didst instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in his consolation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Novena to the Infant of Prague



O dearest Jesus, tenderly loving us, our greatest joy is for thee to dwell among us and to bestow thy blessing upon us! Though I am not worthy that thou should behold me with love, I feel myself drawn to thee, O dear Infant Jesus, because thou dost gladly pardon me and exercise thy almighty power over me.

So many who turned with confidence to thee have received grace and had their petitions granted. Behold me as I kneel before thee and lay open my heart to thee, with its prayers, petitions, and hopes, especially the petition of *(here make your petition)* which I enclose in thy loving heart. Govern me and do with me and mine according to thy holy will, for I know that in thy divine wisdom and love thou wilt ordain everything for the best. Almighty gracious Infant Jesus, do not withdraw thy hand from us, but protect and bless us forever.

I pray thee, sweetest Infant, in the name of thy blessed mother Mary, who cared for thee with such tenderness, and by the great reverence with which St. Joseph carried thee in his arms, comfort me and make me happy, that I may bless and thank thee forever with all my heart. Amen.

Novena of the Miraculous Medal



O Lord Jesus Christ, who hast vouchsafed to glorify by numberless miracles the Blessed Virgin Mary, immaculate from the first moment of her conception, grant that all who devoutly implore her protection on earth may enjoy thy presence in heaven forever, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit livest and reignest, God, forever and ever. Amen.

O Lord Jesus Christ, who for the accomplishment of thy greatest works hast chosen the weak things of the world so that no flesh may glory in thy sight, and who for a better and more widely diffused belief in the Immaculate Conception of thy Mother didst wish that the Miraculous Medal be manifested to St. Catherine Labouré, grant, I beseech thee, that I may glorify this mystery by word and work. Amen.

Novena Prayer

O Immaculate Virgin Mary, Mother of our Lord Jesus, and our mother, penetrated with the most lively confidence in thine all-powerful and never-failing intercession, manifested so often through the Miraculous Medal, we thy loving and trustful children implore thee to obtain for us the graces and favors we ask during this novena if they be beneficial to our immortal souls and the souls for whom we pray *(here make your petition)*. Thou knowest, O Mary, how often our souls have been the

sanctuaries of thy Son who hates iniquity. Obtain for us, then, a deep hatred of sin and that purity of heart which will attach us to God alone so that our every thought, word, and deed may tend to his greater glory. Obtain for us also a spirit of prayer and self denial, that we may recover by penance what we have lost by sin and at length attain to that blessed abode where thou art the Queen of angels and of men. Amen.

An Act of Consecration to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

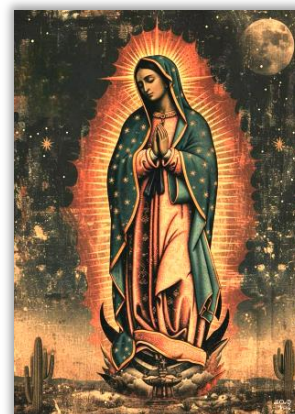
Pray this on the last day of the Novena. And you can pray it any other time when inspired to do so..

O Virgin Mother of God, Mary Immaculate, we dedicate and consecrate ourselves to thee under the title of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. May this medal be for each one of us a sure sign of thy affection for us and a constant reminder of our duties toward thee. Ever while wearing it, may we be blessed by thy loving protection and preserved in the grace of thy Son. O most powerful Virgin, Mother of our Savior, keep us close to thee every moment of our lives. Obtain for us, thy children, the grace of a happy death so that in union with thee we may enjoy the bliss of heaven forever. Amen.

Recite three times:

L. O Mary, conceived without sin.
R. Pray for us who have recourse to thee.

Novena of Our Lady of Guadalupe



Introduction Prayer

Prayed every day before the daily prayer

Remember, O most gracious Virgin of Guadalupe, that in your heavenly apparitions on the mount of Tepeyac, you promised to show your compassion and pity towards all who, loving and trusting you, seek your help and call upon you in their necessities and afflictions. You promised to hear our supplications, to dry our tears, and to give us consolation and relief.

Never has it been known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, we fly to you, O Mary, ever-Virgin Mother of the true God! Though grieving under the weight of the sins we have committed, we come to prostrate ourselves before you. We fully trust that, standing beneath your shadow and protection, no trouble or affliction will overcome us, nor do we need to fear illness or misfortune, or any other sorrow.

O Virgin of Guadalupe, you desire to remain with us through your admirable image, you who are our Mother, our health, and our life. Placing ourselves beneath your maternal gaze, and having recourse to you in all our necessities, we have confidence that you will intercede for us.

O Holy Mother of God, despise not our petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer us. Amen.

First Day

Dearest Lady of Guadalupe, fruitful Mother of holiness, teach me your ways of gentleness and strength. Hear my humble prayer offered with heartfelt confidence to beg this favour (*mention your intention here*). This I ask you, my dear Mother.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Second Day

Introduction Prayer

O Mary, conceived without sin, I come to your throne of grace to share the fervent devotion of your faithful Mexican children who call to you under the glorious Aztec title of

Guadalupe. Obtain for me a lively faith to do your Son's holy will always. May His will be done on earth as it is in heaven. This I ask you, my dear Mother.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Third Day

Introduction Prayer

O Mary, whose Immaculate Heart was pierced by seven swords of grief, help me to walk valiantly amid the sharp thorns strewn across my pathway. Obtain for me the strength to be a true imitator of you. This I ask you, my dear Mother.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Fourth Day

Introduction Prayer

Dearest Mother of Guadalupe, I beg you for a fortified will to imitate your divine Son's charity, to seek the good of others in need. I humbly ask, grant me this, my dear Mother.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Fifth Day

Introduction Prayer

O most holy Mother, I beg you to obtain for me pardon of all my sins, abundant graces to serve your son faithfully, and lastly, the grace to praise him with you forever in heaven. This I ask you, my dear Mother.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Sixth Day

Introduction Prayer

Mary, Mother of vocations, multiply true priestly vocations and fill the earth with true Catholic religious houses which will be light and warmth for the refuge of souls, and safety in stormy nights from the evils of this world. Ask your Son to send us many true religious vocations in these days of the Great Apostasy. This I ask you, my dear Mother.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Seventh Day

Introduction Prayer

O Lady of Guadalupe, we beg you that parents live a holy Catholic life

and educate their children in a Christian manner; that children obey and follow the godly directions of their parents; that all members of the Catholic family pray and worship together. This I ask you, my dear Mother.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Eighth Day

Introduction Prayer

With my heart full of the most sincere veneration, I prostrate myself before you, O Mother, to ask you to obtain for me the grace to fulfil the duties of my state in life with faithfulness and constancy. This I ask you, my dear Mother.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Ninth Day

Introduction Prayer

O God, you have been pleased to bestow upon us unceasing favors by having placed us under the special protection of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary. Grant us, your humble servants, who rejoice in honoring her today upon earth, the happiness of seeing her face in heaven. This I ask you, my dear Mother.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Novena to St. Joseph



Saint Joseph, you are the faithful protector and intercessor of all who love and venerate you. You know that I have confidence in you and that, after Jesus and Mary, I come to you for an example of holiness, as you are

especially close to God. Therefore, I humbly commend myself to your intercession along with all who are dear to me and all that belong to me. I beg of you, by your love for Jesus and Mary, not to abandon me during life and to assist me at the hour of my death.

Glorious Saint Joseph, spouse of the Immaculate Virgin, pray for me to have a pure, humble, charitable heart and mind, and perfect resignation to the divine will. Be my guide, my father, and my model through life that I may die as you did in the arms of Jesus and Mary.

Loving Saint Joseph, faithful follower of Jesus Christ, I raise my heart to you to implore your powerful intercession in obtaining from the divine heart of Jesus all the graces necessary for my spiritual and temporal welfare, particularly the grace of a happy death, and the special grace I now implore:

(Mention your request)

Guardian of the Word Incarnate, I feel confident that your prayers on my behalf will be graciously heard before the throne of God.

St. Joseph, most just, pray for us!
Amen.

Glory Be...

Novena to Saint Michael the Archangel



First Day

Saint Michael the Archangel, full of God's wisdom and strong in battle, come to my aid, sustain me in difficulties, in trials, when I suffer, when I doubt, when I cry. Obtain for me the courage, the strength, and the will, so that I will not be defeated. Saint Michael the Archangel, be my defender and protector against the forces of evil.

Most glorious Prince of the heavenly host, Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle against the rulers and powers, against the dominators of this dark world, against the evil spirits spread in the air. Come to the aid of men whom God made in the image of his own nature, and redeemed at great cost from the tyranny of the devil. Amen.

Lord, entrusting myself to the intercession of your blessed Saint Michael the Archangel, I beseech you to grant me the grace to love you above all things and to serve you with grace and truth.

Saint Michael the Archangel, with your light inspire us. With your wings protect us. With your sword defend us. *list your petition*

Second Day

Saint Michael, Prince of the Militia of Angels, I invoke you, hear me.

I beseech you to take my soul on the last day into your most holy custody, and lead it to the place of refreshment, peace, and rest, where the souls of the saints await in ineffable joy the coming judgment and the glory of the triumphant resurrection. Whether I speak or remain silent, whether I watch, walk, or rest, guard me in the performance of all my works, in all the acts of my life. Preserve me from the temptations of the devils and the pains of Gehenna.

Saint Michael the Archangel, terror of the devils and conqueror of Satan, come to my aid in the struggle I must wage every day against my faults, against the evil influences that assail me from all sides. Help me to overcome temptations and to wage the good fight with perseverance and

confidence for my greater good.
Amen.

Lord, entrusting myself to the intercession of your blessed Saint Michael the Archangel, I beseech you to grant me the grace to love you above all things and to serve you with grace and truth.

Saint Michael the Archangel, with your light inspire us. With your wings protect us. With your sword defend us. *list your petition*

Third Day

Great defender of the Christian people, Saint Michael the Archangel, defend the Catholic Church, crush heresy, exterminate schisms, and confound unbelief.

Multiply your victories over the infernal monsters who want to destroy our Catholic Faith. May the Catholic Church of Jesus Christ welcome new faithful and gather entire kingdoms so that it may populate heaven with chosen souls, for the greater glory of the divine Redeemer, to whom you yourself owe your triumphs, your merits, and your everlasting happiness.

Saint Michael the Archangel, faithful servant of God, humble and loyal to your Creator, you rose up and fought against Lucifer, the rebel, the proud. Be my support and strength in the fight against evil. Teach me to praise, to love, to serve the Lord our God, in humility, trust, faithfulness and love. Amen.

Lord, entrusting myself to the intercession of your blessed Saint Michael the Archangel, I beseech you to grant me the grace to love you above all things and to serve you with grace and truth.

Saint Michael the Archangel, with your light inspire us. With your wings protect us. With your sword defend us. *list your petition*

Fourth Day

O glorious St. Michael, Standard Bearer of the good angels, assist me always in your goodness and protect me.

From the legions of the angel of darkness defend me, that under your guidance I may share the light of the good angels. Before the throne of the Supreme Judge, be my defender, plead my cause, and call down the wrath of the just avenger upon the enemies of my soul and body.

Through you, may my work, my rest, my days and nights be given prosperity; may my mind be always ready for the works of God. Saint Michael the Archangel, Angel of Peace, in battle of heaven you gathered the faithful angels to defeat Satan and to praise God with gladness, joy and peace; I especially beg you to intercede for the reign of peace in Catholic hearts and families and in Catholic nations. May the kingdom of peace and love of Christ our Savior come. Amen.

Lord, entrusting myself to the intercession of your blessed Saint Michael the Archangel, I beseech you to grant me the grace to love you above all things and to serve you with grace and truth.

Saint Michael the Archangel, with your light inspire us. With your wings protect us. With your sword defend us. *list your petition*

Fifth Day

Saint Michael the Archangel, it is you whom the holy Catholic Church venerates as her guardian and protector. It is also to you that the Lord has entrusted the mission of introducing into heavenly bliss the souls of the elect.

Therefore, pray to the God of Peace to crush Satan under our feet so that he can no longer hold men in his chains and harm the Catholic Church.

Present our prayers to the Most High, so that the Lord may have mercy on us without delay.

Take hold of the dragon, the ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and cast him in chains into the abyss that he may no longer deceive the nations.

Saint Michael the Archangel, benefactor of the peoples who honor you, be always at my side. Teach me to live in unceasing communion of

heart and mind with the Lord, and in peace with my brothers. Present to God my humble prayers and supplications. Pray with me, pray for me, support me. Amen.

Lord, entrusting myself to the intercession of your blessed Saint Michael the Archangel, I beseech you to grant me the grace to love you above all things and to serve you with grace and truth.

Saint Michael the Archangel, with your light inspire us. With your wings protect us. With your sword defend us. *list your petition*

Sixth Day

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle that we may not perish on the day of the dreaded judgment.

Most glorious Prince, remember us and pray to the Son of God for us, everywhere and always.

When you were fighting the dragon, the voice of those who said, "Hail, honor and glory to God Almighty!" was heard from heaven. The sea rose, the earth shook, when you came down from heaven. Come to the aid of the people of God.

Saint Michael the Archangel, our support in the fight against evil, see the fierce and continuous battle that the forces of evil wage against the children of God. I beg you, intercede for us, support those who are despised, rejected, persecuted for Christ's sake, so that they may remain faithful to the Lord. Obtain for them and for us courage, confidence, and perseverance. Amen.

Lord, entrusting myself to the intercession of your blessed Saint Michael the Archangel, I beseech you to grant me the grace to love you above all things and to serve you with grace and truth.

Saint Michael the Archangel, with your light inspire us. With your wings protect us. With your sword defend us. *list your petition*

Seventh Day

O Saint Michael, holy Prince of the Sacred Militia, God has charged you with the organization and leadership

of the angelic guards, most worthy of praise and honor.

By your intercession, may God enlighten my inner senses, strengthen my poor heart agitated by the storms of this life; raise my mind to the heights of celestial wisdom; establish my steps on the path that leads to Heaven; heal the wounds of my soul; and protect my soul from the trace of sins that engender in me misery and misfortune.

Saint Michael the Archangel, guardian and patron of the Holy Catholic Church, protect today the Church of Christ challenged and criticized by the forces of evil. Saint Michael, support the Vicar of Jesus Christ the papacy *if there is no pope* and all the faithful in communion with him it.

Help those who doubt and falter. Be today and always the defender and protector of the Holy Church of Christ. Amen.

Lord, entrusting myself to the intercession of your blessed Saint Michael the Archangel, I beseech you to grant me the grace to love you above all things and to serve you with grace and truth.

Saint Michael the Archangel, with your light inspire us. With your wings protect us. With your sword defend us. *list your petition*

Eighth Day

Saint Michael the Archangel, whose mission it is to gather our prayers, direct our battles and weigh our souls, I pay tribute to your beauty. You are the most glorious prince of God's heavenly army. Your will is harmoniously united with that of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, for the glory of God and the good of man.

Defend me against the enemies of my soul and body. Make me feel the comfort of your invisible assistance and the effects of your vigilant tenderness.

Saint Michael the Archangel, whose prayer leads to good, you are our intercessor before God; pray for the repose of the souls of our dear faithful departed, especially *N.*, and for the consolation of those who

mourn them. May the God of Mercy receive them into the happiness of everlasting life. Amen.

Lord, entrusting myself to the intercession of your blessed Saint Michael the Archangel, I beseech you to grant me the grace to love you above all things and to serve you with grace and truth.

Saint Michael the Archangel, with your light inspire us. With your wings protect us. With your sword defend us. *list your petition*

Ninth Day

Glorious Archangel Saint Michael, you are the great promoter of the glory of God and the protector of the Catholic Church.

The Almighty has entrusted you with the mission of receiving the souls of the elect when they leave the body, to present them to the most just Judge. Please help me in my last struggle. Accompanied by my good Guardian Angel, come to my aid, and drive away from me all infernal spirits.

Do not allow them to frighten me then. Strengthen me in Faith, Hope and Charity, so that my soul, brought by you to its Judge, may be introduced to the place of rest, to reign there everlastingly with its Redeemer. Amen.

Saint Michael the Archangel, you introduce the souls of the elect into the everlasting light. Every second souls leave this land of exile; be with the faithful who are dying and thus fighting the last battle against the prince of lies and evil who would like to drag them into the abyss. With Mary, the Immaculate Virgin, be with us to assist us at the hour of the great passage from this world. Present our soul to the God of Mercy and Love. Amen.

Lord, entrusting myself to the intercession of your blessed Saint Michael the Archangel, I beseech you to grant me the grace to love you above all things and to serve you with grace and truth.

Saint Michael the Archangel, with your light inspire us. With your wings protect us. With your sword defend us. *list your petition*

Novena to St. Raphael the Archangel



Illustrious Archangel St. Raphael, who faithfully accompanied the youth Tobias from Syria to Media, deign also to accompany me on the dangerous journey which I am making for my salvation.

Glory Be...

Wise Archangel St. Raphael, who while walking beside the river Tigris preserved the youth Tobias from the peril of death, teaching him how to obtain control of the fish which threatened him, preserve my life also from the attacks of the monsters which threaten to devour me.

Glory Be...

Compassionate Archangel St. Raphael, who by a wonderful miracle restored the precious gift of sight to the blind Tobias, free my life, I beseech thee, from the blindness which afflicts and stains it so that I may know things in their true aspect. Never permit me to be deceived by appearances, but help me always to walk secure in the way of the divine commandments.

Glory Be...

Archangel St. Raphael, ever standing before the throne of the most High to praise him, to glorify him, and to serve him, obtain for me the grace never to lose sight of the Divine Presence so that my thoughts, my words, and my works may be directed always to the glory of God and to my own sanctification.

Glory Be...

Novena to St. Anne



O glorious St. Anne, filled with compassion for those who invoke thee and with love for those who suffer, heavily laden with the weight of my troubles I cast myself at thy feet and humbly beg of thee to take under thy special protection the present request which I commend to thee (*here make your petition*).

Be pleased to commend it to thy daughter, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and lay it before the throne of Jesus so that he may bring it to a happy outcome. Cease not to intercede for me until my request is granted. Above all obtain for me the grace of one day beholding my God face to face and, with thee and Mary and all the saints, of praising and blessing him forever. Amen.

Good St. Anne, mother of her who is our life, our sweetness, and our hope, pray to her for us and obtain our request. (*recite three times*)

Good St. Anne, pray for us. Jesus, Mary, Anne.

LET US PRAY: O God, who didst vouchsafe to endow blessed Anne with grace so that she might be worthy to become the mother of her who brought forth thine only-begotten Son, mercifully grant that we who devoutly venerate her memory may also be helped by her powerful intercession. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Novena to St. John the Apostle



First Day

Jesus, you revealed yourself as the gate through whom we must pass to find everlasting life. Help us follow in the footsteps of your Apostle John and respond to your call with a sincere faith. St. John, fisher of men, at the very sound of our Lord's voice, you put down your net and followed Jesus. You embraced God's will for your life. Walk alongside me in my journey with Christ. Teach me to open my heart to God as you did, so that I may recognize his presence in my daily tasks. Help me know the sound of Jesus' voice and embrace His call. Pray that I may courageously step out of my boat, willing to leave everything else behind if I must, and become a faithful and humble disciple of Christ. Pray also for the special intention which I hold in my heart today... *(Mention your intentions here)*. St. John the Apostle, pray for us!

Second Day

Jesus, Word of God, you existed since the beginning and brought everything into creation. Yet you willingly made your dwelling among us. Help us truly fear, love, and obey you like your Apostle John. St. John, for three years you witnessed the incredible power of Christ by living alongside him. You saw the sick healed, the lame walk, and the dead raised. You saw Christ turn water into

wine and feed thousands with only a bit of fish and bread. To you, Jesus revealed himself as the fulfillment of God's promise. Help increase my faith. Open to me the presence of God in Scripture and in my daily life. Instill in me a deep love for the Word of God. Show me how to make my heart a suitable home for him. Pray that I may always recognize the gifts Jesus desires to give me and that I may always praise him. Please, offer sincerest gratitude on my behalf to our Heavenly Father. Pray also for the intention I entrust to you today... *(Mention your intentions here)*. St. John the Apostle, pray for us!

Third Day

Jesus, Light of the World, you promised your followers the light of life. Reveal to me your glory through your Apostle John. Beloved John—Apostle and friend of Jesus—you were permitted to witness the radiance of God's splendor during the Transfiguration of our Lord. Help lead me out of the darkness of sin and shame into the presence of God. Alongside Peter and your brother James, Christ revealed his divinity to you, and you heard the voice of the Father to affirm it. Show me how to live as a close friend of Jesus, that I may know Him as you did. Help me live as a child of the Light, never ceasing to follow His commandments. Pray that the light of Christ illuminates my heart and mind that I may one day share in His glory. Please pray also for the special intention which I bring to you today... *(Mention your intentions here)*. St. John the Apostle, pray for us!

Fourth Day

Jesus, Bread of Life, you promised those who would come to you that they would never hunger or thirst. Instill in us the Eucharistic love of St. John. O beloved Apostle of Christ, you heard the Divine Heart beating as you rested your head on the breast of our Lord. To you, the mysteries of heaven have been revealed. Bring me ever closer to the heart of Christ. Your feet were washed by your teacher and Lord before he nourished your soul and body with his very self.

He gave you the commandment to "take and eat," inviting you to partake in his everlasting life. Help me recognize the True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and kindle within me a blazing love for the Most Blessed Sacrament. Increase my desire to unite myself to Christ, especially at the celebration of the Holy Mass. Please pray also for the intention closest to my heart... *(Mention your intentions here)*. St. John the Apostle, pray for us!

Fifth Day

Jesus, True Vine, you asked that we remain always with you, for we cannot bear fruit on our own. Through the intercession of St. John the Apostle, give us the grace to abide in your love. St. John, you went with Jesus and the two other Apostles to the Mount of Olives to pray with our Lord as he agonized over His impending Passion. Three times during this first holy hour, Christ sorrowed because he found you asleep. The spirit was willing, but the flesh was weak. Be with me during my own trials. Help me embrace my suffering and to run wholeheartedly to the Lord, especially in times of distress. Keep me close to Christ. Pray for me so that I am found ready and alert when my time has come. Pray also for the leaders of our Catholic Church that they might always stand vigilant, ready to protect their flock from all that could harm them. Finally, please pray for the special intention I bring to you today... *(Mention your intentions here)*. St. John the Apostle, pray for us!

Sixth Day

Jesus, Good Shepherd, you humbly laid down your life for us, your sheep. Help us learn from St. John the Apostle how to offer ourselves in return to you. St. John, Apostle of Charity, you stood at the foot of the cross, the only one of the twelve to remain at Jesus' side during his darkest hour, bringing comfort to our suffering Savior. You stood close enough for the Precious Blood of Our Lord to fall upon you as it poured from his hands and feet, one of the

first receivers of this priceless gift. Bring me close enough to kiss the wounds of my Savior. Help me to drink deeply of the streams of mercy and love that flowed from the pierced side of Christ. Show me how to cling to Jesus especially in times of great difficulty and help me to console his Sacred Heart by uniting my sufferings to his. Pray that I may always abide in His love. Please bring my petition to the foot of Christ's cross... (*Mention your intentions here*). St. John the Apostle, pray for us!

Seventh Day

Jesus, you are the Resurrection and the Life. You promised that those who followed you would never die. Like your Apostle John, bring us into your everlasting life. Blessed John, the disciple whom Jesus loved, at the news of Christ's Resurrection, you hastened to the empty tomb. With your own eyes, you witnessed his triumph over sin and death. Help me enter into the joy and promise of the Resurrection. Teach me to pursue Christ, even when it seems like all is lost. Show me how to trust in God's infinite goodness and power in spite of my sins and failings. Encourage me to always run toward the Savior. Pray that lost souls, especially those closest to me, may come to Christ. Pray also for me to remain steadfast in the hope that I may dwell with God forever. Finally, please pray for the intention which I bring to you now... (*Mention your intentions here*). St. John the Apostle, pray for us!

Eighth Day

Jesus, the Word made Flesh, the Father's love became incarnate through your Immaculate Mother. Help us, like John, to live as one of her children. O Beloved Disciple, from the cross our Lord tenderly entrusted you to the care of his Blessed Mother, and she to you. From that moment on, you took Mary into your home. You protected and cared for her until she reached the end of her earthly life. Teach me to love and honor the Mother of God as you did. Help increase my devotion to our Blessed Mother. Help me draw closer to her so that she may bring me closer

to her Son. Pray that she be with me at the moment of my death to lead me into heaven. Please pray also through the intercession of the Blessed Mother for the special intention I bring to you today... (*Mention your intentions here*). St. John the Apostle, pray for us!

Ninth Day

Jesus, you are the Way, the Truth and the Life. Through you alone can we come to our heavenly Father. Inspire us to live like your Apostle John and proclaim the Catholic faith with missionary zeal. St. John, missionary disciple of Christ, your love for Jesus inspired your every word and deed. Your life became a profound witness to the glory of God. Help me embrace Christ's call to go and make disciples. Before Christ, you lived as a humble fisherman, yet your words and example brought countless souls to him, your testimony still reaching through time. You speak to us today through your Gospel, continuing to share the goodness of God with his Catholic Church. Show me how to more and more open my mind and heart to the Holy Spirit and teach me to follow his inspirations. Grant me courage that I can be bold, as you were, in proclaiming the Good News. I ask you to pray especially for the special intention I bring to you today... (*Mention your intentions here*). St. John the Apostle, pray for us!

Novena for the Souls in Purgatory



Prayer to Our Suffering Savior for the Holy Souls in Purgatory

Said daily during the novena after the prayers for each day.

L. O most sweet Jesus, through the bloody sweat which thou didst suffer in the Garden of Gethsemane, have mercy on these blessed souls.

R. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

L. O most sweet Jesus, through the pains which thou didst suffer during thy most cruel scourging, have mercy on them.

R. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

L. O most sweet Jesus, through the pains which thou didst suffer in thy most painful crowning with thorns, have mercy on them.

R. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

L. O most sweet Jesus, through the pains which thou didst suffer in carrying thy cross to Calvary, have mercy on them.

R. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

L. O most sweet Jesus, through the pains which thou didst suffer during thy most cruel crucifixion, have mercy on them.

R. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

L. O most sweet Jesus, through the pains which thou didst suffer in thy most bitter agony on the cross, have mercy on them.

R. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

L. O most sweet Jesus, through the immense pain which thou didst suffer in breathing forth thy blessed soul, have mercy on them.

R. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

Here recommend yourself to the souls in purgatory and mention your petition.

Blessed Souls, I have prayed for thee; I entreat thee, who are so dear to God and who are secure of never losing him, to pray for me a repentant sinner who is in danger of being damned and of losing God forever. Amen.

Day One

Manifold are the sufferings which those blessed souls must endure, but the greatest of all is the reflection that their sins in life have offended God,

who is all good and worthy of all love, and are the cause of their present torments.

Jesus, my Savior, I have so often deserved to be cast into Gehenna! How great would be my suffering if I were now cast away and obliged to think that I myself had caused my damnation. I thank thee for the patience with which thou hast endured me. My God, I love thee above all things and I am heartily sorry for having offended thee because thou art infinite goodness. I would rather die than offend thee again. Grant me the grace of perseverance. Have pity on me and at the same time on those blessed souls suffering in purgatory. Mary, Mother of God, come to their assistance with thy powerful intercession.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be;
Prayer to Our Suffering Savior for the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Day Two

The second pain which causes these holy souls much suffering is the time lost in life when they might have gained merits for heaven, and the thought that they are unable to repair this loss because the time of life and merit is passed.

Woe to me, for the time I lost to do good but instead sinned and have earned naught but Gehenna! I give thee thanks, O Lord, for granting me time even now to atone for my sins. My good God, I am heartily sorry for having offended thee. Send me thy assistance that I may apply the time yet remaining to me for thy love and service; have compassion on me and at the same time on the holy souls suffering in purgatory. O Mary, Mother of God, come to their assistance with thy powerful intercession.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be;
Prayer to Our Suffering Savior for the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Day Three

Another great pain of the holy souls is caused by the hideous vision of their guilt for which they now suffer. In this life the hideousness of sin is not seen as in the life to come, and

this is one of the greatest sufferings of purgatory.

O my God! Because thou art infinite goodness, I love thee above all things and repent with my whole heart of my offenses against thee. Grant me the grace of holy perseverance. Have compassion on me and at the same time on the holy souls suffering in purgatory. And thou, Mary, Mother of God, come to their assistance with thy powerful intercession.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be;
Prayer to Our Suffering Savior for the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Day Four

The pain that still more afflicts these holy souls, the spouses of Jesus, is the thought that by their sins during life they displeased that God whom they so ardently love. Some penitents have felt so much pain and sorrow in thinking that they have offended so good a God by their sins that they died of grief. The souls in purgatory understand far better than we do the claims that God has to our love, and they love him with all their strength. Hence, at the thought of having offended him during life, they experience pain that surpasses all other pain.

O my God! Because thou art infinite goodness, I am sorry with my whole heart for having offended thee. I wish to die rather than ever offend thee again. Grant me the grace of holy perseverance. Have pity on me, and have pity on those holy souls who burn in thy cleansing fire and who love thee with all their heart. O Mary, Mother of God, assist them by thy powerful prayers.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be;
Prayer to Our Suffering Savior for the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Day Five

Another great suffering of these holy souls is caused by the ignorance of the time of their deliverance. They are certain of being released one day, yet the uncertainty of the time when their purgatorial term will end gives them great pain.

Woe to me, unhappy being, if thou, O Lord, hadst cast me into Gehenna, for

from that dungeon of everlasting pain there is no deliverance. I love thee above all things, O infinite God; and I am sincerely sorry for having offended thee. Grant me the grace of holy perseverance. Have compassion on me and at the same time on the holy souls suffering in purgatory. O Mary, Mother of God, come to their assistance with thy powerful intercession.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be;
Prayer to Our Suffering Savior for the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Day Six

The holy souls are indeed comforted by the recollection of the Passion of Jesus Christ and the Holy Sacrament of the Altar since they know that they were saved by Jesus' Passion and have received, and still receive, so much consolation from holy Masses and Holy Communion. They are full of gratitude for these two great gifts of his love.

O my divine Redeemer, thou didst die for me on the cross and hast so often united thyself with me in Holy Communion. I love thee above all things, O supreme God, and I am more grieved at my offences against thee than at any other evil. I would rather die than offend thee again. Grant me the grace of holy perseverance. Have compassion on me and at the same time on the holy souls suffering in purgatory. Mary, Mother of God, come to their aid with thy powerful intercession.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be;
Prayer to Our Suffering Savior for the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Day Seven

A further great sorrow of these holy souls consists in their ardent desire for the beatific vision. Slowly and painfully the moments of their purgatorial imprisonment pass by, for they love God deeply and desire to be delivered from their sad prison in order to praise him forever.

O God, Father of mercy, satisfy this their ardent desire! If it be thy will, send them thy holy angel to announce to them that thou, their Father, is now reconciled with them through the

suffering and death of Jesus and that the moment of their deliverance has arrived.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be;
Prayer to Our Suffering Savior for the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Day Eight

Another bitter sorrow of these souls is caused by the reflection that God had given them so many graces with which they did not cooperate and thus they caused him to send them to suffer in purgatory. But nevertheless, they are everlastingly thankful that God had mercy on them and pardoned them.

O my God! I also have been one of these, having received so much grace, and yet I did not love thee as I should have and thus deserved to be cast by thee into Gehenna. But thy mercy and goodness have spared me until now. Therefore, I now love thee above all things and I am heartily sorry for having offended thee. I would rather die than ever offend thee again. Grant me the grace of holy perseverance. Have compassion on me and at the same time on the holy souls suffering in purgatory. Mary, Mother of God, come to their aid with thy powerful intercession.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be;
Prayer to Our Suffering Savior for the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Day Nine

Great are all the sufferings of the holy souls: the fire, the grief, the darkness, the uncertainty of the time of their deliverance from prison; but the greatest of all these sorrows is this: that these holy souls are separated from their divine Spouse and deprived of his beatific vision.

O my God! How was it possible that for so many years I bore tranquilly the separation from thee and thy holy grace! O infinite goodness, how long-suffering hast thou shown thyself to be! Henceforth I shall love thee above all things. I am deeply sorry for having offended thee; I wish to die rather than offend thee again. Grant me the grace of holy perseverance, and do not permit that I should ever fall into sin again. Have compassion

on the holy souls in purgatory. I pray thee: moderate their sufferings, shorten the time of their misery, call them soon unto thee in heaven that they may behold thee face to face and forever love thee. Mary, Mother of mercy, come to their aid with thy powerful intercession, and pray for us also who are still in danger of everlasting damnation.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be;
Prayer to Our Suffering Savior for the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Novena to St. Patrick



Daily Prayer

O, Almighty God, we humbly offer these devotions in honor of thy servant Patrick, our apostle and patron; and we humbly beseech thee, through his merits and intercession, to grant us the favor we ask. *(here make your petition)*

First Day

Daily Prayer

O glorious St. Patrick, model of charity, obtain for me by thy merits and intercession, the grace of perfect charity that I may love God above all things and my neighbor as myself. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be
Saint Patrick, Pray for us.

Second Day

Daily Prayer

O great St. Patrick, great example of lively faith and obedience to the least

command of superiors and to all the ordinances of our Holy Catholic Church, obtain for me the grace to submit to and obey my superiors and spiritual guides in all things but sin, and that I may ever keep inviolably the precepts of the Church. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be
Saint Patrick, Pray for us.

Third Day

Daily Prayer

O great St. Patrick, ever the most humble in thy life and conversation, obtain for me the grace of true humility, and the grace to abhor all pride and to resist every temptation to vain glory. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be
Saint Patrick, Pray for us.

Fourth Day

Daily Prayer

O great St. Patrick, true lover of little children, obtain for us a share in the tenderness and true charity with which you were animated. We confide to your special care all the children for whom we are bound to pray, and beseech you to take them under your protection. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be
Saint Patrick, Pray for us.

Fifth Day

Daily Prayer

O great St. Patrick, obtain for us some share in your wonderful spirit of zeal for souls; and pray for us that we may never, either by word or act, endanger our own everlasting salvation or the salvation of others. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be
Saint Patrick, Pray for us.

Sixth Day

Daily Prayer

O great St. Patrick, model of mortification, obtain for us the true spirit of penance, and especially the grace to resist vigorously whatever sinful sensual inclination we are most tempted to indulge. Intercede also, we beseech thee, for those unhappy

persons addicted to the painful and degrading vice of intemperance, and obtain for them the grace to conquer their sinful thoughts and deeds. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be
Saint Patrick, Pray for us.

Seventh Day

Daily Prayer

Obtain for me, I beseech of you, O great St. Patrick, an ardent zeal for God's glory and the advancement of the Catholic faith, that following your example I may join in every good work in defending or spreading the Catholic faith when obliged to. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be
Saint Patrick, Pray for us.

Eight Day

Daily Prayer

O great St. Patrick, model of faithfulness in duty, obtain for me the grace to fulfill all my duties faithfully, and to do all from a pure intention of pleasing God and with a cheerful spirit. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be
Saint Patrick, Pray for us.

Ninth Day

Daily Prayer

Prayer for Day 9: O great St. Patrick, pray for us, that we also may one day obtain the crown of perseverance and a bright and glorious reward for all our sufferings. Take us, thy children, into thy special care and keeping, and pray for us and those for whom we pray to not be ensnared by heresy or schism or any other deadly sin. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be
Saint Patrick, Pray for us.

Novena to St. Benedict



O glorious St. Benedict, sublime model of all virtues, pure vessel of God's grace! Behold me, humbly kneeling at thy feet. I implore thy

loving heart to pray for me before the throne of God. To thee I have recourse in all the dangers which daily surround me. Shield me against my enemies; inspire me to imitate thee in all things. May thy blessings be with me always so that I may shun whatever God forbids and avoid the occasions of sin.

Graciously obtain for me from God those favors and graces of which I stand so much in need in the trials, miseries, and afflictions of life. Thy heart was always so full of love, compassion, and mercy toward those who were afflicted or troubled in any way. Thou didst never dismiss anyone who had recourse to thee. I therefore invoke thy powerful intercession in the confident hope that thou wilt hear my prayers and obtain for me the special grace and favor I so earnestly implore (*here make your petition*), if it be for the greater glory of God and the welfare of my soul.

Help me, O great St. Benedict, to live and die as a faithful child of God, to be ever submissive to his holy will, and to attain the everlasting happiness of heaven. Amen.

EXORCISM PRAYERS



Long Exorcism Prayer

Preliminary Prayers

KNEEL

If available, a Catholic priest must lead the prayers. If not, then the head of the household or of the group must lead them.

Recite the brief renunciation of Satan:

I renounce Satan with all his works and pomps and pledge myself to Jesus Christ forever.

*Then recite the [Act of Contrition](#), p. 91; [The Confiteor and Absolution](#), p. 102; and the [Litany of the Old and New Testament Saints](#), p. 116. *Light the charcoal for the incense if available.**

REMAIN KNEELING

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

Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered, and let them that hate him flee from before his face!

As smoke vanisheth, so let them vanish away; as wax melteth before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God. (Ps. 67:2-3) Judge thou, O Lord, them that wrong me; overthrow them that fight against me.

Let them be confounded and ashamed that seek after my soul. Let them be turned back and be confounded that devise evil against me. Let them become as dust before the wind, and let the angel of the Lord straighten them. Let their way become dark and slippery, and let the angel of the Lord pursue them.

For without cause they have hidden their net for me unto destruction, without cause they have upbraided my soul.

Let the snare, which he knoweth not, come upon him; and let the net which he hath hidden catch him; and into that very snare let him fall. But my soul shall rejoice in the Lord and shall be delighted in his salvation. (Ps. 34:1, 4-9)

Glory Be...

O most glorious Prince of the heavenly army, St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, in our

wrestling against Principalities and Powers, against the rulers of the world of this darkness, against the spirits of wickedness in the high places. (Eph. 6:12) Come to the aid of men, whom God created incorruptible and to the image of his own likeness he made him (Wis. 2:23), and from the tyranny of the devil he bought him at a great price. (1 Cor. 6:20)

Fight the battles of the Lord today with the army of the blessed angels, as once thou didst fight against Lucifer, the leader of pride, and his apostate angels, and they prevailed not, neither was their place found anymore in heaven. And that great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, who seduceth the whole world. And he was cast unto the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. (Apoc. 12:8-9)

Behold, the ancient enemy and murderer strongly raises his head! Transformed into an angel of light, with the entire horde of wicked spirits he goes about everywhere and takes possession of the earth so that therein he may blot out the name of God and of his Christ and try to steal away,

afflict, corrupt, and send men into everlasting damnation.

On men corrupt in heart and depraved in mind, the wicked dragon pours out like a most foul river the poison of his villainy, a spirit of lying, impiety, and blasphemy, and the deadly breath of lust and of all iniquities and vices. Her most crafty enemies have engulfed the Catholic Church, the spouse of the Immaculate Lamb; with sorrows they have drenched her with wormwood, on her desirable things they have laid their wicked hands.

Where the See of Blessed Peter and the Chair of Truth have been set up for the light of the Gentiles, there they have placed the throne of the abomination of their wickedness so that the Pastor having been struck they may also be able to scatter the flock. Therefore, O thou unconquerable leader, be present with the people of God and against the spiritual wickedness which is bursting in upon them, and bring them the victory.

The Holy Catholic Church venerates thee as its guardian and patron, and it glories in the fact that thou art its defender against the wicked powers of earth and Gehenna. To thee the Lord has assigned the souls of the elect to be placed in heavenly bliss. Beseech the God of Peace to crush Satan under our feet, that he may no more be able to hold men captive and to harm the Catholic Church.

Offer our prayers in the sight of the most High so that the mercies of the Lord may quickly come to our aid, that thou mayest seize the dragon, the ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and that having bound him thou mayest cast him into the bottomless pit so that he may no more seduce the nations. (Apoc. 20:3)

Hence confiding in thy protection and guardianship,

(say the following only if you are an authorized minister: by the sacred authority of our ministry,)

we confidently and securely begin the task, in the name of Jesus Christ our God and Lord, of driving away the attacks of diabolical deceit.

L. Behold the cross of the Lord; flee away, ye hostile forces. *[raise the crucifix]*

R. The Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath conquered.

L. May thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us.

R. Since we have hoped in thee.

L. O Lord, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto thee.

L. The Lord be with thee.

R. And with thy spirit.

LET US PRAY: O God, and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we invoke thy holy name and we humbly implore thy mercy, that by the intercession of the Mother of God Mary Immaculate ever Virgin, of blessed Michael the Archangel, of blessed Joseph the spouse of the same Blessed Virgin, of the blessed Apostles Peter and Paul and of all the saints thou wouldst deign to afford us help against Satan and all the other unclean spirits and against whatever wanders throughout the world to do harm to the human race and to ruin souls. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Exorcism Prayer

STAND

If incense is available, recite the [Blessing of Liturgical Incense](#), p. 194, and place the incense on the charcoal. Then incense the church or other place in which the exorcism is performed.

The ✠ denotes that the sign of the cross is to be made with a crucifix. If an individual is being exorcised, then the sign of the cross is made over him. If the exorcism is for the whole group present, then the leader, armed with a crucifix, must make the sign of the cross with the crucifix at each ✠, beginning in front of him, then to his right, then behind him, then to his left, and then back again to the front, covering all directions and continuing till there are no more ✠ symbols. The leader does not have to turn his whole body but must make sure the crucifix is facing in each direction when making the sign of the cross. The leader should speak forcefully and with authority.

We exorcize thee, O every unclean spirit, Satanic power, infernal invader, wicked legion, assembly and sect; in the name and by the power of our Lord Jesus Christ ✠ may thou be snatched away and driven from the Church of God and from the souls made to the image of God and redeemed by the precious blood of the Divine Lamb ✠. Most cunning serpent, thou shalt no more dare to deceive the human race, persecute the Catholic Church, torment God's elect, and sift them as wheat ✠. The most high God commands thee ✠, he with whom in thy great insolence thou still claimest to be equal, he who wants all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. (1 Tim. 2:4)

God the Father commands thee ✠; God the Son commands thee ✠; God the Holy Spirit commands thee ✠. The majesty of Christ, the eternal Word of God made flesh, commands thee ✠; he who to save our race outdone through thy envy "humbled himself, being obedient unto death, even to the death of the cross" (Phil. 2:8); he who has built his Church on the firm rock and declared that the gates of Gehenna shall never prevail against her because he will dwell with her "all days, even to the consummation of the world." (Mt. 28:20) The sacred sign of the cross commands thee ✠, as does also the power of the mysteries of the Christian faith ✠. The glorious Mother of God, the Virgin Mary, commands thee ✠; she who by her humility and from the first moment of her Immaculate Conception rebuked thee and thy pride. The faith of the holy Apostles Peter and Paul and of the other apostles commands thee ✠. The blood of the martyrs and the pious intercession of all the saints command thee ✠.

Thus, cursed dragon and thee diabolical legion, we adjure thee by the Living God ✠, by the True God ✠, by the Holy God ✠, by the God who "so loved the world, as to give his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him may not perish, but may have life everlasting" (Jn. 3:16), stop deceiving human creatures and pouring out to them the poison of everlasting damnation. Stop harming the Catholic Church and ensnaring

her liberty. Begone, Satan, inventor and master of all deceit, enemy of man's salvation. Give place to Christ in whom thou hast found none of thy works. Give place to the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church, acquired by Christ at the price of his blood. Stoop beneath the powerful hand of God. Tremble and flee when we invoke the holy and terrible name of JESUS; this name which causes Gehenna to tremble; this name to which the Virtues, Powers, and Dominations of heaven are humbly submissive; this name which the Cherubim and Seraphim praise unceasingly, repeating:

KNEEL

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord, God of armies!

L. O Lord, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto thee.

L. May the Lord be with thee.

R. And with thy spirit.

LET US PRAY: God of Heaven, God of Earth, God of Angels, God of Archangels, God of Patriarchs, God of Prophets, God of Apostles, God of Martyrs, God of Confessors, God of Virgins, God who has power to give life after death and rest after work, because there is no other God than thee and there can be no other, for thou art the Creator of all things visible and invisible, of whose reign there shall be no end. We humbly prostrate *[bow down]* ourselves

before thy glorious majesty; and we beseech thee to deliver us by thy power from all the tyranny of the infernal spirits, from their snares, their lies, and their furious wickedness. Deign, O Lord, we beseech thee, to grant us thy powerful protection and to keep us safe and sound. Amen.

L. From the snares of the devil.

R. Deliver us, O Lord.

L. Grant that thy Church may serve thee in secure liberty.

R. We beseech thee, hear us.

L. Deign to crush down the enemies of the Holy Catholic Church.

R. We beseech thee, hear us.

While reciting the [Exorcism Prayer of St. Michael the Archangel](#), p. 139, holy water is sprinkled on the persons present and in the place where the exorcism is being done and the property by processing around the perimeter of the property with one person leading with the incensor, the next carrying a crucifix, one sprinkling holy water, and the others following while reciting the Exorcism Prayer of St. Michael. When they come to the end of the procession, the leader must make the sign of the cross with a crucifix while sprinkling holy water beginning in front of him, then to his right, then behind him, and then to his left, which will go out to the whole world. When the people present return home, they must do the same with their homes and property.

Then repeat 3 times:

L. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

R. Have mercy on us.

Exorcism Prayer of St. Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection 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 Gehenna Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Exorcism Prayer of St. Benedict

Latin Version:

Crux Sancti Patri Benedicti / Crux
Sacra Sit Mihi Lux / Non Draco Sit
Mihi Dux / Vade Retro Satana! /
Numquam Suade Mihi Vana! / Sunt
Mala Quae Libas. / Ipse Venena
Bibas!

English Version:

The cross of the holy Father Benedict
/ The holy cross will be my light /
May the dragon never be my guide /
Begone Satan! / Never tempt me with
your vanities! / What you offer me is
evil. / Drink the poison yourself!

PRAYERS TO GOD



Prayer to the Holy Trinity

Most holy Trinity, Godhead indivisible, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, our Creator and Judge, since thou hast made us after thine own image, grant that all the affections of our hearts, all the thoughts of our minds, all the words of our tongues, and all our actions may be always conformed to thy most holy will so that we may come at last to contemplate thee face to face in the perfect possession of thee forever in heaven. Amen.

Prayer to God the Almighty Father

O eternal and almighty God the Father, the anchor of the most holy Trinity, who eternally begot thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ; and from thy Son and thee the Holy Spirit proceeds; all creation trembles and bows down before thee. Grant us all the graces and other helps we need in order to know, fear, love, worship, and obey thee as our ultimate Father so that our souls may be saved, and we may see thy most holy and adorable face forever and ever in the kingdom of thy glory. This we ask through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth forever and ever. Amen. (RJMI)

Hail, Christ Our King!



Most sweet Jesus! Come near to us, thy children; receive from our hands that crown which those who are but dust of earth try to seize from thee. Enter now in triumph among us, thy fervent followers! Hail, Christ our King!

Lawmakers may break the tables of thy law; but whilst they lose their thrones and are forgotten, we, thy subjects, will continue to salute thee! Hail, Christ our King!

They have said that thy gospel is out of date, that it hinders progress and must no longer be considered. They who say this soon disappear into obscurity and are forgotten, whilst we who adore thee continue to salute thee! Hail, Christ our King!

The proud, the worldly, those who possess unlawful riches, those who thirst for riches, honors, and pleasures alone, those who squander their lives away in laziness and sloth and indifference, declaring thy moral law to be for past ages, will be hurled against the Rock of Calvary and thy Catholic Church and falling will be reduced to dust and sink into oblivion, whilst we, thy followers, continue to salute thee! Hail, Christ our King!

Those who seek the dawn of a material civilization divorced from God will surely die, poisoned by their own false doctrine, deserted and cursed by their own children, whilst we, who would console thee, will continue to salute thee. Hail, Christ our King!

Yes, hail to thee, O Christ our King! Put to flight Lucifer, the fallen angel of darkness, from our homes, schools, work places, and societies. Force him and his agents into Gehenna. Chain him there everlastingly, whilst we, thy friends, continue to salute thee! Hail, Christ our King!

Seven Offerings of the Precious Blood

Eternal Father, I offer thee the merits of the most precious blood of Jesus, thy beloved Son and my divine Redeemer, for the propagation and

exaltation of my dear Mother the Holy Catholic Church; for the safety and prosperity of her visible head, the Holy Roman Pontiff;²⁴ and for the Catholic bishops, priests, and others ministers of the sanctuary.

Response: Glory be to the Father, etc. Blessed and praised forevermore be Jesus, who hath saved us by his precious blood!

Eternal Father, I offer thee the merits of the most precious blood of Jesus, thy beloved Son and my divine Redeemer, for the conversion of the enemies of our holy Catholic faith and for the happiness of all Christian people.

Response

Eternal Father, I offer thee the merits of the most precious blood of Jesus, thy beloved Son and my divine Redeemer, for the conversion of unbelievers, the extirpation of all heresies, and the repentance of sinners.

Response

Eternal Father, I offer thee the merits of the most precious blood of Jesus, thy beloved Son and my divine Redeemer, for all my relations, friends, and enemies; for the poor, the sick, and those in tribulation; and for all those for whom thou wilt I should pray or knowest that I ought to pray.

Response

Eternal Father, I offer thee the merits of the most precious blood of Jesus, thy beloved Son and my divine Redeemer, for those who are dying, that thou mayest grant them the grace and other help they need to save their immortal souls.

Response

Eternal Father, I offer thee the merits of the most precious blood of Jesus, thy beloved Son and my divine Redeemer, for all those who are lovers of this treasure of his blood, for all those who join with me in adoring and honoring it, and for all those who try to spread devotion to it.

²⁴ When the Holy See is vacant, replace the words "her visible head, the Holy Roman Pontiff" with "the papacy."

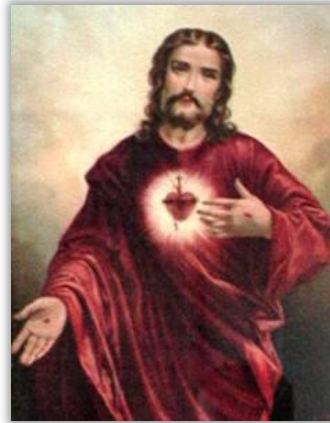
Response

Eternal Father, I offer thee the merits of the most precious blood of Jesus, thy beloved Son and my divine Redeemer, for all my wants, spiritual and temporal ; and for the holy souls in purgatory, particularly those who in their lifetime were most devoted to this price of our redemption and the sorrows and pains of our dear mother, Holy Mary.

Response

Blessed and praised be the most precious blood of Jesus, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer before a Picture of Jesus and His Sacred Heart



Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us! Most precious blood of Jesus, save us! Within thy wounds hide me, sweet Jesus. Praise the Lord, O my soul, and let all that is within me praise his holy name. Praise the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all he has done for thee; for he has forgiven all thy iniquities, healed all thy diseases, and redeemed thy soul from destruction. Thou art just, O Lord, and all thy judgments are right.

O Lord God, I thank thee for giving mankind another day. And may I use this day primarily to give thee great glory and for no sinful purpose; and second to thee, to give great glory to thy greatest masterpiece, thy mother and my mother, Mary, and then for the great glory of all thy angels and saints in heaven; and for the salvation of my own soul and the souls of others. Amen. (RJMI)

Prayer to the Holy Face



The Holy Shroud of Turin

O Lord Jesus Christ, in presenting ourselves before thine adorable face to ask of thee the graces of which we stand most in need, we beseech thee above all to grant us that interior disposition of never refusing at any time what thou requirest of us by thy holy commandments and divine inspirations. O good Jesus, who hast said "Ask, and you shall receive; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you," grant us, O Lord, that faith which obtains salvation, or supply in us what we lack. Grant us, by the pure effect of thy charity and for thine eternal glory, the graces which we need and which we look for from thy mercy.

Be merciful to us, O my God, and reject not our prayers when amid our afflictions we call upon thy holy name and seek with love and confidence thy adorable face.

O almighty and eternal God, look upon the face of thy Son Jesus. We present it to thee with confidence to implore thy pardon. The all-merciful Advocate opens his mouth to plead our cause; hearken to his cries, behold his tears, O God, and through his infinite merits hearken to him when he intercedes for us poor, repentant sinners.

Adorable face of Jesus, my love, my light, and my life, grant that I may know thee, love thee, and serve thee, that I may live with thee, of thee, by thee, and for thee.

Eternal Father, I offer thee the most adorable face of thy dearly beloved Son for the honor and glory of thy name, the conversion of sinners, the

perseverance of the just, the relief of the suffering souls in purgatory, and the salvation of the dying. O divine Jesus, through thy holy face, save us. Our hope is in thee! Amen.

Chaplet of the Infant of Prague



This chaplet consists of a medal of the Infant Jesus of Prague, three beads in honor of the Holy Family, and twelve beads in memory of the twelve years of the sacred childhood of our Divine Savior. Beginning on the medal, say:

Divine Infant Jesus, I venerate thy Cross and I accept all the crosses thou wilt be pleased to send me. Adorable Trinity, I offer thee for the glory of the holy name of God all the adorations of the Sacred Heart of the Holy Infant Jesus.

On each of the three beads, pray an Our Father in honor of the Holy Family (first Our Father for St. Joseph, second for the Blessed Virgin Mary, third for the Holy Infant Jesus). On each of the twelve beads, pray a Hail Mary in honor of the twelve years of Our Lord's childhood. Before each Our Father and Hail Mary, say:

And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

To conclude the chaplet, say:

Holy Infant Jesus, bless us and protect us!

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of thy faithful and kindle in them the fire of thy love. Send forth thy Spirit and they shall be sanctified, and thou shalt renew the face of the earth.

LET US PRAY: O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit didst instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in his consolation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit for Guidance

Come, Holy Spirit, Sanctifier, all powerful God of love, who filled the Virgin Mary with grace, who wonderfully transformed the hearts of the apostles, who endowed all thy martyrs with a miraculous heroism, come and sanctify us. Set our hearts on fire, illumine our hearts and minds, strengthen our wills, purify our consciences, rectify our judgments, and preserve us from the misfortune of resisting thine inspirations. We consecrate to thee our hearts, our wills, our understanding, and our whole being, for time and forever. May our hearts be ever inflamed with love of God and neighbor; may our wills be ever conformed to the divine will; may our understanding be always submissive to thy heavenly inspirations and to the teachings of thy Holy Catholic Church, of which thou art the infallible Guide; and may our whole life be a faithful imitation of the life and virtues of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to whom with the Father and thee, O Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Veni Creator

Come, O Creator Spirit blest!
And in our souls take up thy rest;
Come with thy grace and heavenly aid
To fill the hearts which Christ hast made,

Great Paraclete! To thee we cry,
O highest gift of God most high!
O fount of life! O fire of love!
And sweet anointing from above.

Thou in thy bountiful gifts art known,

The finger of God's hand we own;
The promise of the Father, thou!
Who dost the tongue with power endow.

Enkindle our senses from above,
And make our hearts overflow with love;
With patience firm and virtue high,
The weakness of our flesh supply.

Far from us drive the foe we dread,
And grant us thy true peace instead;
So shall we not, with thee for guide,
Turn from the path of life aside.

O may thy grace on us bestow
The Father and the Son to know,
And thee, through endless times confessed,
Of both, the eternal Spirit blest.

All glory while the ages run
Be to the Father and the Son,
Who rose from death, the same glory be to thee,
O Holy Spirit, eternally. Amen.

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Come, Holy Spirit, send down those beams, which sweetly flow in silent streams from thy bright throne above.

O come, thou Father of the poor;
O come, thou source of all our store;
come, fill our hearts with love.

O thou, of comforters the best;
O thou, the soul's delightful guest;
the pilgrim's sweet relief.

Rest art thou in our toil, most sweet refreshment in the noonday heat, and solace in our grief.

O blessed Light of life thou art!
Fill with thy light the inmost heart of those who hope in thee.

Without thy Godhead nothing can have any price or worth in man, nothing can harmless be.

Lord, wash our sinful stains away,
refresh from heaven our barren clay,
our wounds and bruises heal.

To thy sweet yoke our stiff necks bow,
warm with thy fire our hearts of snow,
our wandering feet recall.

Grant to thy faithful, dearest Lord,
whose only hope is thy sure word,
the bountiful gifts of grace.

Grant us in life thy grace, that we in peace may die and ever be in joy before thy face.
Amen. Alleluia.

PRAYERS TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



The Magnificat

(Luke 1:46-55)

✕ My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my
Savior

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 generation to them that fear him.

He hath showed 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 away
empty.

He hath received Israel his servant,
being mindful of his mercy, as he
spoke to our fathers, to Abraham, and
to his seed forever. Amen.

Ave Maris Stella

Hail, bright star of ocean,
God's own Mother blest,
Ever sinless Virgin,
Gate of heavenly rest.

Taking that sweet Ave
Which from Gabriel came,
Peace confirm within us,
Changing Eva's name.

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

Show thyself a mother;
May the Word divine,
Born for us thy Infant,
Hear our prayers through thine.

Virgin all excelling,
Mildest of the mild,
Freed from guilt, preserve us,
Pure and undefiled.

Keep our life all spotless,
Make our way secure,
Till we find in Jesus
Joy forevermore.

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

Little Crown of the Blessed Virgin Mary

I. Crown of Excellence

To honor the maternity of the Blessed Virgin, her ineffable virginity, her purity without stain, and her innumerable virtues.

1. Our Father... Hail Mary...

Blessed art thou, O Virgin Mary, who
didst bear the Lord, the Creator of the
world; thou didst give birth to him
who made thee, and remainest a
virgin forever. Rejoice, O Virgin
Mary; rejoice a thousand times!

2. Hail Mary...

O holy and immaculate Virgin, I
know not with what praise to extol
thee since thou didst bear in thy
womb the very One whom the
heavens cannot contain. Rejoice, O
Virgin Mary; rejoice a thousand
times!

3. Hail Mary...

Thou art all fair, O Virgin Mary, and
there is no stain in thee. Rejoice, O
Virgin Mary; rejoice a thousand
times!

4. Hail Mary...

Thy virtues, O Virgin, surpass the
stars in number. Rejoice, O Virgin
Mary; rejoice a thousand times!

Glory Be...

II. Crown of Power

To honor the royalty of the Blessed Virgin, her magnificence, her universal mediation, and the strength of her rule.

5. Our Father... Hail Mary...

Glory be to thee, O Empress of the
world! Bring us with thee to the joys

of heaven. Rejoice, O Virgin Mary; rejoice a thousand times!

6. Hail Mary...

Glory be to thee, O treasure-house of the Lord's graces! Grant us a share in thy riches. Rejoice, O Virgin Mary; rejoice a thousand times!

7. Hail Mary...

Glory be to thee, O Mediatrix between God and man! Through thee may the Almighty be favorable to us. Rejoice, O Virgin Mary; rejoice a thousand times!

8. Hail Mary...

Glory be to thee, who destroyest heresies and crushest demons! Be thou our loving guide. Rejoice, O Virgin Mary; rejoice a thousand times!

Glory Be...

III. Crown of Goodness

To honor the mercy of the Blessed Virgin toward sinners, the poor, the just, and the dying.

9. Our Father... Hail Mary...

Glory be to thee, O refuge of repentant sinners! Intercede for us with God. Rejoice, O Virgin Mary; rejoice a thousand times!

10. Hail Mary...

Glory be to thee, O Mother of orphans! Render the Almighty favorable to us. Rejoice, O Virgin Mary; rejoice a thousand times!

11. Hail Mary...

Glory be to thee, O joy of the just! Lead us with thee to the joys of heaven. Rejoice, O Virgin Mary; rejoice a thousand times!

12. Hail Mary...

Glory be to thee, who art ever ready to assist us in life and in death! Lead us with thee to the kingdom of heaven. Rejoice, O Virgin Mary; rejoice a thousand times!

Glory Be...

LET US PRAY: Hail Mary, Daughter of God the Father! Hail Mary, Mother of God the Son! Hail Mary, Spouse of God the Holy Spirit! Hail Mary, Temple of the most holy Trinity! Hail

Mary, my Mistress, my treasure, my joy, Queen of my heart, my Mother, my life, my sweetness, my dearest hope! I am all thine and all that I have is thine, O Virgin most blessed above all creatures! Let thy spirit be in me to magnify the Lord and to rejoice in him. Set thyself, O faithful Virgin, as a seal upon my heart, that in thee and through thee I may be found faithful to God. Receive me, O gracious Virgin, among those whom thou lovest and teachest, whom thou leadest, nourishest, and protectest as thy children. Grant that for the love of thee I may put heavenly consolations above those of earth, and that through the Holy Spirit, thy faithful Spouse, and thee, his faithful spouse, Jesus Christ thy Son may always dwell in me for the glory of the Father. Amen.

Salutation to Mary

Hail Mary! Daughter of God the Father,
Hail Mary! Mother of God the Son,
Hail Mary! Spouse of God the Holy Spirit,
Hail Mary! Temple of the most blessed Trinity,
Hail Mary! Pure lily of the effulgent Trinity,
Hail Mary! Celestial rose of the ineffable love of God,
Hail Mary! Virgin pure and humble, of whom the King of heaven willed to be born and with thy milk to be nourished,
Hail Mary! Virgin of virgins,
Hail Mary! Queen of martyrs, whose soul a sword transfixed,
Hail Mary! Lady most blessed, powerful, amiable, and admirable of all God's creatures,
Hail Mary! My Queen and my Mother! My life, my sweetness, and my hope,
Hail Mary! Mother of Divine Love,
Hail Mary! Immaculate, conceived without sin!
Hail Mary! Full of grace! The Lord is with thee! Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus!
Blessed be thy spouse, St. Joseph.
Blessed be thy father, St. Joachim.
Blessed be thy mother, St. Anne.
Blessed be thy guardian, St. John.
Blessed be thy holy angel, St. Gabriel.

Glory be to God the Father, who chose thee.

Glory be to God the Son, who loved thee.

Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, who espoused thee.

O glorious Virgin Mary, may all men love and praise thee.

Holy Mary, Mother of God! Pray for us and bless us, now and at death, in the name of Jesus, thy divine Son! Amen.

Consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Consecration to Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Wisdom, through the Blessed Virgin Mary

In preparation for your consecration to Mary, study the items listed in RMI Topic Index: Mary, the Blessed Virgin.

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, ever virgin! I adore thee profoundly who art in the bosom of the Father for all eternity and wert in the bosom of Mary, thy most worthy mother, in the time of thine Incarnation.

I give thee thanks that thou hast taken the form of a servant in order to rescue me from the cruel slavery of the devil. I praise and glorify thee that thou hast been pleased to submit thyself to Mary, thy holy Mother, in order to make me thy faithful child through her.

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 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 faith, virtue, and wisdom.

Hail, O Immaculate Mary, living tabernacle of the Divinity, where the Eternal Wisdom willed to be hidden and to be adored by angels and men! Hail, O Queen of heaven and earth, to whose empire, with Jesus as King and thee as Queen, every created thing is subject. Hail, O sure refuge of

repentant sinners, pray to thy Son, Jesus Christ, to have mercy on me. 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.**, have sinned. I 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 for my Mother. As thy child, I consecrate to thee my soul and body.

Receive, O benignant Virgin, this offering of my love and obedience. I declare that I wish henceforth, as thy true child, to seek thy honor and to obey thee in all things. O admirable Mother, present me to thy dear Son as his child so that as he has redeemed me by thee, by thee he may receive me! O Mother of mercy, ask God to grant me the grace to persevere and increase in wisdom and virtue and to live by them; and if I do not have them, to obtain them. Receive me amongst those whom thou lovest and teachest, whom thou leadest, nourishest, and protectest as thy children. O faithful Virgin, make me in all things a perfect disciple, imitator, and faithful child of the Incarnate Wisdom, Jesus Christ thy Son, that I may attain by thine intercession and by thine example to the fullness of a holy life on earth and life everlasting after death. Amen.

Act of Consecration to Our Lady of the Most Blessed Trinity

With all my heart I praise thee, most holy Virgin, above all angels and saints in heaven, beloved Daughter of the Eternal Father. I consecrate to thee my soul with all its faculties.

Hail Mary...

With all my heart I praise thee, most holy Virgin, above all angels and saints in heaven, beloved Mother of the Son of God. I consecrate to thee my body with all its senses.

Hail Mary...

With all my heart I praise thee, most holy Virgin, above all angels and saints in heaven, beloved Spouse of the Holy Spirit. I consecrate to thee my heart with all its affections and beseech thee to obtain for me from the most holy Trinity all the graces necessary for salvation.

Hail Mary...

Memorare to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee I come, before thee I stand, repentant and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

Hail Sovereign Queen

Hail Mary, beloved Daughter of the Eternal Father, admirable Mother of the Son, faithful Spouse of the Holy Spirit, august temple of the most holy Trinity! Hail, sovereign Queen, to whom all creatures owe subjection in heaven and on earth! Hail, O refuge of repentant sinners, our Lady of mercy, who hears our requests. I cast myself at thy feet and beseech thee to obtain for me from Jesus, thy beloved Son, contrition and pardon for all my sins, as well as the gift of true wisdom. I consecrate myself entirely to thee with all that I have, O my Mother and Mistress. I am thy child and servant. Listen, my Queen, listen to the sighs of a heart that desires to love and serve thee faithfully. Let it never be said that of all those who have had recourse to thee I was the first to be abandoned. O my hope, O my life, O my faithful and Immaculate Virgin Mary, defend me, nourish me, hear me, teach me, and save me. Amen.

The Swords of Sorrow



Which pierced the heart of the Blessed Virgin in the Passion of her Son:

The First Sword

O most sorrowful Virgin Mary, I recall to thy mind now that sharp sword of sorrow which pierced thy soul when thy Beloved, thine only One, came to bid thee farewell and to ask thy maternal blessing ere he went forth to death. Remember, O Mother most afflicted, how thy heart was wrung when thy most tender and only Son, thy delight, so lovingly embraced thee for the last time and with plaintive voice and tearful eyes bade thee farewell. Remember now thy sighs and tears when the hearts so joined together by the strongest ties of love were thus torn asunder and pierced through with that keenest wound of sorrow. By the mournful departure of thy Son and by all the bitter tears thou didst shed, I beseech thee, O Mary, be with me at the last when all my friends turn away from my lifeless body; and protect me with thy maternal blessing from all the snares of the enemy. Amen.

The Second Sword

O most afflicted Virgin Mary, I recall to thy mind now that keen sword of sorrow which pierced thy soul when the blessed John came to tell thee that thy Son had been betrayed by Judas, seized by the Jews, dragged before Annas and Caiphas, and there blasphemed and mocked, spit upon, buffeted, and overwhelmed with contumely and rude reproach. Remember, O thou most afflicted one, how these mournful tidings

pierced thy heart. O remember now the moans and wailing plaints with which thou didst fill the house, how thou didst cry: O Jesus, my Son Jesus, who will grant me that I might die for thee, O Jesus, my Son, my Son! By that keenest sword of sorrow, I beseech thee, O Mary, in my last hour when my heart shall quake with anguish and the dread of death, do thou deign to cheer me with thy holy presence lest I sink into the abyss of despair. Amen.

The Third Sword

O most sad Virgin Mary, I recall to thy mind now that sword of sorrow which pierced thy heart when thou didst behold thy Son led forth by Pilate, his sacred body torn and bleeding, his head crowned with thorns, defiled with spittings, so that there was no beauty in him nor comeliness. Remember, O sorrowful Mother, how thy heart was torn when thou didst hear the Jews exclaim: "Away with him, away with him! Crucify him!" Remember that keenest wound which was dealt upon thy heart when thou didst hear the sentence of an accursed death pronounced by Pilate. Remember all the compassion and grief which wrung thy maternal heart when thou didst see thy Son laden with his heavy cross and led forth with direst ignominy to the hill of Calvary. Oh, who shall count thy sighs and tears, who shall tell the sorrows of thy most afflicted heart! I compassionate thee, O Mother most sorrowful, and I humbly beseech thee to be with me in the dread hour of judgment when I am overwhelmed with the accusations of the devil; and drive far from me, then, all mine enemies. Amen.

The Fourth Sword

O most sorrowful Virgin Mary, I recall to thy mind now that sword of sorrow which pierced through thy heart when thou didst behold thy Son raised high upon his cross and fastened thereunto with three nails. O most sorrowful Mother, how was it that thy soul was not utterly crushed down and wrenched from thy body? How could it be that thine eyes did not run out of tears? Oh, remember now the sadness which filled thy heart when thou didst behold him

blasphemed, mocked with vinegar and gall in his thirst, reputed viler and treated more ruthlessly than the very robbers. Remember thine ineffable anguish when thou didst see him fail and sink beneath his immense love and grief, his lips grow pale, his limbs quiver, his eyes grow glazed and dim, until at length his sacred heart broke with a mighty pang, and with a loud cry he gave up the spirit. By these thy surpassing sorrows, O Mother most sorrowful, and by all thy groanings and tears, I beseech thee to be with me also when I draw my last breath, when my heart shall break in the agony of death; and deign to receive my soul into thy hands as it goes forth from my body. Amen.

The Fifth Sword

O Virgin Mary, Mother of dolors, I recall to thy mind now that sword of sorrow which pierced thy heart when thou didst receive into thy bosom thy Son, taken down from the cross, and didst bedew his sacred body with thy tears. Oh, what didst thou feel as thou didst gaze upon that head pierced all around with thorns, that side riven with the lance, those hands and feet dug through with the cruel nails, that beauteous face marred with blows and defiled with spittings, and that sacred body torn with wounds, livid with stripes, and besmeared with blood. O most sorrowful Mother, how didst thou kiss that divine face and wash it with thy tears and bewail the dishonor of thy Beloved. O Mother most sorrowful, I pray thee, by all the sighs and groans wrung from thy heart, by all the sorrows and wounds of thy soul, comfort mine in the hour when it will go forth from my body; wash it with thy tears, and receive it into thy maternal arms, as thou didst receive the lifeless body of thy Son, and lead it up to the joys of heaven. Amen.

Prayer to Our Lady of Sorrows

O holy Mother, most afflicted by the bitter sorrow which thou didst endure at the foot of the cross during the three hours' agony of Jesus, vouchsafe to assist all of us, the children of thy sorrows, in our last agony, that through thine intercession

we may pass from the bed of death to form a crown for thee in heaven.

Recite 3 Our Father's and 3 Hail Mary's.

O Mary, Mother of grace, Mother of mercy, protect us from the enemy and receive us at the hour of death.

L. From sudden or unprovided death.

R. O Lord, deliver us.

L. From the snares of the devil.

R. O Lord, deliver us.

L. From everlasting death.

R. O Lord, deliver us.

LET US PRAY: O God, who for the salvation of mankind didst ordain the Passion and death of the Son, grant, we beseech thee, that in the hour of our death we may experience the effects of this thy love and deserve to be partakers in the glory of him, our Redeemer. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, I give thee my heart and my soul.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, assist me in my last agony.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, may I breathe forth my soul in peace with thee!

Petition Prayer to Our Lady of Sorrows

O most holy and afflicted Virgin, Queen of martyrs, who stood beneath the cross witnessing the agony of thy dying Son, look down with a mother's tenderness and have pity on me as I kneel before thee to venerate thy sorrows and to place my request, with filial confidence, in the sanctuary of thy wounded heart. Present it on my behalf to Jesus; and through the merits of his most sacred Passion and death, together with thy sufferings at the foot of the cross, and the united efficacy of both, obtain the favor which I humbly ask (*here make your petition*). To whom shall I go in my wants and miseries if not to thee? O Mother of mercy, who having so deeply drunk of the chalice of thy Son, graciously alleviate the sufferings of those who still sigh in this land of exile. Amen.

PRAYERS TO ST. JOSEPH



Petition Prayer to St. Joseph

O glorious St. Joseph, faithful follower of Jesus Christ, to thee do we raise our hearts to implore thy powerful intercession in obtaining from the benign heart of Jesus all the helps and graces necessary for our spiritual and temporal welfare, particularly the grace of a happy death and the special favor we now implore (*here make your petition*). O Guardian of the Word Incarnate, we feel animated with confidence that thy prayers on our behalf will be graciously heard before the throne of God.

L. O glorious St. Joseph, through the love you bear to Jesus and for the glory of his name.

R. Hear our prayers and obtain our petitions.

O glorious St. Joseph, spouse of the Immaculate Virgin, obtain for me a pure, humble, and charitable heart and perfect resignation to the divine will. Be my guide, father, and model through life, that I may merit to die as thou didst in the arms of Jesus and Mary. Help us, St. Joseph, in our earthly strife ever to lead a pure and blameless life. Amen.

Work Prayer to St. Joseph

O glorious St. Joseph, model of all who are devoted to labor, obtain for me the grace to work in the spirit of penance in expiation of my many sins; to work conscientiously by

placing love of duty above my inclinations; to gratefully and joyously deem it an honor to employ and to develop by labor the gifts I have received from God; to work methodically, peacefully, and in moderation and patience, without ever shrinking from it through weariness or difficulty to work; above all, with purity of intention and unselfishness, having unceasingly before my eyes death and the account I have to render of time lost, talents unused, good not done, and vain complacency in success, so baneful to the work of God. All for Jesus, all for Mary, all to imitate thee, O patriarch St. Joseph! This shall be my motto for life and forever. Amen.

Prayer to St. Joseph for the Third Month

To be recited on the Lord's Days during the 3rd month.

To thee, O blessed St. Joseph, do we have recourse in our tribulation. Having implored the help of thy thrice-holy spouse, we now, with hearts filled with confidence, earnestly beg thee also to take us under thy protection. By that love which united thee to the Immaculate Virgin, Mother of God, and that fatherly love with which thou cherished the Child Jesus, we humbly beseech thee to graciously look down upon that inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his precious

blood and to succor us in our need by thy power and strength.

O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, defend us, the chosen children of Jesus Christ. O loving father, keep us from all contagion of error and corruption. O valiant defender, aid us from on high in this conflict against the powers of darkness. And as once thou defended the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now defend us and God's Holy Catholic Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity. Shield us ever under thy patronage, that following thine example and strengthened by thy help we may live a holy life, die a happy death, and attain to everlasting bliss in heaven. Amen.

Memorare to St. Joseph

Remember, O amiable and powerful protector St. Joseph, that whosoever implores thy intercession with devotion and confidence obtains relief. Animated by this sweet and consoling hope, I come to thee, O worthy spouse of the Virgin of virgins, and prostrate at thy feet [*bow down*] I seek refuge and protection.

O thou who hast borne the glorious title of Father of Jesus, reject not my humble prayer but hear it favorably and present it to him, who did not disdain to be called thy son.

O St. Joseph, pure and chaste spouse of the Mother of God; foster father of her adorable Son; guardian,

confidant, and imitator of both; in virtue of these illustrious prerogatives and of the power granted thee on earth and in heaven, I beseech thee to obtain for me that I may resemble thee in thy humility, charity, obedience, and holiness. Deign to watch over me, to assist me every day of my life, and to obtain for me the great grace to die like thee in the arms of Jesus and Mary. Amen.

Act of Consecration to St. Joseph

O blessed St. Joseph, I consecrate myself to thy honor and give myself to thee that thou mayest always be my father, my protector, and my guide in the way of salvation. Obtain for me a great purity of heart and a fervent love of the interior life. Following thy example, may I do all my actions for the greater glory of God, in union with the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. And do thou, O blessed St. Joseph, pray for me that my death may be like unto thine in peace, joy, and holiness. Amen.

The Seven Sorrows and Joys of St. Joseph

Glorious St. Joseph, by thy grief before thou didst understand that the mystery of the Incarnation was

wrought in Mary, and by thy joy when that mystery was revealed to thee, obtain the favor I implore (*here make your petition*).

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

Glorious St. Joseph, by thy grief at witnessing the lowly conditions of Jesus' birth in the manger of Bethlehem, and by thy joy on hearing the hymns of the angels, and beholding the adoration of the shepherds, obtain the favor I implore.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

Glorious St. Joseph, by thy grief when thou didst behold the precious blood of Jesus flow in his circumcision, and by thy joy on hearing the sweet name of Jesus, obtain the favor I implore.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

Glorious St. Joseph, by thy grief when Simeon foretold that a sword would pierce the soul of Mary, and by thy joy on hearing that the divine Infant would be for the salvation of many, obtain the favor I implore.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

Glorious St. Joseph, by thy grief when thou didst flee with Jesus and Mary into Egypt, and by thy joy on beholding the idols fall, obtain the favor I implore.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

Glorious St. Joseph, by thy grief on hearing of the cruelty of Archelaus, and by thy joy when the angel bade thee to return to Galilee, obtain the favor I implore.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

Glorious St. Joseph, by thy grief at the loss of Jesus, and by thy joy at finding him sitting in the midst of the Doctors in the Temple, obtain the favor I implore.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

Prayer to St. Joseph for Our Salvation

Dear St. Joseph, adopt us as thy children and take charge of our salvation. Watch over us day and night, preserve us from occasions of sin, and obtain for us purity of soul and body and the spirit of prayer. Through thy intercession with Jesus, grant us a spirit of sacrifice, humility, and self-denial. Obtain for us a burning love for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and a sweet, tender love for Mary, our Mother. St. Joseph, be with us in life, be with us in death, and obtain for us a favorable judgment from Jesus, our merciful Savior. Amen.

PRAYERS TO THE ANGELS

St. Michael the Archangel



Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

Holy Archangel Michael, defend us in battle, that we may not perish in the tremendous day of judgment.

Salutation to St. Michael the Archangel

Hail, most glorious Prince, Michael the Archangel! Hail, most noble leader of the heavenly host! Hail, honor and glory of the hierarchies of heaven! O most august Prince, under what obligation art thou to thy Creator, who hath endowed thee with such excellent might and adorned thee with such peerless virtues? O thou renowned warrior, thou ornament of heaven, thou lustrous gem of the court of heaven, thou art the seal of likeness to God, full of wisdom and consummate in beauty. Precious stones are thine adornment, and all the working of thy finished comeliness is of gold in the delights of the heaven of our God. Thou hast been appointed prince and captain to receive the souls of the elect and to lead them into the heaven of rejoicing. I recall to thy mind now, O most blessed Prince, these and all other graces wherewith the boundless liberality of God hath enriched thee above all orders of angels, beseeching thee, by that mutual love which binds thy heart to the divine heart of Jesus, that thou wouldst deign to receive my soul at the moment of my death and to render the Judge propitious to me through thy intercession. Amen.

Prayer to St. Michael for Protection

O victorious Prince, humble guardian of the Church of God and of men, who with such charity and zeal cast Satan and his fallen angels out of heaven and who is victorious in all battles for God, protect us in our battles, for we are continually besieged with such great perils by our enemies: the world, the flesh, and the devil. O glorious St. Michael, who led the people of God through the desert, so also be our faithful leader and companion through the desert of this world. Conduct us safely to the happy land of the living, to that blessed fatherland to which we strive to attain. Amen.

St. Gabriel the Archangel



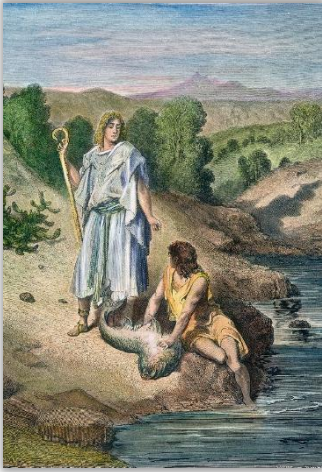
Prayer to St. Gabriel the Archangel

Mighty Archangel Gabriel, thou wast chosen by God to announce the glad tidings of the Incarnation of the Divine Word. I praise God for having sent thee with his joyful message to mankind. Pray for me that I may proclaim thy message to others and be ready to suffer for the love of it. Amen.

Petition Prayer to St. Gabriel the Archangel

St. Gabriel the Archangel, I venerate thee as the Angel of the Incarnation because God chose thee from among all the angels to announce the divine messages concerning the God-Man to the prophet Daniel, St. Zachary, and the Blessed Virgin Mary. O mighty consoler and comforter, chosen to strengthen God's faithful and to teach them important truths, I ask for the strength of will that I may strive always for holiness of life and to follow God's will and thus to fulfill his purposes in my life. Steady my resolution and renew my courage. Clear away confusion, and obtain for me the wisdom I need to make good decisions and the fortitude I need to act on them. Comfort and console me in the problems, trials, and sufferings of daily life. St. Gabriel, I ask thee especially for this favor (*here make your petition*). Through thy ardent love for the Son of God, made man, and his blessed Mother, I beseech thee to intercede for me that my request may be granted if it be God's holy will. Obtain for me a tender and devoted love, like thine, for Jesus Christ the Incarnate Word and his blessed Mother. Pray for us, St. Gabriel the Archangel, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Amen.

St. Raphael the Archangel



Prayer to St. Raphael for a Safe Journey

St. Raphael the Archangel, faithful companion to young Tobias on his long journey from Syria to Media, who rescued him from many dangers, even the danger of death in the river Tigris: We beseech thee to be a guide and an angel of consolation to us in our travels. Keep all dangers of soul and body far from us, and lead us safely to our destination. Spread thy loving wings of protection over us, and guide us as we journey both near and far from home. Amen.

Lord God, grant us the help of St. Raphael, who serves before thy glory and offers thee our petitions. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer to St. Raphael for Those Undertaking a Journey or a Walk

In the way of peace direct us, O Lord. We praise and venerate thy heavenly prince St. Raphael, faithful physician, protector of travelers, and true companion, who with heaven's power bindeth fast the demon.

L. God hath given his angels charge over thee.

R. To keep thee in all thy ways.

LET US PRAY: O God, who didst give the blessed Archangel Raphael unto thy servant Tobias to be his fellow-traveler, grant unto us, thy servants, that he may ever keep us, shield us, help us, and defend us in

our travels. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let us go forward in peace, in the name of the Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Busy People

Angel St. Raphael, fill my life with happy meetings. Let each one fulfill the loving decrees of God's holy will. St. Raphael, humanity's protector, be thou my guide, my friend, and my director. Amen.

Prayer for Help

O glorious Archangel St. Raphael, great prince of the heavenly court, illustrious by thy gifts of wisdom and grace, guide of travelers by land and sea, consoler of the unfortunate, and refuge of repentant sinners, I entreat thee, help me in all my needs and in all trials of this life, as thou didst once assist the young Tobias in his journeys. And since thou art a physician of God, I humbly pray thee to heal my soul of its many infirmities and my body of the ills that afflict it, if this favor be for my greater good. I ask especially for angelic purity so that I may be fit to be a living temple of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer for Health

O St. Raphael, of the glorious seven who stand before the throne of him who lives and reigns, Angel of health, the Lord hath filled thy hand with balm from heaven to soothe and cure our pains: Heal our physical ills and console us in our pain (*here make your petition*).

O Lord God, vouchsafe to send unto our assistance St. Raphael the Archangel; and may he, who stands evermore before the throne of thy majesty, offer unto thee our humble petitions to be blessed by thee. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Happy Meetings

Dear St. Raphael, Angel of happy meetings, lead us by the hand toward those who are waiting for us. May all our movements, and all their movements, be guided by thy light and transfigured by thy joy.

Angel guide of Tobias, lay the request we now address to thee at the feet of him on whose unveiled face thou art privileged to gaze (*here make your petition*).

Lonely and weary, deeply grieved by the separations and sorrows of earth, we call out to thee and plead for the protection of thy wings so that we may not be as strangers in the province of joy.

Remember the weak, thou who art strong, whose home lies beyond the region of thunder in a land that is always peaceful, always serene, and bright with the resplendent glory of God. Amen.

The Angels



Invocation of the Nine Choirs of Angels

O holy Angels, watch over us at all times during this perilous life: O holy Archangels, be our guides on the way to heaven; O heavenly choir of the Principalities, govern us in soul and body; O mighty Powers, preserve us against the wiles of the demons; O celestial Virtues, give us strength and courage in the battle of life; O powerful Dominations, obtain for us dominion over the rebellion of our flesh; O sacred Thrones, grant us peace with God and man; O brilliant Cherubim, illumine our minds with heavenly knowledge; O burning Seraphim, kindle in our hearts the fire of charity. Amen.

The Angelic Chaplet

Also known as the "Chaplet of St. Michael"

L. O God, come to my assistance.

R. O Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory Be...

First Salutation – in honor of the first choir of angels, the Seraphim:

1 Our Father; 3 Hail Mary's.

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.

Second Salutation – in honor of the second choir of angels, the Cherubim:

1 Our Father; 3 Hail Mary's.

By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial choir of Cherubim, may the Lord vouchsafe to grant us grace to avoid the ways of wickedness and to run in the paths of Christian perfection. Amen.

Third Salutation – in honor of the third choir of angels, the Thrones:

1 Our Father; 3 Hail Mary's.

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.

Fourth Salutation – in honor of the fourth choir of angels, the Dominations:

1 Our Father; 3 Hail Mary's.

By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial choir of Dominations, may the Lord grant us grace to govern our senses and subdue our unruly passions. Amen.

Fifth Salutation – in honor of the fifth choir of angels, the Powers:

1 Our Father; 3 Hail Mary's.

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.

Sixth Salutation – in honor of the sixth choir of angels, the Virtues:

1 Our Father; 3 Hail Mary's.

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.

Seventh Salutation – in honor of the seventh choir of angels, the Principalities:

1 Our Father; 3 Hail Mary's.

By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial choir of Principalities, may God fill our souls with a true spirit of obedience. Amen.

Eighth Salutation – in honor of the eighth choir of angels, the Archangels:

1 Our Father; 3 Hail Mary's.

By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial choir of Archangels, may the Lord grant us perseverance in faith and in all good works in order that we may gain the glory of heaven. Amen.

Ninth Salutation – in honor of the ninth choir of angels, the Angels:

1 Our Father; 3 Hail Mary's.

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 by them hereafter to everlasting glory. Amen.

In conclusion:

Pray the Our Father four times:

The first Our Father in honor and veneration of St. Michael the Archangel:

Our Father...

The second Our Father in honor and veneration of St. Gabriel the Archangel:

Our Father...

The third Our Father in honor and veneration of St. Raphael the Archangel:

Our Father...

The fourth Our Father in honor and veneration of our Guardian Angel: *First recite [The Guardian Angel Prayer](#), p. 151, and then:*

Our Father...

O glorious prince St. Michael, chief and commander of the heavenly host, 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 evil, who turn to thee with confidence, and enable us by thy gracious protection to serve God more and more faithfully every day.

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

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY: Almighty and everlasting God, who by a prodigy of goodness and 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.

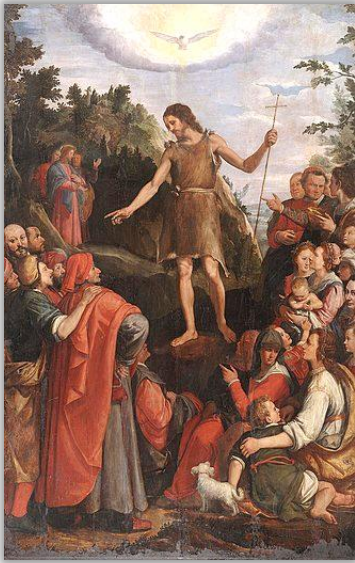
End by reciting the [Exorcism Prayer of St. Michael the Archangel](#), p. 139.

The Guardian Angel Prayer

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever this day be at my side to light, to guard, to rule, and to guide. Ame

PRAYERS TO THE SAINTS

St. John the Baptist



Prayer to St. John the Baptist for the conversion of souls

O most zealous St. John the Baptist, who without working any miracles but solely by the example of thy faith, life, and the power of thy word, didst draw after thee the multitudes in order to dispose them to receive the Messiah worthily and to listen to his heavenly doctrine, grant that it may be given unto us to bring souls to God by means of thy faith, holy life, and good works. Amen.

St. Peter



Prayer to St. Peter

O glorious St. Peter, who in return for thy lively and generous faith, thy profound and sincere humility, and thy burning love was honored by Jesus Christ with singular privileges, and in particular with the leadership of the other Apostles and the primacy and supremacy of the whole Catholic Church on earth, obtain for us the grace of a lively faith so that we will not fear to profess the faith openly in its entirety and in all its manifestations, even to the shedding of blood if occasion should demand it and to the sacrifice of life itself in preference to surrender. Obtain for us a sincere loyalty to our Holy Mother the Catholic Church. Grant that we may ever remain closely and sincerely united to the popes, who are the heirs of thy faith and authority, the true visible heads of the Catholic Church. Grant that we may follow the Church's teachings and counsels in all humility and meekness and be obedient to all her precepts so that we may here on earth enjoy the peace God has promised and attain one day to everlasting happiness in heaven. Amen.

Prayer to Ss. Peter and Paul



O holy Apostles Peter and Paul, be my special patrons and advocates; thee, St. Peter, prince of the Apostles, because thou art the rock upon which almighty God hath built his Holy Catholic Church; thee, St. Paul, because thou wert forechosen by God as the vessel of election and preacher of truth to the whole world. Obtain for me, I pray thee, a lively faith, firm hope, and a burning love for God; hatred of sin, contempt of the evil things of the world, loving God above even the good things of the world. Grant me patience in adversity, humility in prosperity, attention in prayer, purity of heart, a right intention in all my works, diligence in fulfilling the duties of my state of life, constancy in my resolutions, resignation to the will of God, and perseverance in the grace of God even unto death. By thy intercession and thy glorious merits, may I be able to overcome the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil, and be made worthy to appear before the chief and eternal Shepherd of souls, Jesus Christ, to enjoy his presence and love him forever, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth forever and ever. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

L. Thou shalt make them princes over all the earth.

R. They shall be mindful of thy name, O Lord.

LET US PRAY: O God, who raised up thy apostle St. Peter when he walked upon the water and began to sink, and who thrice delivered his fellow apostle St. Paul from the

depths of the sea when he suffered shipwreck, graciously hear us and grant that by their merits we may be saved from sinking in the ocean of temptation and drowning in the sea of sin of this evil world and thus may attain unto everlasting glory with thee, who livest and reignest forever and ever. Amen.

St. Paul



Prayer to St. Paul for Patience in Tribulations

O glorious St. Paul, who from being a persecutor of Christianity didst become a most ardent and zealous apostle, and who to make known the Savior Jesus Christ unto the ends of the world didst joyfully suffer imprisonment, scourging, stoning, shipwreck, and all manner of persecutions, and who didst finish thy course by shedding the last drop of thy blood, obtain for us the grace to accept the infirmities, tribulations, and misfortunes of the present life as favors bestowed by the mercy of God. May we not grow slack in our service to God because of these trials but rather show ourselves ever more faithful and fervent. Amen.

St. Anne, Mother of Mary



Memorare to St. Anne

Remember, O holy mother St. Anne, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided, for thou art a most merciful mother and aid all who art in distress. Inspired with this confidence, I take refuge with thee and beseech thee, by the great prerogative of being the mother of the Queen of heaven, and grandmother of the Savior of the world, come to my aid with thy powerful intercession and obtain from thine Immaculate Daughter this favor (*here make your petition*). In honor of the nine months during which thou didst bear the ever-blessed Virgin in thy womb and brought her forth without stain of original sin, I now pray the Hail Mary nine times and offer these prayers to thee through my guardian angel. Amen.

Hail Mary... (*nine times*)

Petition Prayer to St. Anne

With deep and heartfelt veneration, I prostrate [*bow down*] myself before thee, O glorious St. Anne.

Thou art that creation of privilege and predilection, who through thy extraordinary virtues and sanctity wast worthy to receive from God the supreme grace of giving life to the treasure-house of all graces, the holy Virgin Mary, blessed among women, Mother of the Word Incarnate. Deign, therefore, O most compassionate Saint, for the sake of this lofty

privilege, to receive me into the number of thy true followers, for such I protest I am and desire to remain so long as I may live. Surround me with thy powerful patronage, and obtain for me from God the grace to imitate those virtues with which thou wast so abundantly adorned.

Grant that I may know and bitterly lament my sins. Obtain for me a most lively affection for Jesus and Mary and fidelity and constancy in the practice of the duties of my state. Preserve me from every danger in life, and assist me in the moment of my death so that safe in heaven I may unite with thee, good St. Anne, in praising the Word of God made man in the bosom of thy most pure child, the Virgin Mary. Amen.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.
(*three times each*)

Prayer to St. Anne for Perfection

Good St. Anne, pray for me and intercede for me so that I may be perfect and holy as God is perfect and holy. Beg God to place a ring through my nose representing the stubborn, slothful, and lazy bull that I would be without God's grace. And may God place his finger in that ring and pull me up to heaven so that above all things I may end up in heaven. And may God suffer not the devil to come close to that ring so as to take hold of it and deceive me and lead me down the wrong path. And by thy intercession may God protect me from anything, especially my own concupiscence, that may try to take away from the vocation God has given me. And by thy intercession may God protect me from my past sins so that I may not fall into them again, or any other sin, and may hate them with a perfect hatred. Do not let the enemy use my confessed sins against me so as to take away from the vocation God has given me or to drive me into despair. Good St. Anne, grandmother of God and tabernacle of the Tabernacle of God, pray for us and intercede for us that our tabernacles may always be holy and pure! (RJMI)

St. Joachim, Father of Mary



Prayer to St. Joachim

O great and glorious patriarch St. Joachim, what joy is mine when I consider that thou wert chosen among all of God's holy ones to be the father of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, and thus to participate in the second greatest miracle of all, the Immaculate Conception, second only to the miracle of the Incarnation. Obtain for me the grace to persevere in the Catholic faith and to obey all of God's commandments; the grace of interior recollection and a spirit of loving heavenly things more than earthly things; and a lively, enduring, and everlasting love for Jesus and Mary and thy holy spouse, the good St. Anne. Amen. (RJMI)

St. Jude

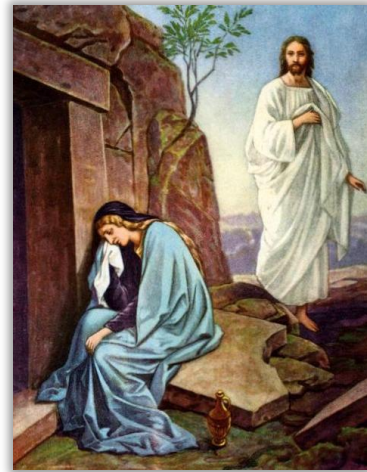


Prayer to St. Jude in Trials

Holy Apostle St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the Church honors and invokes thee universally as the patron of hopeless cases, of things despaired of. Pray for me, who am so miserable; make use, I implore thee, of that particular privilege accorded to thee to bring visible and speedy help where help is almost despaired of. Come to my assistance in this great need, that I may receive the consolations and succor of heaven in all my necessities, tribulations, and sufferings, particularly (*here make your petition*), and that I may bless God with all the elect forever. I promise thee, O blessed St. Jude, to be ever mindful of this great favor; and I will never cease to honor thee as my special and powerful patron. And I will endeavor to encourage devotion to thee. Amen.

May the most just, most high, and most adorable will of God be in all things done, praised, and magnified, forever and ever. Amen.

St. Mary Magdalen



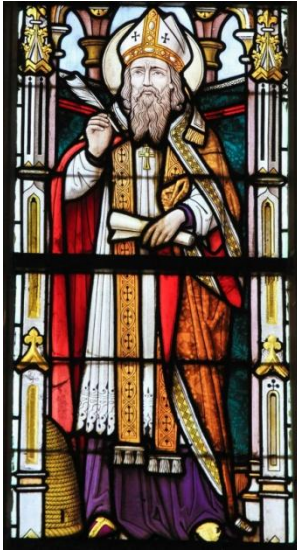
Prayer to St. Mary Magdalen

O glorious St. Mary of Magdala, thou wast found worthy to have seven demons expelled from thee by the power of the Son of God. Thy gratitude and devotion were manifested by faithfully following Jesus; and even as others fled away during his Passion and death, thou didst remain near the cross of thy blessed Savior, comforting his holy mother Mary.

Obtain for me that same loving affection for our Lord which caused thee to weep at his tomb when thou didst fear that his holy body had been stolen away, and that immense joy thou didst experience when the risen Christ appeared to thee and called thee by thy name, "Mary." Beg God to grant me the gift of faithfulness like thine, when thou didst return to the apostles and amidst their unbelief maintained thy faith in the resurrection of the Messias.

Obtain for me also this request (*here make your petition*). Be pleased, dear Saint, to intercede for me and graciously present my petitions at the feet of him who lives and reigns with the Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer to St. Ambrose



O Holy Bishop and Church Father, St. Ambrose, thou that didst adorn with twofold virtue the throne of the prefecture, didst meritoriously fill the throne of the hierarchy on which divine inspiration placed thee; faithful steward, therefore, in both dignities, thou hast inherited a double crown.

Thou didst purify thy soul and body by continency, and labours, and much watching, and constant prayer, O divinely wise one, O vessel of election of our God! Thou wast like to the apostles, thou didst receive like them, the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

As heretofore Nathan reprov'd David, so didst thou boldly chide the good emperor after his sin, O most blessed Ambrose! Thou didst wisely subject him to excommunication, and didst teach him to do condign penance; thus restoring him to thy fold.

Holy father, most saintly Ambrose, sweet sounding lute, refreshing melody of true dogmas, attracting the souls of believers, sweet harp of the Holy Spirit, organ of God, incomparable trumpet of the Catholic Church, most limpid fountain which cleansest the turbid passions, offer thy prayers to Christ and beseech him to bestow on his Catholic Church unanimity and peace and plentiful mercy.

Following the examples of the prophet Elias and of the Baptist, thou didst fearlessly reprove kings for their evil doings; thou didst admirably

adorn the throne of the hierarchy; thou didst enrich the world with the multitude of thy miracles; and therefore thou didst strengthen the faithful and convert the unbelievers by the nourishment of the divine Scriptures. O Ambrose! O holy priest! Pray to Christ our Lord that he grant the forgiveness of the sins of them that celebrate with love thy holy memory.

Thou, O blessed pastor, didst defend thy flock from all their enemies; and by the splendour of thy teachings, didst dissipate every heresy of Arius.

The assembly of the priests rejoices in celebrating thy holy memory, and the choirs of the faithful united with the angelic spirits exult and are glad; the Catholic Church to-day is spiritually nourished by thy words, O father Ambrose!

Thou art the husbandman that tillest the field, which is open to all men, of faith and doctrine; thou there sowest the dogmas of truth, for thou art filled with heavenly wisdom; and the grain being multiplied, thou distributest to the Catholic Church the heavenly bread of the Holy Spirit.

Rome celebrates thy glorious deeds, for bright as a star thou shootest forth everywhere the great blaze of thy miracles, O truly admirable pontiff.

From the earliest dawn thou didst approach to Christ, richly bright with his rays upon thee; therefore, having reached the divine light, thou enlightenest them that throughout the world honour thee with faith.

Thou didst consecrate thy body and soul to God; and thy heart, O father, which was made for great gifts, thou didst fasten to his sweet love, and there it clung intensely.

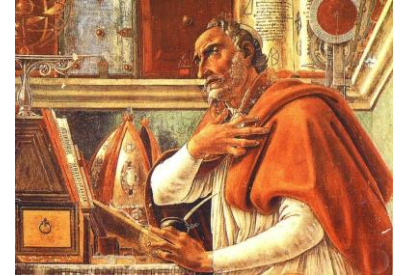
Entrusted with the talent of the word, thou didst, as a wise and prudent servant, put it out to usury and multiply it and bring it with interest to thy Lord, O Ambrose!

The holy robe of the pontiff thou didst adorn with thy labours; thou wast the wise shepherd of the flock, and with thy pastoral staff thou didst lead them before thee into the pastures of doctrine.

And let us not forget that thou wast instrumental in converting and baptizing the great St. Augustine, one of the greatest lights and teachers of the Catholic Church.

O most admirable doctor, light of Holy Church, blessed Ambrose, lover of the divine law, pray for us to the Son of God. Amen.

Prayer to St. Augustine



O holy bishop and Church Father, boast of the Catholic Church, instructor in piety and confirmation of the Catholic faith, up-rooter of heresies and treasury of mystic teachings, blessed father Augustine, all-wondrous bishop, pray unto God for us.

Tagaste boasteth of thy birth, Carthage boasteth in thy youth, Milan in thy repentance, and Rome in thy teachings; but most of all, the city of Hippo is glorified by thee, chief bishop and good shepherd, while the whole world cherisheth thee as an honorable teacher, mighty leader, and fervent intercessor for men's souls. Mindful of the glory of the Lord in thee, Blessed Augustine, pray for us.

He who of old saved St. Paul on the road to Damascus, ensnared thee by Paul's epistle, saying: "Take and read!" And when thou hadst read, thou didst count all worldly things as but dung; and finding Christ our Lord as a most precious pearl, with true love thou didst cleave unto him. In awe of thy repentance, we exclaim: Alleluia!

Bedewed by the divine words of Ambrose, thou didst put forth the grain of the virtues a hundredfold, and wast an ornament for the Catholic Church, a blazing beacon, a flame burning up heresies and warming the hearts of the faithful, a treasury of divine doctrines, a harp of the Spirit, an expounder of dogmas, and the

boast of the Catholic Church. O prelate of the city of Hippo, ask of Christ great mercy for us who pray to thee.

Possessing a name which signifieth greatness, thou didst clearly seal within thy soul the greatness of the All-Holy Trinity, whose hidden mystery thou didst broadly elucidate as far as is possible. Entreat the Godhead that we find mercy because of the great multitude of our sins, as we thank God for thine apostolic labors.

Full of wisdom divine, thou didst proclaim the precious doctrines of the Church, setting forth the correctness of the dogmas, interpreting the divine Scriptures, honoring the memory of the saints with discourses, and providing a rule for monastics by thy manner of life and thy writings; and having thus ascended to the heights of theology, and like Moses having struck the hidden and unapproachable rock of theology with the staff of divine love, thou didst cause to flow a wellspring of water flowing toward life everlasting, wherewith thou didst give drink in abundance to a thirsting people. Wherefore, we beseech thee, O holy Bishop Augustine, our father, entreat Christ that he grant us all the graces and other helps we need to be perfect and holy.

The foolish and mindless Manicheans and Arians didst thou denounce, and their false teachings didst thou blow away like dust with the wind of thy divine teachings; and thou didst cast down the pride of Pelagius, and didst bring the assembly of Donatists to the Catholic faith, O Augustine. In thanksgiving to the Lord for his good and faithful servant, pray for our spiritual enlightenment.

Almighty God, attend to our supplications, and by the intercession of blessed Augustine, thy confessor and bishop, have mercy on us and hear our prayers. This we ask through Jesus Christ, thy Son, who livest and reignest with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer to Pope St. Leo the Great



Glory be to thee, O Jesus, Lion of the Tribe of Juda, who hast raised up in thy Catholic Church a Lion to defend her in those dark times when the holy Catholic Faith was most exposed to danger. Thou didst charge St. Peter to confirm his Brethren (Lk. 22:32); and we have seen Pope St. Leo the Great, in whom St. Peter lived, fulfil this office with sovereign authority. Thou hast proclaimed the signal favour thou hast conferred on thy flock when thou didst bid St. Peter to feed both sheep and lambs.

O holy Pontiff Leo, thou worthily represented St. Peter in his Chair by feeding Christ's flock by thy apostolic teachings, which ceased not to flow from thee, ever beautiful in its truth and majesty. We have heard the acclamation of the Fathers at the holy Council of Chalcedon who said, "Peter has spoken thus through Leo," in admiration of thy heavenly dogmatic teachings. The Catholic Church of thine own day honoured thee as the great teacher of the Catholic faith; and the Catholic Church of every succeeding age has recognised thee as one of the most learned Doctors and preachers of the divine Word. From thy throne in heaven, where now thou reignest, pour forth upon us the understanding of the great mysteries which thou wast called on to defend. Under thy inspired pen, these mysteries grow clear; we see how sublimely the mysteries harmonize with one another. Strengthen the Catholic Faith within us. The Incarnate Word is blasphemed in these our own times; avenge his glory by sending us men of thy zeal and learning.

In the days of Paschal Time, O holy Pontiff, that thou didst once spend here on earth, when surrounded by the Neophytes, thou gavest them the nourishment of thy magnificent discourses. Pray for the Faithful who have risen to a new life with Christ. What they most stand in need of is a fuller and better knowledge of their Saviour in order that they may cling more closely to him and persevere in his holy service. Thy prayers will help them to obtain this knowledge; by thy prayers and works, thou wilt teach them what the Incarnate Jesus is both in his Divine Nature and his Human Nature, that, as God and Man.

Thou didst triumph over barbarian invaders. Attila the Hun acknowledged the influence of thy sanctity and eloquence by withdrawing his troops from Rome when, above thee, Ss. Peter and Paul appeared to him with drawn swords. In these our days, there have risen up new barbarians—civilized barbarians who would persuade us that the Catholic faith should be eliminated from education, and that the State in its laws and institutions should simply ignore our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of kings to whom all power has been given, not only in heaven but on earth also (Mt. 28:18)

O help us by thy powerful intercession, for our danger is extreme. Many are seduced and are apostates whilst flattering themselves that they are still Christians. I pray that the light that is within us may not be extinguished, and that the public scandals which now exist may be brought to an end.

Attila was but a pagan, but our modern statesmen and governments are, or at least, call themselves Christians. O God, have mercy on them and gain for them light to see the precipice to which they are hurrying themselves and society. And if they do not listen, kill them and send them to Gehenna, as there is no worse enemy than nominal Christians, after that the apostate Jews. Both were once your chosen people and both have betrayed you.

O God, who preservest thy Catholic Church founded upon the solidity of the apostolic rock from the terror of

the gates of Gehenna, grant us, we beseech thee, that by the intercession of blessed Leo the Great, thy Sovereign Pontiff, she may persist in thy truth and be strengthened in continual security.

This we ask through our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, who lives and reigns with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

St. Martha



Petition Prayer to St. Martha

O blessed St. Martha, friend and servant of our Savior, I turn to thee for thy aid and protection. Comfort me in all my difficulties; and through the great favor thou didst enjoy when the Savior was lodged in thy house, intercede for me that I may be provided for in my necessities (*mention your petition*). I ask of thee, St. Martha, to assist me in overcoming all my difficulties, my trials and tribulations, as thou didst overcome the dragon which thou didst slay at thy feet.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

Prayer to St. Martha for Choosing the Best Part

O blessed St. Martha, thou wert privileged to welcome Jesus into thy home as thy guest and to serve him most willingly. At thy brother Lazarus' grave, thy faith led Jesus to proclaim "I am the resurrection and the life," and thy faith let thee see

beyond his humanity when thou didst cry out "Lord, I believe that thou art Christ, the Son of the living God!" With firm hope thou didst say "I know that whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee," and Jesus called thy brother Lazarus back from the dead. Beloved friend and servant of our Savior, obtain for me from our Lord that I may serve him willingly and lovingly as thou didst. Dispel the cares and distractions of this world so that by thy assistance I may not be troubled about many things and may always choose the best part, to love and serve our Lord. Pray for me that I may grow in faith, hope, and charity so that Jesus, who sat at thy table, will grant me a place at the banquet of everlasting life. Amen.

St. Christopher



Prayer to St. Christopher, the Christ-Bearer

Dear St. Christopher, you were given the beautiful name of "Christ-bearer" because while carrying travelers across a raging stream you also carried the Christ Child. Teach us also to be Christ-bearers to those who do not know him. Amen.

Prayer to the Holy Roman Emperor St. Constantine and Holy Empress St. Helena



O Holy Emperor St. Constantine the Great, the Josue of the New Covenant era, and Holy Empress St. Helena, the Judith of the New Covenant era, we entreat thee to intercede for us before the throne of God.

Pray for us St. Helena, who wert instrumental in converting thy son, St. Constantine, into the Holy Catholic Church.

Pray for us St. Constantine, who, when going to battle against Maxentius in AD 312, saw in the sky the Sign of the Holy Cross, which said, "In this sign thou shalt conquer!," and forthwith defeated him in the Battle of Milvian Bridge.

Pray for us St. Constantine, who passed the Edict of Milan in AD 313, which made Christianity an accepted religion and thus brought the Catholic faith out of the catacombs and into public places in the Roman Empire.

Pray for us St. Constantine, who wert baptized into the Holy Catholic Church by Pope St. Sylvester I, and who called the Council of Nicea in AD 325 which upheld dogmas regarding the Holy Trinity and

Incarnation, which was infallibly confirmed by Pope St. Sylvester I.

Pray for us, St. Constantine and St. Helena, who purged the Holy Land and other places of idols and false gods, and who found, built, or re-consecrated holy things and holy places in Jerusalem, elsewhere in Palestine, and in other places.

Oh, God-blessed Holy Emperor St. Constantine the Great and Holy Empress St. Helena, the eternal and provident God has chosen you as bright stars that appear before sunrise, to open the doors of the Christian faith for the enlightenment of the whole human race.

He endowed thee, St. Helena, with a loving Christian heart, and thee, St. Constantine, with Solomonian wisdom, Davidic meekness, and apostolic zeal for truth, justice and humanity.

He, the Invisible, the Unattainable, deigned to reveal himself at that most critical moment through the Sign of the Cross and showed you, Saint Constantine, and all men throughout the ages, how and with what the evil in the world can be defeated.

When you beheld the letters above the fiery Cross “In this sign thou shalt conquer”, you accepted the Holy Cross as a most powerful banner, safeguarding the Divine mark, defeated the enemy, and proclaimed the Christian faith.

Encouraged by your pious mother St. Helena, you undertook the extensive task of constructing Christian places and the strengthening of the true Christian faith. The rich heavenly seeds that so generously poured into your royal souls have borne abundant fruit. The Holy Catholic Church has grown and established itself under your rule.

And now, Holy Emperor St. Constantine and Holy Empress St. Helena, here the faithful have gathered before you with faith and hope in your powerful intercession before God. You stand before him in radiant glory and pray for the one, holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, and for all believers. May the sign of the cross, by which you defeated

earthly enemies, serve the holy Catholic Church as a support against visible and invisible enemies; may it also protect us from the evil that lurks in our souls or surrounds us and lurks to destroy us. Pray to the Lord Jesus Christ for us. May he give us strength to overcome every adversity, may justice and the holy Catholic faith prevail, which is our support and our salvation, in order to glorify the wonderful God, who through the saints pours out mercies on those living on earth.

This we ask through Jesus Christ, who livest and reignest in unity God the Father with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen!

Prayer to the Holy Roman Emperor St. Charlemagne



O Holy Emperor St. Charlemagne, the King David of the New Covenant era, we joyously celebrate you, and sing thy praises to the King of kings. Thou wert the brave soldier of Christ, the leader of an invincible army. Thou prostrated God's enemies by tens of thousands. Thou weeded the earth of its cockle and with thy sword cleansed the harvest from its tares, thou great Emperor, the good sower of the good seed, the prudent husbandman. Thou converted infidel races and nations. Thou overthrew pagan temples and the false gods and broke the idols. Thou subdued haughty kings. Thou established the reign of holy Catholic laws and justice

O King, conqueror of the earth! Emperor of the kings of the world,

lovingly hear our prayers now that thou reignest among the blessed. By thy prayers, death was put to flight, the sick were healed, life was restored, the thirsty obtained fountains of water, and whole nations were cleansed in the laver of baptism. And thou wast instrumental in the miraculous finding the body of the Good St. Anne.

Ramparts made impregnable by art and nature, yielded to the simple power of thy prayers; and thou taughtst vanquished nations to bear the sweet yoke of Christ. Prudent and faithful servant, and oh how worthy of heaven! Thou didst ascend thither from the battlefield, thou entered into the land of peace. Strike, then, the rock with thy sword, and call forth for us a stream of living water. By thy holy prayer, obtain for us the mercy of our God, the Catholic God. Glory be to the Blessed Trinity Praise and honour to the Holy Unity, that reigneth co-equally in infinite power. Amen.

Prayer to St. Stephen, King of Hungary



St. Stephen, most glorious King of Hungary, thou has converted Hungary to Christianity from the pagan ways of Attila the Hun. Oh, what a glorious change. If the Hungarians would have listened to a gentler apostle, God would surely have sent us a more lenient one. But how can a weak shepherd have coped with a multitude of rebels? The grace of God descended upon Hungary through thee, a faithful and strong-willed man.

Oh glorious St. Stephen, the first king of the Hungarian nation and who received thy crown from Rome. Priest and peasants surrounded thee. On thy head was an ornate crown; on thy shoulders, a beaded velvet mantle; in thy hand, a staff, a golden bough. Thy majesty dazzled as the rising sun, reflected in the face of your dignitaries.

Grasping the royal staff, thou hast began to spread the Christian faith, converting, banishing, or expelling pagans from the country. Thou hast never lost a battle in defense of the Catholic Church and Catholic faith. And after your death, your right arm, which killed for Christ and brought justice to Hungary, remained uncorrupted.

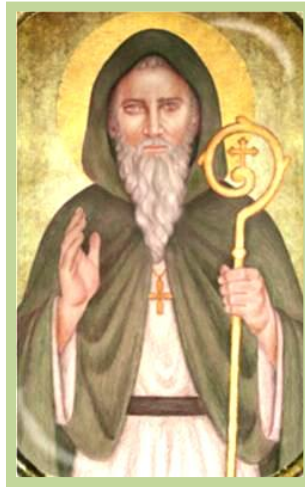
Thou hast founded in Hungary, churches and bishoprics in which God was glorified and his name was extolled. Thou hast filled them with riches, adorning the altars with treasures of gold, well-crafted articles and gems, and brought true shepherds, teachers from other lands. Thou hast set up godly and holy laws in the land and enforced them.

Oh, radiant star of the Hungarians, protector of Catholic Hungary, come to the aid of all Catholics.

O Almighty God, grant unto thy Catholic Church, we pray, that she may have St Stephen of Hungary, who fostered her growth while a king on earth, as her glorious defender from heaven.

This we ask through our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, who lives and reigns with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer to St. Declan



O holy St. Declan, faithful servant of God, you brought the light of Christ to the people of Ireland, Preaching with zeal and working wonders by his grace. Through your prayers and steadfast love, you guided the Deisi to the truth of the Gospel. Intercede for us now, O blessed bishop of Ardmore, that we may find strength in our faith, courage in our trials, and generosity in our hearts, as you did in your earthly life. Ask our dear Lord to bless us with his peace, and lead us, like you, to trust in his divine will. St. Declan, friend of Saint Patrick and servant of the Most High, Pray for us before the throne of God, that we may walk in the path of holiness and one day join you in the everlasting joy of Heaven. Amen.

St. Anthony of Padua



Prayer to St. Anthony of Padua

O glorious St. Anthony, servant and friend of God, I salute thee through the most loving heart of our divine Savior Jesus Christ, whom thou didst bear in thy arms under the form of a child. I choose thee today as my patron, advocate, and father. I place all my cares and temptations in thy hands. I earnestly resolve never to forsake thee. Great Saint, lily of celestial purity and vanquisher of concupiscence, obtain for me and all thy other clients perfect purity of soul and body. And in imitation of thy zeal, I promise to lead others to the knowledge, love, and service of God through my own example and counsel. Amen.

Petition Prayer to St. Anthony of Padua

O wondrous St. Anthony, glorious by reason of the fame of thy miracles, who had the happiness of receiving within thine arms our blessed Lord under the guise of a little child, obtain for me of his bounty this favor that I earnestly desire. Thou who wast so gracious unto repentant sinners, regard not the lack of merit on the part of him who calls upon thee but consider the glory of God, which will be exalted once more through thee, to the salvation of my soul and the granting of the petition that I now make with such ardent yearning (*here make your petition*).

As a pledge of my gratitude, I beg thee to accept my promise to live henceforth in union with the

teachings of the gospel and to be devoted to the conversion of sinners, whom thou didst ever love and still dost love so greatly. Bless this my resolution, and obtain for me the grace to be faithful thereto even until death. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving to St. Anthony of Padua

O glorious wonder-worker St. Anthony, father of the poor and comforter of the afflicted, thou who hast come with such loving solicitude to my assistance and hast comforted me so abundantly, behold me at thy feet to offer thee my heartfelt thanks. Accept, therefore, my gratitude and with it my earnest promise, which I now renew, to live always in the love of Jesus and my neighbor. Continue to shield me graciously with thy protection; and obtain for me the final grace of being able one day to enter the kingdom of heaven, there to praise with thee the everlasting mercies of God. Amen.

St. Philomena



Prayer to St. Philomena

O St. Philomena, virgin and martyr, pray for us that through thy powerful intercession we may obtain that purity of heart and mind which leads to the perfect love of God. Amen.

Prayer for Those Who Wear the St. Philomena Cord

(See in this book [Blessing of the Cord of St. Philomena](#), p. 195.)

O pure virgin, glorious martyr, St. Philomena, whom God in his eternal power has revealed to the world in these disastrous days of ours in order to revive the faith, sustain the hope, and inflame the charity of Christian hearts, I kneel at thy feet. Deign, O kindest virgin, to receive my humble prayers and to obtain for me that purity for love of which thou didst sacrifice all the most attractive pleasures of the earth. Obtain for me that strength of soul which made thee resist the most terrible attacks of tribulation and suffering; that ardent love for Jesus which the most fearful sufferings could not extinguish in thy heart; and protect me in all the events of my life from all dangers, spiritual and temporal. Be present with me also in my last hour, which I commend to thy loving charity with confidence, since in life I love thee and wear thy holy cord as a mark of my special devotion toward thee, the beloved of Jesus and Mary. Amen.

Chaplet of St. Philomena

Recite the Apostles' Creed on the crucifix. On each of the three white beads, recite the Our Father in honor of the Blessed Trinity. For those who are not allowed to pray the Our Father, pray the Hail Mary instead. Then on each of the thirteen red beads, recite:

L. Hail, O holy St. Philomena, intercede for me now and at the hour of my death.

R. St. Philomena, beloved daughter of Jesus and Mary, pray for us who have recourse to thee. Amen.

Then on the medal:

Hail, O illustrious St. Philomena, who so courageously shed thy blood for Christ, I praise the Lord for all the

graces he has bestowed upon thee in life and especially at thy death. I praise and glorify him for the honor and power with which he has crowned thee, and I beg thee to obtain for me from God the graces I ask through thy intercession. Amen.

St. Brigid of Ireland



Poem to St. Brigid

Oh Brigid, Mary of the Gael,
may your protection never fail.

Spread your mantle over me,
where 'ere I am, where 'ere I be.

Cover me with God's joy and peace,
let my faith and hope never cease.

Shine your light where there is
darkness,
strengthen me in any weakness.

Heal all within that may be ill,
give me the desire each day to do
God's will.

'Till I rest, my journey o'er,
with God and you forever more.

St. Brigid, patron of Kildare, pray for us.

(See in this book [Litany of St. Brigid](#), p. 120.)

PRAYERS FOR THE SPIRIT OF MARTYRDOM

Prayer to St. John the Baptist for the Spirit of Martyrdom and to Overcome Human Respect



St. John the Baptist, martyr invincible, for the honor of God and the salvation of souls thou didst with firmness and constancy withstand the impiety of Herod, even at the cost of thine own life, and didst rebuke him openly for his wicked life and wicked deeds. By thy prayers obtain for us a heart, brave and generous, in order that we may die for Christ if we must, and the grace to overcome all human respect and openly profess our faith in loyal obedience to the teachings of Jesus Christ, our divine Master.

Prayer for the Spirit of Martyrdom



St. Stephen, the first martyr for Christ

O Lord, strength and hope of thy martyrs, hear their prayers on our behalf and give us the courage to bear witness to your truth, the Catholic Faith. All-powerful, ever-living God, turn our weakness into strength. As you gave your martyrs the courage to suffer death for Christ, so also grant us, we beseech thee, the courage to live and die in faithful witness to you. This we ask through our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, who livest and reignest with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer for Those about to be Martyred



St. Bartholomew being flayed alive

Merciful God and Father, to whom our Saviour Christ approached in his fear and need by reason of his eminent passion and death, and found comfort; Gracious God and most bounteous Christ, on whom Stephen called in his extreme need and received strength; Most benign Holy Spirit, who didst comfort the apostles Peter and Paul in the midst of all crosses and death with more consolations in Christ than they felt sorrows and terrors, have mercy upon me, who now draws near to the gates of death.

Let thy mercy prevail towards me, through the mediation of Christ our Saviour. Since it hath pleased thee to bring me forth now as one of Christ's witnesses and a record-bearer of thy

verity and truth taught by him, give me strength to die for him and our Holy Catholic faith.

I most humbly pray thee that thou wouldst accordingly help me with thy strength and heavenly grace; that in Christ thy Son, I may find comfort. With Stephen may I see thy presence and gracious power. And with Peter and Paul and all others, who for thy name's sake have suffered affliction and death, may I find present within me thy gracious consolations, that I may by my death glorify thy holy name, propagate and ratify the Catholic faith, comfort the hearts of the heavy, confirm thy Holy Catholic Church, and convert those that are to be converted. May I depart forth from this miserable world and so enter into the kingdom of thy blessed mercy. Grant me a lively faith and trust in thee. May the terrors of death, the torments of fire, the pangs of sin, the darts of Satan, and the sorrows of Gehenna never overwhelm me, but may they be driven away through the working of thy most gracious Spirit. Now plenteously endue me with that same Holy Spirit that I may offer myself wholly, soul and body, to be a lively sacrifice, holy and acceptable in thy sight, dear Father, whose I am, to whom I commend myself, according to thy good pleasure. O dear Father, give me grace to come unto thee. Purge and so purify me by this fire in Christ's death and passion through thy Holy Spirit that I may be a burnt-offering of a sweet smell in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and for evermore. Amen.

Hymn for the Spirit of Martyrdom



St. Lawrence, burned on a gridiron

A mighty fortress is our God, a
bulwark never failing;
Our helper he, amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing;
For still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great
and armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

If we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side,
the Man of God's own choosing;
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth is his Name,
from age to age the same,
And he must win the battle.

And though this world with devils
filled should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed
his truth to triumph through us;
The Prince of Darkness grim, we
tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure, for lo, his
doom is sure,
One little word shall fell him.

St. Polycarp's Prayer for Martyrdom



St. Polycarp was delivered to the fire, but since it did not harm him, he received the crown of martyrdom by the sword. (Roman Martyrology)

O Father of your well-beloved and
blessed Son Jesus Christ, through
whom we have known you.

O God of the angels and powers and
of every living creature, and of all
sorts of righteous people which live
in your presence,

I thank you that you have graciously
provided this day and this hour
to allot me a portion among the
number of martyrs, among the people
of Christ to the resurrection of
everlasting life, both of body and
soul, in the incorruption of the Holy
Spirit.

Among them I will be received in
your sight this day as a fruitful and
acceptable sacrifice, you have already
prepared, often revealed, and now
fulfilled.

You are the only God who cannot lie.
For all these things I praise you, I
bless you, I glorify you; through the
eternal High Priest, Jesus Christ, your
well-beloved Son, to whom with you
and the Holy Spirit, be all glory, now
and forever. Amen. (St. Polycarp)

Praises of the Martyrs



The Martyrs of the Colosseum

Oh one and only God, O matchless
Creator, praised and glorified art thou
for having placed this splendid crown
upon the brow of thy martyrs, and
this mantle of everlasting glory on
their shoulders. The rays of thy
sanctity fell upon bodies of clay and
the lights of thy glory shone forth. A
flame of thy bestowal from the
kindled fire appeared and gave their
hearts everlasting life. Thanks be to
thee for this blessing and this
bestowal and this bounty with which
thou hast distinguished the martyrs.
Thou art the Generous, the Merciful,
and the All-Loving God.

O ye who have suffered martyrdom!
O trustees of his Revelation! O
distinguished men of virtue! O
illustrious and noble ones! May my
inmost spirit, my entire being and
whatsoever God hath bestowed upon
me through his bounty and grace be
laid down as a sacrifice for God. I
bear witness that ye martyrs are the
radiant stars, the gleaming meteors,
the resplendent full moons, the
brilliant orbs in the wondrous
Revelation of the Catholic faith. Well
is it with you, O birds that warble in
the gardens of divine unity, blessed
are ye. O lions that roared in the
forests of detachment, happy are ye.
O sea creatures that swim in the
waters of his oneness, joyful are ye.
Verily, ye are the signs of divine
guidance. Ye are the banners that
flutter in the field of sacrifice.

I beseech God to bless me through
the breezes of holiness wafted from
thy glorious martyrdoms and to
quicken me with the reviving breath
of heavenly communion blowing
from that blessed region.

I beg you to intercede on my behalf in
the presence of the ever-living,
sovereign Lord that he may

graciously suffer me to quaff my fill from the choice sealed wine, grant me a portion from the unbounded felicity that ye enjoy, and exhilarate my heart by giving me to drink from your chalice which is tempered at the Fountain of Life. Verily, my Lord is merciful and forgiving. He aideth whomsoever he willeth with whatsoever he pleaseth. And upon you rest the glory of the Most Glorious!

RJMI's Prayer to Endure Martyrdom



St. Sebastian

O my God, what great comforts and consolations thou givest to the martyrs so that they may endure joyfully their martyrdom, being assured by thee of their entrance into heaven and comforted by thee so as to endure the pain without denying the faith.

Grant us the courage to joyfully proclaim the faith in the face of death as the first martyr for Christ, St. Stephen, did. May we too with our last breath, proclaim as he did "Behold, I see the heavens opened and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God... Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

O, sweet, comforting and consoling grace of God, if thou, O Lord, dost not give it, us mere men by ourselves, are cowards, and we shall surely break. Please, O Lord, make us worthy of martyrdom. Give us now what we need; a perfect faith, fear, and love of and trust in thee, to be worthy of the great gift of thy protection; for if thou givest it not to us, we shall surely deny thee in our moment of trial. O please Lord, please, never, no never, allow me to deny thee—no, not due to the flattery and comforts of this evil world, even if the whole world to the last man

opposes me, nor under the most brutal torture. To us Lord, may the greatest pain truly ever be that of denying thee and thus seeing thy eyes turn away from us, and thy countenance change from that of loving mercy to that of abhorrence, utter contempt, and condemnation. Oh, that truly is the pain of all pains, from which there is no escape, and with which comes a despair deeper and darker than all the despair men have felt on earth since the fall in the Garden of Eden, an everlasting despair that is proclaimed on the gates of Gehenna: "Abandon hope, all ye who enter here." Gehenna, where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth, not just for one month, or one year, or fifty years, or a hundred years, or a thousand years, or a million years, but forever and ever and ever. That is pain!

Lord God, grant that I may fear thee now while there is yet time, as I know that only then can I truly love thee, attain true wisdom (the Catholic faith), and everlasting salvation. This I ask through Jesus Christ, thy Son, in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR STUDY AND USING THE INTERNET

Short Prayers for Study

To Jesus: O merciful God, grant me the grace that I may eagerly desire all that is pleasing to thee, examine it carefully, acknowledge it truthfully, and fulfill it perfectly, to the praise and glory of thy holy name. Amen. O Lord, preserve in us the Catholic Faith.

To Mary: O dearest Mother, by thine Immaculate Conception, I wish to place all my studies under thy direction and I declare that I chiefly study in order to spread greater glory to God and devotion to thee. Therefore I beseech thee, most loving Mother, Seat of Wisdom, to assist my work; and I promise to give the proper thanks for any success I obtain to thine intercession with God. Amen. Our Lady of Good Studies, pray for us.

Prayer before Study

O God the Holy Spirit, by the mediation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Seat of Wisdom, grant me the grace to love my studies, and the gift of a truly wise mind so that I may understand and retain what I learn. Protect me from anything sinful in my studies so that I may detect and reject it and warn others. Help me so that I may not consent in any way to sinful things in my studies or give a sinful answer to pass a course. Help me to admonish a teacher who teaches something sinful and to warn the students, knowing that if I do not do these things I sin by omission and thus am guilty of that very sin. Grant me the grace and other helps to not fall prey to human respect or to the love of position, job, or money more than the love of truth and virtue. May I rather be expelled from or fail the course of study and live poor and without position the rest of my life than consent to or do anything sinful. This I ask in the name of the same Holy Spirit in union with the Father and the Son. Amen. (RJMI)

Prayer before Theological Studies

O God the Holy Spirit, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Seat of Wisdom, and St. Gabriel, most glorious prince of the heavenly messengers, and St. Joseph, Patriarch of the Holy Family and Patron of the Holy Catholic Church, assist me and do not abandon me this day, that I may read, listen, learn, write, and speak with all truthfulness, holiness, and simplicity for the glory of God and the salvation of souls.

Ss. Peter and Paul and the other apostles, pray for me. Ss. Cyprian of Carthage, Athanasius, Ambrose, Augustine, and Pope Leo the Great, pray for me that during my religious studies and works this day, I may keep what is good, reject what is heretical or otherwise bad or erroneous, and correct what needs to be corrected. And protect me from all seductions and deceptions. This I ask in the name of the same Holy Spirit in union with the Father and the Son. Amen. (RJMI)

Prayer before Reading the Bible

First recite the [Prayer to the Holy Spirit](#), p. 142, and then place the Bible on your forehead and recite the following prayer:

Mary, Seat of Wisdom, pray for me. St. Gabriel the Archangel, most glorious prince of the heavenly messengers, pray for me. St. Joseph, pray for me. Ss. Augustine and Leo I pray for me. Ss. Isaias, Jeremias, and Ezechiel, pray for me. Ss. Daniel and John the Evangelist, pray for me. Ss. Elias and John the Baptist, pray for me. Ss. Moses and Paul, pray for me. Ss. Matthew, Mark, and Luke, pray for me. Good St. Anne, pray for me. Ss. Josue and the Holy Emperor St. Constantine the Great, pray for me. Ss. King David and the Holy

Emperor St. Charlemagne, pray for me. Ss. Abraham and Peter, pray for me. Angels and saints of God, pray for me so that first and foremost these Holy Scriptures may sink deep into my soul, my heart, my mind, and my entire being and become my very life itself, the holy words of God, the true meaning thereof as interpreted by the Holy Catholic Church.

May Christ, the Son of God, teach us the words of the Holy Scriptures. May the reading of the Holy Scriptures be the health and protection to our souls and bodies. Amen.

Prayer before Memorizing Bible Verses

By the intercession of Ss. Abraham and Moses and Ss. Peter and Paul, may I memorize these Holy Scriptures with the greatest of ease with the assistance of God's grace, without which I can do absolutely nothing of any good. And may this memorization be for edification and enlightenment and not for vanity and pride. Amen. (RJMI)

Prayer before Using the Internet

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever during my trip through the Internet this day be at my side to light, to guard, to rule, to guide, and to protect me from all evil.

May Jesus through Mary, and the intercession of St. Raphael, my Guardian Angel, and all the angels and saints that can be of assistance to me, protect me from over curiosity and any traps, poison, and deceptions on this Internet in any way, shape, or form. Amen. (RJMI)

Hail Mary...

PRAYERS FOR TRAVELERS

Guardian Angel Prayer for Travel

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever my travels this day be at my side to light, to guard, to rule, and to guide. St. Raphael and St. Christopher, patron saints of travelers, protect me during my travels this day. Amen. (RJMI)

Prayer to St. Christopher for Travelers

O St. Christopher, hear my prayer; keep me in thy loving care. Protect me from perils along the way; guide me during my travels this day. Give a warning if danger is near so that I may wait till the path is clear. Carry me safely to my destined place, as thou once carried the Christ Child in thy close embrace. Amen.

Prayer for Pilgrimages or Other Long Trips



Archangels Michael and Raphael

If there is only one pilgrim or traveler the prayers are said in the singular; but if the priest who bestows the blessing is a member of the pilgrimage they are said in the plural.

All. May the almighty and merciful Lord lead you in the way of peace and prosperity. May the Angel Raphael be your companion on your journey and bring you back to your

homes in peace, health, and happiness.

Then the [Canticle of Zachary \(Benedictus\)](#), p. 58 is said; and after the canticle the above antiphon is repeated. Then the priest continues:

L. Lord, have mercy.
R. Christ, have mercy.
L. Lord, have mercy.

Our Father...

L. Save your servants. **R.** Who trust in you, my God.

L. Lord, send them aid from your holy place. **R.** And watch over them from Sion.

L. Let them find in you, Lord, a fortified tower. **R.** In the face of the enemy.

L. Let the enemy have no power over them. **R.** And the son of iniquity be powerless to harm them.

L. May the Lord be praised at all times. **R.** May God, our helper, grant us a happy journey.

L. Lord, show us your ways. **R.** And lead us along your paths.

L. Oh, that our life be set. **R.** On keeping your precepts.

L. For the crooked ways will be made straight. **R.** And the rough places plain.

L. God has given his angels charge over you. **R.** To guard you in all your undertakings.

L. Lord, heed my prayer. **R.** And let my cry be heard by you.

L. The Lord be with you. **R.** May He also be with you.

L. Let us pray.

O God, who led the children of Israel dry-shod through the sea, and showed the way to the three Magi by the guidance of a star, grant these travelers, we pray, a happy journey and peaceful days, so that with your holy angel as a guide, they may safely reach their destination and finally come to the haven of everlasting salvation.

God, who led your servant, Abraham out of Ur of the Chaldeans and kept him safe in all his wanderings, may it please you, we pray, also to watch over these servants of yours. Be to them, Lord, a help in their preparations, comfort on the way, shade in the heat, shelter in the rain and cold, a carriage in tiredness, a shield in adversity, a staff in insecurity, a haven in shipwreck; so that under your guidance, they may happily reach their destination, and finally return safe to their homes.

Lord, we beg you to hear our request that you guide the steps of your servants along the path of well-being that comes from you; and that in the midst of this fickle world, they may always live under your protection.

Grant, we pray, O almighty God, that your family of travelers find a safe route; and heeding the admonitions of blessed John, the precursor, come finally to him whom John foretold, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hear, Lord, our prayers, and kindly accompany your servants on their journey; and as your power is present everywhere, lend them your aid at all times, so that with you as their shield they will be defended from all dangers and pay you their homage of gratitude; through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

L. May the peace and blessing of almighty God, Father, Son, + and Holy Spirit, come upon you and remain with you forever. **R.** Amen.

The traveler(s) are sprinkled with holy water.

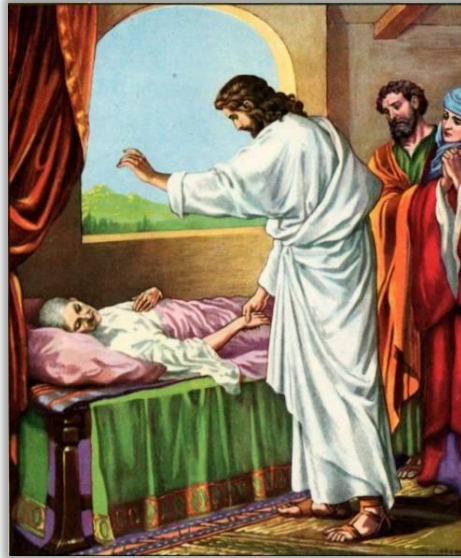
Prayers to St. Raphael for Travelers

(See [Prayer to St. Raphael for a Safe Journey](#), p. 150; and [Prayer to St. Raphael for Those Undertaking a Journey or a Walk](#), p. 150.)

Blessing for Travelers

(See [Blessing of Travelers](#), p. 196.)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK



Christ healing St. Peter's mother-in-law of the fever

For Sick Catholics

(See in this book [If the sick or dying person is in the hospital](#), p. 169.)

Prayer for a Sick Catholic

Almighty and eternal God, the everlasting salvation of them that believe in thee and keep thy law, hear us on behalf of thy sick child, *N.*, for whom we implore the aid of thy pitying mercy, that with his bodily health restored he may give glory and thanks to thee in thy Church and help save the souls of others. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Relief and Perseverance in Sickness

Behold me, my beloved Jesus, weighed down under the burden of my trials and sufferings. I cast myself at thy feet that thou mayest renew my strength and my perseverance. Help me to carry my cross; and hide me in thy Sacred Heart, for only thine infinite goodness can sustain me, only thy love can help me bear my cross, only thy powerful hand can lighten its weight. O divine King Jesus, whose heart is so compassionate to the afflicted, I wish to live for thee, to suffer and die for thee. During my life

be my model and support; at the hour of my death be my hope and refuge. Amen.

Prayer for Restoration to Health

O Jesus, thou didst suffer and die for us and thus thou didst experience suffering. Teach me to accept my suffering like thee, to bear it as you did, to offer it to thee to atone for my sins and the sins of others and to bring thy grace to souls in need. Calm my fears; increase my trust. May I gladly accept thy holy will. If it be thy will, heal me from my sickness and restore me to health so that I may work for thy honor and glory and for the salvation of my soul and the souls of others. Amen.

Prayer for Strength of Body

St. Raphael, St. Luke, and Ss. Cosmas and Damian, take my petition before our holy mother Mary so that she may take it before her Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, that he may take it before the Father, in union with the Holy Spirit. And by thy intercession may God (heal my *(mention your specific bodily afflictions)* and) make my body strong enough to do the spiritual work he has given me and to do my daily duties. Amen. (RJMI)

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

Prayer in Pain and Suffering

O Lord Jesus Christ, accept my sufferings which I desire to unite with thine. Sanctify this affliction so that every pain I feel may purify my soul and bring it nearer to thee, that I may be more united to thee. Grant that I may welcome the sufferings which will make me more like thee. Stand by me with thy supporting grace, sanctify each pain, and sustain my weakness so that I do not become overwhelmed by pain. Come now to my help, O Lord, and so purify my soul that I may be spared everlasting sufferings; let me fly to the embrace of thy love forever.

Lord Jesus, thou hast invited all that labor and are burdened to come to thee for refreshment. Behold now thy servant, afflicted and oppressed, who has come to thee for help; relieve me, I beseech thee, thou who art merciful. O thou who comforted the martyrs in their torments and refreshed them with heavenly sweetness on the rack and in the fire, renew thy mercies to me thine servant. Defend me against all temptation; suffer not the enemy to take advantage of me, but grant me thy heavenly strength, the fullness of thy grace and peace. O Lord, by thy Cross and Passion strengthen me. Lord, let this cup pass from me;

nevertheless, not my will but thine be done. Amen.

Prayer to Offer Up Pain in Sickness

Dear Lord, thou hast sent me this affliction so that I may share in thy sufferings for our sins. Grant me the grace that I may draw closer to thee for consolation and not turn away from thee in my misery. O my Savior, grant me that precious grace to offer up my pain to atone for sins as thou didst in thy sacred Passion. Help me to imitate thy patience, to bear my cross willingly, to not complain, and to use my sufferings for reparation for my sins or for those of others, as thou dost see fit. In this time of distress and pain, I ask, I seek, and I knock for the graces of endurance, perseverance, and, above all, trustful submission to thy divine will, for thy greater glory and my own good. Amen.

Rules for a Sick Catholic

1. Receive your sickness from the hands of your heavenly Father dealing with you as with a child.

2. Look on it as a loving correction for your sins and as a summons to prepare more carefully for death.

3. Practice the virtues of patience and submission to the will of God; deepen your repentance and offer yourself to God to suffer, if it pleases him, still greater pains; give thanks for the blessings you enjoy.

4. In any dangerous illness, let your first care be to go to or send for a Catholic priest. If you are a catechumen, he can baptize you; and if you are of the faithful, he will hear your confession and if necessary, administer extreme unction to you. If no Catholic priest is available, you can be baptized by anyone if you are a catechumen; and if you are of the faithful, you can confess to God and he will remit your sins.

5. Beg your doctor, family members, and friends to give you timely notice if your illness is dangerous and not to flatter you with false hopes of recovery.

6. Make the best use of the time you have; only admit good Catholics, good-willed catechumens, or good-

willed non-Catholics as visitors. Let your conversation be mostly on spiritual matters.

7. Settle your temporal affairs in order to give yourself more entirely to spiritual matters.

8. Meditate often on our Lord's Passion.

9. Bear in mind St. Augustine's words: However innocent your life may have been, no Christian ought to venture to die in any other state than that of a penitent.

For Sick Non-Catholics

Prayer for a Sick Non-Catholic

O God of the Holy Catholic Church, we pray that by the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Raphael you will heal (N.), a non-Catholic, in body and more importantly in soul so that he may believe in the Catholic faith and enter the Catholic Church and thus have a hope to save his immortal soul. Amen. (RJMI)

PRAYERS FOR THE DYING



How to Deal with the Dying

If the dying person is not Catholic

If the dying person is not Catholic, you must tell him that if he does not convert and become a member of the Catholic Church and die as a good Catholic, he cannot go to heaven but instead he will go to Gehenna and suffer everlasting pains. If he does not want to convert, then all you can do is offer up prayers, penances, and other good deeds for his soul. If he allows you, you can pray for his conversion by his bedside.

If he wants to convert, the primary thing he must believe in is the *Basic Catholic Profession of Faith*. That would be enough if he does not have time to study the *Profession of Faith for the Days of the Great Apostasy*. But he must promise to learn it and consent to it if he has time. And he must promise to pray, study the faith, do penance, and do other good works if he has time, and strive to live as a good Catholic, as listed in RJMI's article [Things Catholics Must Believe and Do](#).

If the dying person is a catechumen

If the dying person is a catechumen, you must bring him into the Catholic Church either by baptism if he was not validly baptized or, if he was validly baptized, by his abjuration or a profession of faith that serves as an abjuration.

Methods for bringing the dying person into the Catholic Church

By baptism

If available, a Catholic bishop or priest must administer the baptism; if not, then a Catholic layman; if not, then a Catholic laywoman; if not, then a male catechumen; if not, then a female catechumen; if not, then a non-Catholic male; if not, then a non-Catholic female may administer the sacrament. To learn how baptism must be administered when no Catholic bishop or priest is available, see RJMI book *Sacraments without a Priest*: [The Sacrament of Baptism without a Priest](#).

By abjuration

If the dying non-Catholic or catechumen was validly baptized, then he enters the Catholic Church by abjuration or a profession of faith that

serves as an abjuration. And then, if available, a Catholic bishop lays his hands upon him at which point he enters the Catholic Church. If a Catholic bishop is not available, then a Catholic priest must lay his hands upon the convert.

If no Catholic bishop or Catholic priest is available in the foreseeable future, then the convert must abjure before a Catholic layman. He enters the Catholic Church as soon as he signs or otherwise consents to the abjuration or profession of faith.

And if a Catholic layman is not available in the foreseeable future, he must abjure before a non-Catholic to witness his abjuration.

And if there is no one willing to witness his abjuration in the foreseeable future, he can abjure and make a profession of faith by himself.

If it is the first time the convert entered the Catholic Church, he does not have to confess to a Catholic priest the sins he committed previous to entering the Catholic Church because the sanctifying grace of baptism remits all of his sins and all the punishment due to his sins the instant he entered the Catholic Church.

A convert who re-enters the Catholic Church and thus was a member of the Catholic Church before he fell away must confess to a Catholic priest the mortal sins he committed since his last sincere confession when he was inside the

Catholic Church to have them remitted. He does that after he enters the Catholic Church by abjuration. If a Catholic priest is not available in the foreseeable future, then he must confess his sins to God and God will remit them as long as his confession was sincere.²⁵

For more information, see RJMI's book *Sacraments without a Priest*: [Abjuration without a Catholic Bishop or Catholic Priest](#)

The consent form

For a consent form to be signed by those entering the Catholic Church, see [Consent Form for the Profession of Faith for the Days of the Great Apostasy](#). See also [Procedure on Receiving Converts into the Catholic Church](#).

If the dying person is a member of the Catholic Church

If the dying person is a member of the Catholic Church, you must do the following:

Pray the *Prayers for the Dying from the Roman Ritual*.²⁶ These prayers are only for members of the Catholic Church.

Have him reaffirm his faith by consenting to the *Basic Catholic Profession of Faith* and the *Profession of Faith for the Days of the Great Apostasy*. If he has learned none or only part of the *Profession of Faith for the Days of the Great Apostasy*, then he must promise to learn all of it and consent to it if he has time.

You must help him to make a sincere confession to a Catholic priest if one is available. If no Catholic priest is available, then he must confess his sins to God, and God will remit them if his confession was sincere. You can help him examine his conscience. (See in this book [Confession](#), p. 98.)

²⁵ On what it takes to make a sincere confession, see the *Profession of Faith for the Days of the Great Apostasy*: [The Sacrament of Penance \(Confession\)](#).

²⁶ See in this book [Prayers for the Dying from the Roman Ritual](#), p. 169.

If the sick or dying person is in the hospital

If the sick or dying Catholic is in the hospital, his Catholic family or friends, if possible, should put on the door of his hospital room a posting that only true Catholics are allowed to enter the room for any religious purposes. Catholic family members or friends should alter times and visits to pray their daily prayers, if possible, with the sick or dying Catholic. A holy picture or two in the room is recommended and a Crucifix. Have a Rosary and small Holy Water bottle on the bed stand as well. Extra prayers for the dying are needed, as well. The Exorcism should be prayed and the reading of the Examination of Conscience and the Profession of Faith (first, the *Basic Catholic Profession of Faith* and then the *Profession of Faith for the Days of the Great Apostasy*). MLR's external hard drive which contains RJMI's lectures and movies are a great benefit also. "For I was hungry, and you gave me [spiritual food] to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave me [spiritual water] to drink." (Mt. 25:35)

Prayers for the Dying from the Roman Ritual

These prayers are only for members of the Catholic Church who are dying. If a non-Catholic does not want to convert, you should offer prayers for his conversion instead.

Spiritual Assistance to the Dying

If a Catholic priest is not available, then a Catholic layman may perform this service, minus the administration of the Holy Eucharist and Extreme Unction.

If possible, pray the Long Exorcism prayer in the room of the dying person. If not, then pray it for him in another place. (See in this book [Long Exorcism Prayer](#), p. 137.)

The minister recommends and encourages him to recite or elicit, as long as he remains conscious, the acts of faith, hope, and charity, and

arouses in him other virtuous dispositions, namely:

That he firmly believe all articles of faith, all that the one, holy, Catholic and apostolic Church believes and teaches;

That he firmly believe all the points in the [Basic Catholic Profession of Faith](#), composed by RJMI;

That he firmly believe all the points in the [Profession of Faith for the Days of the Great Apostasy](#), composed by RJMI. If he has not yet read it, then he must promise to read and consent to it if he has time;

That he examine his conscience and make a sincere confession of his sins (See in this book [Confession](#), p. 98.)

That for the love of God he charitably forgive all who have offended him or have been inimical to him;

That he ask pardon of all whom he has offended in word or deed;

That he have confidence that our Lord Jesus Christ, in his boundless clemency will be merciful to him as long as his confession is sincere, and that through the merits of his sacred passion and the intercession of Blessed Mary and all the angels and saints, he will come to possess life everlasting;

That in resignation to God's will and as penance for his sins he bear patiently all the sufferings and burdens of his sickness;

That if the Lord be gracious enough to restore his health, he purpose in future to guard against sin with all his power and keep the commandments of God.

Tell him, moreover, to pray the penitential psalms, as well as the daily prayers for Catholics listed in RJMI's article [Things Catholics Must Believe and Do](#).

Rite of the Apostolic Blessing

The apostolic blessing at the hour of death should be imparted, following the reception of the last sacraments (Extreme Unction, Confession, and the Holy Eucharist), to those who desire it while still rational and conscious. It may likewise be granted

to any of the faithful who has given any indication of such desire, or who has seemed contrite before becoming unconscious or irrational. But it must be denied absolutely to catechumens, the excommunicated and other non-Catholics, and to the faithful who are impenitent or who die in patent mortal sin.

The pastor or another priest who assists the sick person, vested in surplice and purple stole, on entering the room where the sick person lies, says:

L. God's peace be in this home. **R.** And in all who live here.

Next he sprinkles the sick person, the room, and the bystanders with holy water, saying:

L. Purify me with hyssop, Lord, and I shall be clean of sin. Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Have mercy on me, God, in your great kindness.

Glory be...

L. Purify me with hyssop, Lord, and I shall be clean of sin. Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

The priest hears the confession of the sick person and absolves him. If no Catholic priest is available in the foreseeable future, the minister tells the sick person to make a sincere confession to God, and God will remit his sins. He then exhorts him to invoke the holy name of Jesus, to bear his sufferings patiently in expiation for past sins, to resign himself fully to God's holy will, even to the extent of accepting death resignedly in satisfaction for punishment due to sin.

The priest consoles him, instilling confidence that by the divine bounty he will receive remission of temporal punishment and everlasting life, as long as his confession was sincere. Then he says:

L. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

L. Do not keep in mind, O Lord, the offenses of your servant nor take vengeance on his (her) sins.

L. Lord, have mercy. **R.** Christ, have mercy. **L.** Lord, have mercy.

Our Father...

L. Save your servant.

R. Who trusts in you, my God.

L. Lord, heed my prayer.

R. And let my cry be heard by you.

L. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

Let us pray.

L. Merciful God, kind Father, our sole comfort, who wills that no one who believes and trusts in you should perish, in your boundless love look favorably on your servant, *N.*, whom the true faith and Christian hope commend to you. Come to him (her) with your saving power, and by the suffering and death of your only-begotten Son, be pleased to grant him (her) pardon and remission of his sins. Let his (her) soul at the hour of its departure find in you a merciful judge, and cleansed of every stain in the blood of your Son, let him (her) be found worthy of passing into everlasting life; through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

L. May our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave to his blessed apostle Peter the power of binding and loosing, mercifully accept your confession, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit. **R.** Amen.

L. By the sacred mysteries of mankind's redemption, may almighty God remit your sins and punishment due to your sin, and may he open to you the gates of Paradise and admit you to everlasting happiness. **R.** Amen.

The priest should add the prayers given below in the rite for commending a departing soul, and he should exhort the bystanders to pray for the dying person.

Rite for Commending a Departing Soul to God

Whenever a pastor goes to carry out the ceremony of commending a departing soul, he should, if possible, be assisted by at least another cleric. The latter will carry the vessel with holy water, a surplice, and a purple stole. Arriving at the sick-room, the

priest puts on the surplice and stole, and then entering the room says:

L. God's peace be in this home. **R.** And in all who live here.

Next he sprinkles the sick person, the room, and the bystanders with holy water, saying the antiphon:

L. Sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be cleansed. Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow.

Then he presents a crucifix to the dying person to be kissed, and at the same time says a few words to him of hope for salvation. Moreover, he places the crucifix within sight of the patient, so that gazing on it he may take comfort from the hope which it symbolizes.

Then a candle is lighted. The priest and all the bystanders kneel and pray the short litany as follows:

L. Lord, have mercy. **R.** Christ, have mercy. **L.** Lord, have mercy.

Holy Mary,
Pray for him (her). (repeat after each versicle)

All ye holy angels and archangels,
Holy Abel,
All ye choirs of the just,
Holy Abraham,
St. John the Baptist,
St. Joseph,
All ye holy patriarchs and prophets,
St. Peter,
St. Paul,
St. Andrew,
St. John,
All ye holy apostles and evangelists,
All ye holy disciples of our Lord,
All ye holy Innocents,
St. Stephen,
St. Lawrence,
All ye holy martyrs,
St. Sylvester,
St. Gregory,
St. Augustine,
All ye holy bishops and confessors,
St. Benedict,
St. Mary Magdalen,
St. Lucy,
All ye holy monks and hermits
All ye holy virgins and widows,
All ye holy men and women, saints of God, intercede for him (her).

Be merciful,
Spare him (her), O Lord.

Be merciful,
*Deliver him (her), O Lord. (repeat
 after each versicle)*
 From your wrath,
 From the peril of death,
 From an evil end,
 From the pains of Gehenna,
 By your nativity,
 By your cross and passion,
 By your death and burial,
 By your glorious resurrection,
 By your wondrous ascension,
 By the grace of the Holy Spirit, the
 Advocate,
 On the day of judgment,

L. We sinners, **R.** beg you to hear us.

L. That you may spare him (her), **R.**
 we beg you to hear us.

L. Lord, have mercy. **R.** Christ, have
 mercy. **L.** Lord, have mercy.

*And as the soul struggles in its death
 agony, the following prayers are
 recited:*

L. Depart, Christian soul, from this
 world, in the name of God the Father
 almighty, anchor of the Most Holy
 Trinity; in the name of Jesus Christ,
 Son of the living God, who suffered
 for you; in the name of the Holy
 Spirit who sanctified you; in the name
 of the glorious and blessed Virgin
 Mary, Mother of God; in the name of
 St. Joseph, her illustrious spouse; in
 the name of the Angels and
 Archangels, Thrones and
 Dominations, Virtues, Powers and
 Principalities, Cherubim and
 Seraphim; in the name of the
 patriarchs and prophets, the holy
 apostles and evangelists, the holy
 martyrs and confessors, the holy
 monks and hermits; in the name of
 the holy virgins and all the holy men
 and women of God. May you rest in
 peace this day and your abode be in
 holy Sion; through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

L. God of mercy, God of pity, in your
 great compassion, you blot out the
 sins of the penitent and cancel the
 debt of past misdeeds by your
 gracious pardon. May it please you
 now to look with favor on your
 servant, *N.*, and hear him (her) as he
 (she) pleads for the forgiveness of all
 his (her) sins, sincerely
 acknowledging them. All-merciful
 Father, grant his (her) request, and
 refashion in him (her) whatever has

been marred by human frailty or
 defiled by the devil's treachery and
 by sin. Bless this member of your
 Catholic Church whom you have
 redeemed. Have pity, Lord, have pity
 for his (her) tears and sighs, for his
 (her) only hope is in your mercy.
 Grant him (her) the grace of being
 reconciled to you; through Christ our
 Lord. **R.** Amen.

L. I commend you, dear brother
 (sister), to almighty God, and entrust
 you to him whose creature you are.
 Having paid the debt of human nature
 in surrendering your soul, may you
 return to your Maker who formed you
 out of the dust of the earth. May your
 spirit, as it leaves the body, be met by
 the noble company of angels. May
 the high court of the apostles come
 forward to plead for you. May the
 victorious army of white-robed
 martyrs welcome you. May the lily-
 white throng of glorious confessors
 surround you. May the joyous choir
 of virgins escort you. May St. Joseph,
 the tender patron of the dying sustain
 you in high hope. May the holy
 Virgin Mary, Mother of God, turn
 kindly eyes on you. May Jesus Christ
 appear before you with gentle and
 joyous countenance and appoint a
 place for you in his presence forever.
 Far from you be all the terror of
 darkness, the hiss of flames, the
 anguish of torment. Far from you be
 the accursed Satan and his
 accomplices. Let him shrink, abashed
 into the vast chaos of everlasting
 night, when you draw near with your
 escort of angels. Let God arise and
 his enemies be scattered; let those
 who hate him flee at his coming! Let
 them vanish like smoke; as wax melts
 before the fire, so let sinners perish
 before the face of God, while the
 good triumph and make merry in his
 presence. Shame and confusion come
 upon Gehenna's legions, and let
 Satan's cohorts not dare to bar your
 way. May Christ, who for your sake
 was crucified, deliver you from
 torment. May Christ, who
 condescended to die for you, deliver
 you from everlasting death. May
 Christ, Son of the living God, give
 you a place in the ever verdant
 gardens of his Paradise, and may he,
 the true shepherd, own you for one of
 his flock. May he absolve you from
 all your sins, and place you at his

right hand among his elect. May you
 see your Redeemer face to face. And
 standing ever in his presence, may
 you gaze with delighted eyes on truth
 itself made manifest. There take your
 place in the ranks of the blessed, and
 enjoy the blessed vision of your God
 forever. **R.** Amen.

L. Receive your servant, Lord, into
 the place of salvation, for which he
 (she) hopes because of your mercy.
R. Amen.

L. Deliver, O Lord, the soul of your
 servant from the perils of Gehenna,
 the snares of punishment and
 tribulation. **R.** Amen.

L. Deliver, O Lord, the soul of your
 servant, as you delivered Noe from
 the flood. **R.** Amen.

L. Deliver, O Lord, the soul of your
 servant, as you delivered Abraham
 out of Ur of the Chaldees. **R.** Amen.

L. Deliver, O Lord, the soul of your
 servant, as you delivered Isaac from
 being sacrificed at the hand of his
 father, Abraham. **R.** Amen.

L. Deliver, O Lord, the soul of your
 servant, as you delivered Lot from
 Sodom and the flames of fire. **R.**
 Amen.

L. Deliver, O Lord, the soul of your
 servant, as you delivered Job from his
 sufferings. **R.** Amen.

L. Deliver, O Lord, the soul of your
 servant, as you delivered Moses from
 the hand of Pharaoh, king of Egypt.
R. Amen.

L. Deliver, O Lord, the soul of your
 servant, as you delivered Enoch,
 Elias, Jeremias and the other prophets
 from their enemies. **R.** Amen.

L. Deliver, O Lord, the soul of your
 servant, as you delivered Susanna
 from an unjust condemnation. **R.**
 Amen.

L. Deliver, O Lord, the soul of your
 servant, as you delivered Daniel from
 the lions' den. **R.** Amen.

L. Deliver, O Lord, the soul of your
 servant, as you delivered the three
 young men from the fiery furnace and
 from the hands of the wicked king. **R.**
 Amen.

L. Deliver, O Lord, the soul of your servant, as you delivered David from the hands of Goliath and King Saul.
R. Amen.

L. Deliver, O Lord, the soul of your servant, as you delivered Peter and Paul from prison. **R.** Amen.

L. And as you delivered blessed Thecla, your virgin and martyr, from a thrice frightful torment, so deliver the soul of this servant of yours, and let him (her) rejoice with you in the good things of heaven. **R.** Amen.

L. We commend to your keeping, O Lord, the soul of your servant, *N.*, and we beg you, Lord Jesus Christ, Savior of the world, who came on earth for his (her) sake, to bear him (her) aloft to the bosom of the patriarchs. Acknowledge him (her), Lord, as one of your own, not made by strange gods but by you, the only true and living God. For there is no other God than you, and nothing to compare with your works. Lord, let his (her) soul find joy in your presence. Put out of mind his (her) past transgressions and excesses which sinful passions and desires engendered. For although he (she) has sinned, yet he (she) has confessed his sins and does not deny thee, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, but believes, and has zeal for thy honor and faithfully worships thee who created all things.

L. We beg you, O Lord, remember not the sins of his (her) youth, the faults of ignorance; but in your mercy, keep him (her) in mind in the brightness of your glory. Let the heavens be opened to him (her), let the angels rejoice with him (her). Lord, receive your servant into your kingdom. Let him (her) be welcomed by St. Michael, the archangel of God, who has won the leadership of the heavenly host. Let the holy angels of God come to meet him (her) and lead him (her) into the heavenly city, the heavenly Jerusalem. Let him (her) be received by the blessed apostle Peter to whom God has entrusted the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Let him (her) be helped by St. Paul the apostle chosen to be the herald of the Gospel. Let him (her) find an intercessor in St. John, thy beloved disciple to whom were revealed heavenly mysteries. Let all the holy apostles, to

whom you gave the power of binding and loosing, pray for him (her). Let all the saints and elect, who in this world endured great suffering for Christ, intercede for him (her). Freed from the bonds of the flesh, may he (she) attain the glory of the kingdom of heaven, through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. **R.** Amen.

L. May Mary, the Virgin Mother of God, loving consoler of those in distress, commend to her Son the soul of his servant, *N.*, that by her motherly intercession he (she) may escape the terrors of death, and in her company gladly come to the longed-for home in heaven. **R.** Amen.

R. I turn to you for refuge, Saint Joseph, patron of the dying, at whose happy deathbed Jesus and Mary stood watch. By loving vigil which they had at your departure, I earnestly commend to you the soul of this servant, *N.*, in his (her) last agony, so that under your protecting care he (she) may be delivered from the wiles of the devil and from everlasting death and attain everlasting happiness; through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

If the death agony is prolonged, the priest may read for the dying person from the Gospel of St. John, Chapter 17:1-6 and Chapters 18 and 19.

Prayer to our Lord Jesus Christ, contemplating the various steps of his passion; to be said either by the dying or by another in his stead:

L. We adore you, Christ, and we bless you. **R.** For by your holy cross, you redeemed the world.

L. O God, in order to redeem the world, you willed to be born of a woman and to submit to circumcision; to be repudiated by the Jews and betrayed with a kiss by the traitor, Judas; to be bound in chains and led like an innocent lamb to the slaughter; to be made a shameful spectacle before Annas, Caiaphas, Pilate, and Herod; to be accused by false witnesses, tortured by scourging and mockery, spat upon, crowned with thorns, whipped and struck with a reed, blindfolded, stripped of your garments, nailed to the cross and

raised up on it, reckoned among robbers, your thirst slaked with vinegar and gall, your side pierced with a lance. Lord, by your holy sufferings, which I, unworthy as I am, recall to mind, and by your holy cross and death, deliver me (*or if another says the prayer for the dying person:* deliver your servant, *N.*), from the pains of Gehenna, and lead me (him) (her) to Paradise, as you led the good thief who was crucified with you. We ask this of you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. **R.** Amen.

Psalms 117 and 118 may be added. (See in this book, page 31)

Three pious and helpful prayers for the dying together with the Our Father and Hail Mary, to be said during the last agony:

L. Lord, have mercy. **R.** Christ, have mercy. **L.** Lord, have mercy.

Our Father...
Hail Mary...

L. Lord Jesus Christ, by your sacred agony and by the prayer you offered for us on Mt. Olivet when your sweat became like drops of blood trickling to the ground, I humbly implore you to offer up the flow of that bloody sweat which poured from you in frightful anguish. Present it to God the Father, to help your servant, *N.* persevere in his (her) sufferings. Deliver him (her) in the hour of his (her) death from penalties and sufferings which he (she) fears his (her) sins have deserved. We ask this of you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. **R.** Amen.

L. Lord, have mercy. **R.** Christ, have mercy. **L.** Lord, have mercy.

Our Father, Hail Mary.

L. Lord, Jesus Christ, who for our sake submitted to a shameful death on the cross, I humbly implore you to offer up all the bitter pain and suffering you endured on the cross for us wretched sinners, especially in the hour when your sacred soul left your sacred body. Present them to God the Father, for the soul of your servant *N.* Deliver him (her) in the hour of his (her) death from penalties and sufferings which he (she) fears his

(her) sins have deserved. We ask this of you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. **R.** Amen.

L. Lord, have mercy. **R.** Christ, have mercy. **L.** Lord, have mercy.

Our Father, Hail Mary.

L. Lord Jesus Christ, who spoke by the mouth of the prophet: "I love you with undying love; therefore, I have pity on you and have drawn you to myself," (Jer. 31:3) I humbly implore you to offer up for the soul of your servant, **N.**, the very same charity which brought you down from heaven to earth to endure all those bitter sufferings of yours. Present them to God the Father. Deliver him (her) from penalties and sufferings which he (she) fears his (her) sins have deserved, and save his (her) soul in this hour of his (her) departure. Open wide for him (her) the gate of life, and let him (her) rejoice with your saints in everlasting glory. Lord Jesus Christ, font of all mercy, who ransomed us with your precious blood, take pity on the soul of your servant, and graciously lead him (her) to the ever verdant beauty of Heaven and Paradise. There may he (she) live united with you in inseparable love, never to be parted from you and your elect. We ask this of you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. **R.** Amen.

At the Moment of Death

At the moment a person is departing this life, then especially should all who are present kneel down and devote themselves to most fervent prayer. The dying person himself should say if he can (otherwise the priest or anyone present pronounces for him distinctly) the words: "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!" This and the following aspirations may be whispered in his ear from time to time, if it seems advisable:

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
Lord, Jesus Christ, receive my spirit.
Holy Mary, pray for me.
Mary, Mother of grace, Mother of mercy, shield me from the enemy, and receive me at the hour of my

death.

St. Joseph, pray for me.

O blessed Joseph, with Mary, your virgin-wife, open to me the innermost depths of divine mercy.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, I give you my heart and my soul.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, assist me in my last agony.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, may I sleep and rest in peace with you.

Wherever it is custom, the bell of the parish church should be tolled to announce to the faithful that someone is dying so that they may pray for the person.

When the soul has departed, the following is said immediately:

L. Come in haste to assist him (her), + you saints of God; Come in haste to meet him (her), you angels of the Lord. Enfold in your arms this soul, + and take your burden heavenwards to the sight of the Most High.

L. May Christ receive you, for it was he who called you; and may angels carry you unto Abraham's bosom.

R. Enfold in your arms this soul, and take your burden heavenwards to the sight of the Most High.

L. Lord, grant him (her) everlasting rest, and let perpetual light shine upon him (her).

R. Take your burden heavenwards to the sight of the Most High.

L. Lord, have mercy. **R.** Christ, have mercy. **L.** Lord, have mercy.

Our Father...

L. Lord, grant him (her) everlasting rest. **R.** And let perpetual light shine upon him (her).

L. From the gates of Gehenna. **R.** Deliver his (her) soul, O Lord.

L. May he (she) rest in peace. **R.** Amen.

L. Lord, heed my prayer. **R.** And let my cry be heard by you.

L. The Lord be with you. **R.** And with your spirit.

L. Let us prayer.

L. To you, O God, we commend the soul of your servant, **N.**, that he (she) who has departed this life may

evermore live for you. In your all merciful and loving forgiveness, blot out the sins which he (she) has committed. This we ask through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

Then for a conclusion, may be added the following prayer for those who are present.

L. Grant, Of God, that while we lament the departure of this thy servant, we may always remember that we are most certainly to follow him (her). And give us grace to prepare for that last hour by a faithful and holy life, that we may not be surprised by a sudden and unprovided death, but by ever watching, that when thou shall call, we may, with the bridegroom, enter into everlasting glory, through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

Meanwhile the church bell should be tolled, if such is the custom, so that those who hear it may pray for the departed. The body should be laid out with due respect in a becoming place, and lights placed about it. A small crucifix should be fixed in the hands of the corpse, with the hands resting on the breast; or if a crucifix is not available, the hands should be arranged in the form of a cross. The corpse is to be sprinkled with holy water, and, until it is removed for burial, prayers are to be said for his (her) soul's welfare by those present, both clergy and laity.

Funeral and Burial Services for the Faithful Departed from the Roman Ritual

1) MEETING THE BODY

The priest, vested in surplice, black stole and black cope, meets the body of the deceased in the house or place where the coffin waits, and sprinkles it with holy water saying:

L. Ant. If thou, O Lord...

Psalm 129 (*De Profundis*)

Out of the depths I have cried to thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice. Let thy ears be attentive to the voice of my

supplication. If thou, O Lord, wilt mark iniquities, Lord, who shall stand it. For with thee there is merciful forgiveness; and by reason of thy law, I have waited for thee, O Lord. My soul hath relied on his word. My soul hath hoped in the Lord. From the morning watch even until night, let Israel hope in the Lord. Because with the Lord there is mercy and with him plentiful redemption.

L. Ant. If thou, O Lord, wilt mark iniquities, Lord, who shall stand it.

Psalm 50 (*See in this book, page 56.*)

On entering the church, is sung:

RESPONSORY: *Subvenite*

L. Come to his (her) assistance, ye saints of God, meet him (her), ye angels of the Lord, receiving his (her) soul, offering it in the sight of the Most High.

L. May Christ, who has called thee, receive thee; and may the angels conduct thee into Abraham's bosom.

R. Receiving his (her) soul, offering it in the sight of the Most High.

L. Everlasting rest grant to him (her), O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him (her).

R. Offering it in the sight of the Most High.

The body is then placed before the sanctuary with the feet towards the altar, if a lay person; the head if a priest. The Office of the Dead is often chanted at that moment (Matins and Lauds, or one Nocturn with Lauds, or Lauds only). Otherwise, the Mass for the Burial begins immediately.

2) THE BURIAL MASS

INTROIT

L. EVERLASTING rest grant unto them, O Lord: and let perpetual light shine upon them. Ps. A hymn, O God, becometh thee in Sion; and a vow shall be paid to thee in Jerusalem. O hear my prayer. All flesh shall come to Thee. Everlasting rest.

COLLECT

L. O God, whose property is ever to have mercy and to spare, we humbly beseech thee on behalf of the soul of Thy servant **N.**, whom Thou hast this

day called out of this world, that thou wouldst not deliver him (her) into the hands of the enemy, nor forget him (her) forever, that having put his (her) faith, hope, and trust in thee, he (she) may not be damned, but may come to the possession of everlasting joys. Through our Lord.

EPISTLE: 1 THESSALONIANS 4:12-17

Brethren, we will not have you ignorant concerning them that are asleep that you be not sorrowful even as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them who have slept through Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you in the word of the Lord, that we who are alive who remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not go before them who have slept. For the Lord himself shall come down from heaven with the mandate, and with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God, and the dead who are in Christ shall rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, shall be taken up together with them in the clouds to meet Christ, into the air, and so shall we be always with the Lord. Wherefore, comfort ye one another with these words.

GRADUAL

L. Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. The just shall be in everlasting remembrance; he shall not fear the evil hearing.

TRACT

L. Absolve, O Lord, the souls of the faithful departed from every bond of sin. And by the help of thy grace, may they be enabled to escape the avenging judgment and enjoy the happiness of everlasting life.

SEQUENCE: *Dies Irae*

Day of wrath! O day of mourning, See fulfilled the prophets' warning; Heaven and earth in ashes burning. Oh, what fear man's bosom rendeth when from heaven the Judge descendeth, on whose sentence all dependeth! Wondrous sound the trumpet flingeth, through earth's sepulchres it ringeth, all before the throne it bringeth. Death is struck, and nature quaking, all creation is awaking, to its Judge an answer

making. Lo! the book exactly worded where in all hath been recorded; Thence shall judgment be awarded when the Judge his seat attaineth; and each hidden deed arraigneth, nothing unavenged remaineth. What shall I, frail man, be pleading, who for me be interceding, when the just are mercy needing? King of majesty tremendous, who dost free salvation send us, fount of pity, then befriend us! Ah, good Jesu, who by thy wondrous Incarnation saves us. Leave me not to reprobation. Faint and weary thou hast sought me, on the cross of suffering bought me; Shall such grace be vainly brought me? Righteous Judge, for sin's pollution grant thy gift of absolution. Ere that day of retribution. Guilty, now I pour my moaning. All my shame with anguish owning. Spare, O God, thy suppliant groaning. Thou the repentant woman savest. Thou the repentant dying thief forgavest. And to me a hope vouchsafest. Hear my prayers and sighing. Yet, good Lord, in grace complying, rescue me from fires undying. With thy favoured sheep O place me, nor among the goats abase me, but to Thy right hand upraise me. While the wicked are confounded, doomed to flames of woe unbounded, call me with thy saints surrounded. Low I kneel, with heart-submission. See like ashes, my contrition. Help me in my last condition. Ah! that day of tears and mourning! From the dust of earth returning, man for judgment must prepare him. Spare, O God, in mercy spare him! Lord, all pitying, Jesu blest, grant them everlasting rest. Amen.

GOSPEL: John 11. 21-27

Martha said to Jesus: Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died. But now also I know that whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee. Jesus saith to her: Thy brother shall rise. Martha saith to him: I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus said to her: I am the resurrection and the life. He that believeth in me although he be dead shall live. And every one that liveth and believeth in me shall not die for ever. Believest thou this? She saith to him: Yea, Lord, I have believed that thou art

Christ, the Son of the living God,
who art come into this world.

OFFERTORY

L. O Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, deliver this departed soul from the pains of Gehenna, from the deep pit. Deliver him from the lion's mouth, that Gehenna may not swallow him up, and may he not fall into darkness; may thy holy standard-bearer, Michael, lead him into the holy light, which thou didst promise to Abraham and to his faithful seed. We offer to thee, O Lord, sacrifices and prayers. Do thou receive them in behalf of this soul whom we commemorate this day. Grant him, O Lord, to pass from death unto life; which thou didst promise to Abraham and to his faithful seed.

SECRET

L. Be merciful, O Lord, we beseech thee, unto the soul of thy servant **N.**, for whom we offer thee this sacrifice of praise, humbly beseeching thy majesty that, by these holy peace-offerings, he (she) may attain to everlasting rest. Through our Lord.

PREFACE FOR THE DEAD

L. It is truly meet and just, right and availing unto salvation, that we should in all times and in all places give thanks unto thee, O holy Lord, Father almighty and everlasting God; through Christ our Lord. In whom the hope of a blessed resurrection hath shone upon us, that those afflicted by the certainty of dying, may be consoled by the promise of a future immortality. For unto thy faithful, O Lord, life is changed, not taken away; and the abode of this earthly sojourn being dissolved, an everlasting dwelling is prepared in heaven. And therefore with angels and archangels, with thrones and dominions, and with all the heavenly hosts, we sing a hymn to Thy glory, saying without ceasing:

All. Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are filled with Thy glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed + is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

COMMUNION

L. May thy eternal light shine upon him, O Lord, with thy saints forever, because thou art merciful. Everlasting rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him, with thy saints forever, for thou art merciful.

POSTCOMMUNION

L. Grant, we beseech thee, almighty God, that the soul of Thy servant **N.**, which has departed out of this world, may be purified by this sacrifice, and delivered from sins, and may receive forgiveness and everlasting rest. Through our Lord.

L. May he (she) rest in peace. **R.** Amen.

3) The ABSOLUTION

After Mass, the priest vested in a black cope stands at the foot of the body and says:

L. Enter not into judgment with thy servant, O Lord; for in thy sight shall no man be justified, save thou grant him remission of all his sins. Therefore, let not, we beseech thee, the sentence thou pronounce in judgment fall heavily upon one whom the faithful prayer of thy Christian people commends to thee, but rather by the help of thy grace, may he be found worthy to escape the judgment of condemnation, who in his lifetime was signed with the seal of the Holy Trinity. Who livest and reignest forever and ever. **R.** Amen.

RESPONSORY: *Libera me*

L. Deliver me, O Lord, from everlasting death in that awful day; Deliver me, O Lord, when the heavens and the earth shall be moved; Deliver me, O Lord, when thou shalt come to judge the world by fire. Dread and trembling have laid hold on me, and I fear exceedingly because of the judgment and the wrath to come. Deliver me, O Lord, when the heavens and the earth shall be shaken. O that day, that day of wrath, of sore distress and of all wretchedness, that great and exceeding bitter day. Deliver me, O Lord, when thou shalt come to judge the world by fire. Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

L. Lord, have mercy on us. **R.** Christ, have mercy on us. **L.** Lord, have mercy on us.

L. Our Father.

The priest continuing silently the Lord's Prayer, passes twice round the body sprinkling it with holy water and incensing it. He resumes:

L. And let us not fall into temptation. **R.** But deliver us from evil.

L. From the gate of Gehenna. **R.** Deliver his (her) soul (their souls), O Lord.

L. May he (she, they) rest in peace. **R.** Amen.

L. O Lord, hear my prayer. **R.** And let my cry come unto thee.

L. The Lord be with you. **R.** And with thy spirit.

PRAYER

L. Let us pray.

This prayer is said when the body is present.

L. O God, whose property is ever to have mercy and to spare, we humbly beseech thee on behalf of the soul of thy servant **N.**, which thou hast called out of this world, that thou wouldst not deliver him (her) into the hands of the enemy, nor forget him (her) forever, but command that he (she) eventually be taken up by thy holy angels and borne to our home in heaven, that having put his (her) hope and trust in thee, he (she) may not suffer forever the pains of Gehenna, but may come to the possession of everlasting joys. Through our Lord.

Should the body not be present, the following Prayer and concluding Verses are said:

L. Absolve, we beseech thee, O Lord, the soul of thy servant **N.**, that he (she) who is dead to the world, may live unto thee, and wipe away by thy most merciful forgiveness what sins he (she) may have committed in life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then the priest makes the sign of the cross and says:

L. Everlasting rest grant unto him (her, them), O Lord. **R.** And let

perpetual light shine upon him (her, them),

L. May he (she, they) rest in peace.
R. Amen.

L. May his (her) soul (their souls) and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. **R.** Amen.

4) THE BURIAL

While the body is carried out of the church, the following is sung:

ANTIPHON: *In Paradisum*

All or the choir. May the angels lead thee into paradise. May the martyrs receive thee at thy coming and lead thee into the holy city of Jerusalem. May the choir of angels receive thee. And mayest thou have everlasting rest with Lazarus, who once was poor.

If the grave has not already been blessed:

BLESSING OF THEIR GRAVE

L. Let us pray.

O God, by whose mercy the souls of the faithful find rest, vouchsafe to bless this grave and appoint thy holy angel to guard it. Release the souls of the faithful departed whose bodies are buried here from every bond of sin and remit some or all of the punishment due to their sins, that in thee they may rejoice with thy saints forever. Through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

Here the body and grave are sprinkled with holy water and incensed. In the cemetery, or where the body is left, the priest intones:

CANTICLE: *Benedictus*
(Luke 1:68-79)

L. Ant. I am...

✠ **BLESSED** be the Lord God of Israel because he hath visited and wrought the redemption of his people
And hath raised up a horn of salvation to us in the house of David his servant,

As he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets, who are from the beginning:

Salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all that hate us,

To perform mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy testament,

The oath, which he swore to Abraham our father, that he would grant to us,

That being delivered from the hand of our enemies, we may serve him without fear,

In holiness and justice before him all our days.

And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest, for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways,

To give knowledge of salvation to his people unto the remission of their sins

Through the bowels of the mercy of our God in which the Orient from on high hath visited us,

To enlighten them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to direct our feet into the way of peace.

Ant. Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying: Whom I shall kiss, that same is he; hold him fast.

L. Ant. I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, although he be dead, shall live; and every one that liveth, and believeth in me, shall not die for ever.

L. Lord, have mercy on us. **R.** Christ have mercy on us. **L.** Lord, have mercy on us.

L. Our Father.

The priest continues the Lord's Prayer silently while sprinkling the body with holy water, until:

L. And let us not fall into temptation.
R. But deliver us from evil.

L. From the gate of Gehenna. **R.** Deliver his (her) soul (their souls), O Lord.

L. May he (she, they) rest in peace.
R. Amen.

L. O Lord, hear my prayer. **R.** And let my cry come unto thee.

L. The Lord be with you. **R.** And with thy spirit.

L. Let us pray.

Grant to thy servant (handmaid) departed, O Lord, we beseech thee, thy mercy, that he (she), who prayed that thy will might be done and whose faith united him (her) to the ranks of the faithful, so in heaven, by thy mercy, may he (she) have fellowship with the elect and choirs of angels. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The priest makes the sign of the cross on the body, and says:

L. Everlasting rest grant unto him (her), O Lord. **R.** And let perpetual light shine upon him (her).

L. May he (she) rest in peace. **R.** Amen.

L. May his (her) soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace. **R.** Amen.

On the way back to the church or to the sacristy the following prayers are said.

Psalm 129 (De Profundis)

1 Out of the depths I have cried to thee, O Lord.

2 Lord, hear my voice. Let thy ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

3 If thou, O Lord, wilt mark iniquities, Lord, who shall stand it.

4 For with thee there is merciful forgiveness; and by reason of thy law, I have waited for thee, O Lord. My soul hath relied on his word.

5 My soul hath hoped in the Lord.

6 From the morning watch even until night, let Israel hope in the Lord.

7 Because with the Lord there is mercy and with him plentiful redemption.

8 And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

L. Let us pray.

O God, the Creator and Redeemer of all the faithful, grant to the souls of thy faithfully departed servants the remission of their venial sins and punishment due to their sins, that through our pious supplications they may obtain the pardon which they desire. Who livest. **R.** Amen.

Special Offering for the Dying

O my God, I offer thee all the Catholic Masses which will be said today, throughout the whole world, for sinners who are now in their last agony and will die this day. May the precious blood of our Savior, Jesus Christ, obtain for them mercy. Amen.

Prayer for a Dying Catholic

Our Lord Jesus Christ, who was crucified for our sake, free (N.) from the temptations and assaults of the devil and from excruciating pain so that he may bear his sufferings patiently. In thy mercy, spare him from the death that never ends. Make him aware of any sins he must confess and anything else he must do in order that he may die in a state of grace and thus enter heaven and the ever-green loveliness of thy paradise to come, where thou, the true Shepherd, will recognize him as one of thy own. May he see thee face to face, and stand in thy presence forever, and behold with joyful eyes his Redeemer, Truth revealed in all its fullness. This we ask by the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph her spouse, the Archangels St. Michael, St. Gabriel, and St. Raphael, and in thy holy name, thou who livest and reignest with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer for a Dying Non-Catholic

Our Lord Jesus Christ, who was crucified for our sake, free (N.) from the temptations and assaults of the devil and from excruciating pain so

that he may bear his sufferings patiently. But most of all, in order that he may not suffer the excruciating pain that never ends in the torments of Gehenna, grant him the grace of conversion so that he may enter thy Catholic Church either by baptism or by abjuration; and if by abjuration, make him aware of any sins he must confess. Thus may he die in a state of grace and enter heaven and the ever-green loveliness of thy paradise to come, where thou, the true Shepherd, will recognize him as one of thy own. May he see thee face to face, and stand in thy presence forever, and behold with joyful eyes his Redeemer, Truth revealed in all its fullness. This we ask by the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph her spouse, the Archangels St. Michael, St. Gabriel, and St. Raphael, and in thy holy name, thou who livest and reignest with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer to Jesus for a Happy Death

O good Jesus, Son of the living God, who for our salvation didst vouchsafe to be born in a stable, to live in poverty, and to suffer and die amidst the torments of the cross, I beseech thee to say to thy divine Father at the hour of my death: "Father, forgive him"; say to thy beloved Mother: "Behold thy son"; say to my soul: "This day thou shalt be with me in heaven." My God, my God, forsake me not in that hour! "I thirst!" Verily, my God, my soul thirsteth after thee, who art the fountain of living waters. My life passes by like a shadow, yet a little while and all things shall be accomplished. Wherefore, my

adorable Savior, from this moment and forever "into thy hands I commend my spirit." Lord Jesus Christ, receive my soul. Amen.

Prayer to St. Joseph for the Dying

Everlasting Father, for the sake of thy love toward St. Joseph, whom thou didst choose above all to occupy thy place on earth, have mercy on us and on those who are dying.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

Everlasting Son of God, for the sake of thy love toward St. Joseph, who didst protect thee so faithfully on earth, have mercy on us and on those who are dying.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

Everlasting Holy Spirit, for the sake of thy love toward St. Joseph, who so carefully protected Mary, thy holy and beloved spouse, have mercy on us and on those who are dying.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

Prayer for a Happy Death

O God, great and omnipotent Judge of the living and the dead, we are to appear before thee after this short life to render an account of our faith and works. Grant us the grace to prepare for our last hour by a devout and holy life, and protect us against a sudden and unprovided death. Let us remember our frailty and mortality so that we may always live in the ways of thy commandments. Teach us to "watch and pray" (Luke 21:36), that when thy summons comes for our departure from this world, we may go forth with joy to meet thee and rejoice in everlasting happiness. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR THE SUFFERING SOULS IN PURGATORY



Only the faithful (members of the Catholic Church) can help the souls in purgatory by their prayers, alms, penances, and other good works. An inquirer or catechumen who prays for the poor souls will personally benefit from these prayers, but his prayers will not be able to help the poor souls.

The faithful who die in a state of grace but are guilty of venial sins or have not expiated all the punishments due to their remitted sins go to purgatory. They cannot enter heaven until their venial sins and all of the punishments due to their sins are remitted. These souls are known as the faithful departed or the suffering souls or the poor souls. For the dead to be numbered among the faithful departed, they must have died as one of the faithful and in a state of grace. Therefore, if there is credible evidence that they died as non-members of the Catholic Church or in any mortal sin, then it is

presumed that they are not among the faithful departed and thus cannot be prayed for.

The faithful on earth are obliged in charity and justice to pray for the poor souls. Those who in this life forget or ignore the faithful departed and thus do not pray for them will not save their souls when they die. Divine justice will punish them with everlasting damnation in Gehenna for their cruelty and hardness of heart, for not loving their brothers as God commanded as a necessity for salvation. Jesus said, "A new commandment I give unto you: That you love one another, as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another." (Jn. 13:34-35) Hence, whoever shows no mercy toward the suffering souls and remains cold and indifferent to their pain shall suffer everlasting fire in Gehenna in which there is no relief.

Prayer for the Poor Souls when Visiting Their Grave

Make the Sign of the Cross: In the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen. *(sprinkling the grave with Holy Water)*

If the poor soul is a female, replace he with she, him with her, etc. If there are more than one poor soul, then replace he with them, his with their, etc.

L. Let us pray: O God, the Creator and Redeemer of all the faithful, hear our supplications and through thy infinite love and mercy graciously grant to the soul of thy departed servant the remission of his sins and punishment due to his sins, by which

he deserved the severity of thy justice and punishments in the world to come. Grant to him grace and mercy before thy tribunal, and let him attain to everlasting rest and happiness through the infinite merits of Jesus Christ. **R.** Amen.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory Be.

De Profundis (Psalm 129)

L. Out of the depths I have cried to thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice. Let thy ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication. If thou, O Lord, wilt mark iniquities, Lord, who shall stand it. For with thee there is merciful forgiveness; and by reason of thy law, I have waited for thee, O Lord. My soul hath relied on his

word. My soul hath hoped in the Lord. From the morning watch even until night, let Israel hope in the Lord, because with the Lord there is mercy and with him plentiful redemption. And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

L. Everlasting rest grant unto him, O Lord. **R.** And let the perpetual light shine upon him.

L. And may he rest in peace. **R.** Amen.

L. And may his soul and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **R.** Amen.

Novena for the Souls in Purgatory

(See in this book [Novena for the Souls in Purgatory](#), p. 133.)

Petition Prayer for the Souls in Purgatory

The prayers listed here are for the souls in purgatory who have repented of the sins mentioned in these petitions before they died.

O Jesus, thou didst suffer and die that all mankind might be saved and brought to everlasting happiness. Hear our pleas for further mercy on the faithful departed souls of:

My spiritual and temporal benefactors,

My Jesus, mercy! (repeat after each versicle)

All for whom love or duty bids me pray,
Those who offended me,
Those who suffered disadvantage or harm through me,
Those who are especially beloved by thee,
Those whose release is near at hand,
Those who endure the greatest sufferings,
Those whose release is most remote,
Those who are least remembered,
Those who are deserving on account of their services to the Catholic Church,
The rich, who are now destitute,
The mighty, who are now powerless,
The once spiritually blind, who now see their folly,
The frivolous, who spent their time in idleness,
The poor, who did not seek the treasures of heaven,
The tepid, who devoted little time to prayer,
The indolent, who neglected to perform good works,
Those of little faith, who neglected the frequent reception of the sacraments,
The habitual sinners, who owe their salvation to a miracle of grace,
Parents who failed to watch over their children,
Superiors who were not solicitous for the salvation of those entrusted to them,

Those who immoderately strove for worldly riches and pleasures,
The worldly-minded, who failed to use their wealth and talents in the service of God,
Those who witnessed the death of others but would not think of their own,
Those who did not provide for the life hereafter,
Those whose sentence is severe because of the great things entrusted to them,
The popes, kings, and rulers,
The Catholic bishops and their counselors,
My teachers and spiritual advisers,
The deceased priests of this diocese,
The priests and religious of the Catholic Church,
The defenders of the Catholic faith,

Prayer

Everlasting rest grant unto all these,
O Lord, and let the perpetual light of thy countenance shine upon them.
Amen.

Offering of the Passion of Christ for the Faithful Departed

Look down, O Father of compassion, from thy high and holy seat, upon the poor souls detained in purgatory. Look upon all the pains and torments wherewith they are chastised, regard now the plaintive groans and tears which they pour forth unto thee, hear the prayers and supplications wherewith they entreat thy mercy, and be merciful unto them and remit their sins and punishment due to their sins. Remember, O most compassionate Father, all the sufferings which thy Son endured for them, remember his precious blood shed in such abundance for them, call to mind the most bitter death which he suffered for them, and have mercy on them. For all the sins they committed against thee, I offer thee the most holy life and conversation of thy most beloved Son; for all their negligences, I offer thee his most fervent desires toward thee; for all their omissions, I offer thee the great abundance of his merits; for their every insult and wrong to thee, I offer thee the sweet submission with which he honored

thee. Finally, for all the chastisements which they incurred, I offer thee all the mortifications, fastings, watchings, the labors and afflictions, wounds and stripes, Passion and death which he endured in such spotless innocence and with such loving eagerness, beseeching thee now to suffer thy anger to be appeased toward them and to lead them forth into everlasting joy.
Amen.

Four Prayers for the Faithful Departed

First Prayer

L. I adore, salute, and praise thee, O sweetest Lord Jesus Christ, and I give thee thanks for the vast love wherewith thou didst deign to be made man for us, to endure hunger and thirst, toils and sorrows, and to bestow on us thyself in the Most Holy Sacrament. Humbly I beseech thee that thou wouldst vouchsafe to unite and blend with the merits of thy holy life and conversation this my prayer which I now make to thee for the soul of **N.**, faithful departed, to supply from the great abundance of those merits, and perfectly to complete whatsoever he neglected in thy worship and love, in thanksgiving and prayer, in virtue and good works, and all the service due to thee, in all that by thy grace he could have done and did not do, or did from impure motives or carelessly and imperfectly.
Amen.

Response. Hail, Jesus Christ, splendor of the Father; hail, Prince of peace, gate of heaven, living Bread, offspring of the Virgin, vessel of the Godhead. Everlasting rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

Second Prayer

L. I adore, salute, and praise thee, O sweetest Lord Jesus Christ, and I give thee thanks for that love wherewith thou, the Creator of all things, didst condescend for our redemption to be seized and bound and dragged away to judgment, to be trampled upon, to be buffeted and spit upon, to be scourged and crowned with thorns, to be condemned to bear thine own

cross, to be stripped and nailed to the cross, to die a most bitter death, and to be pierced through with the lance. And in union with that love, I offer thee these my prayers, beseeching thee to blot out and efface utterly through the merits of thy most holy Passion and death whatsoever this soul for which I pray did against thy will by evil thoughts or words or deeds; and that thou wouldst vouchsafe to offer to God the Father all the sorrow and anguish of thy torn body and of thy suffering soul, all thy merits and all thine actions, for all the chastisement which this soul has incurred at the hands of thy justice. Amen.

Response

Third Prayer

L. I adore, salute, and praise thee, O sweetest Lord Jesus Christ, and I give thee thanks for all the love and the faithfulness with which thou didst overcome death and rise from the dead and glorify our flesh by ascending in it to the right hand of the Father, beseeching thee that thou wouldst vouchsafe to render the soul for which I pray partaker of thy triumph and thy glory. Amen.

Response

Fourth Prayer

L. I adore, salute, and praise thee, O sweetest Lord Jesus Christ, and I render thee thanks for all the graces thou hast ever bestowed on thy glorious Mother and on all thine elect, in union with the gratitude with which all thy saints exult in the bliss thou hast obtained for them through thy holy incarnation, Passion, and resurrection, beseeching thee that thou wouldst vouchsafe to supply to this soul from the merits and prayers of the same glorious Virgin and all thy saints whatever is lacking to his own. Amen.

Response

The Lord's Prayer for the Faithful Departed

Our Father, who art in heaven. I beseech thee that thou wouldst forgive the souls in purgatory whereinsoever they neither

sufficiently loved nor worthily honored thee, their adorable and most beloved Father, who of thine own mere grace didst adopt them to be thy children and they thrust thee forth from their hearts in which thou didst delight to dwell. And in satisfaction for these their sins, I offer thee that love and honor which thy beloved Son showed thee upon earth, and that most abundant satisfaction which he hath made for all their sins. Amen.

Hallowed be thy name. I beseech thee, O thou Father of compassion, forgive the souls of the faithful departed whereinsoever they did not worthily honor nor daily make mention of thy holy name, but took it in vain. In satisfaction for these their sins, I offer thee the consummate holiness of thy Son whereby he magnified thy name by his teaching and made it honorable by his work. Amen.

Thy kingdom come. I beseech thee, O Father of compassion, vouchsafe to forgive the souls of the faithful departed whereinsoever they did not fervently long nor ardently strive after thee and thy kingdom, in which alone is true rest and abiding glory. And for this and all their sloth in doing good, I offer thee the most holy and longing desires of thy Son wherewith he desired to make them heirs of his kingdom together with him. Amen.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. I beseech thee, O Father of compassion, vouchsafe to forgive the souls of the faithful departed, and especially of those consecrated to thee in the religious life, whereinsoever they did not prefer thy will above their own or did not love it in all things but too often lived and did only according to their own will. And in satisfaction for this their disobedience, I offer thee the union of the sweetest heart of thy Son with thy will, and all his most ready and loving obedience wherewith he was obedient unto thee, even to the death of the cross. Amen.

Give us this day our daily bread. I beseech thee, O Father of compassion, vouchsafe to forgive the souls of the faithful departed whereinsoever they did not receive the most blessed and adorable

Sacrament of the Altar with pure and perfect desire, devotion, and love or received it unworthily or seldom. And in satisfaction for these their sins, I offer thee the consummate holiness and devotion of thy Son, together with that most ardent love and ineffable yearning desire wherewith he bestowed upon us this most inestimable treasure. Amen.

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

I beseech thee, O Father of compassion, to forgive the souls of the faithful departed; vouchsafe to remit their sins and punishment due to their sins, and especially whereinsoever they did not forgive those who trespassed against them, or did not love their enemies. And for all these their sins, I offer thee that most sweet and tender prayer which thy Son prayed to thee for his enemies while he hung on the cross. Amen.

And let us not fall into temptation. I beseech thee, O Father of compassion, vouchsafe to forgive the souls of the faithful departed whereinsoever they did not resist their concupiscence and the sins to which they were especially prone but again and again consented to the devil and the flesh and entangled themselves by their own will in many grievous evils. And for all these their manifold sins, I offer thee the glorious victory wherewith thy Son overcame the world and the devil, together with all his most holy life and conversation, his toil and weariness, his most bitter Passion and death. Amen.

But deliver us and them from every evil and every woe, through the merits of thy beloved Son, and bring us to the kingdom of thy glory. Amen.

Prayer to Jesus for the Faithful Departed

O most compassionate Jesus, have mercy on the souls detained in purgatory, for whose redemption thou didst take upon thee our nature and endure a bitter death. Mercifully hear their groanings, look with pity on the tears which they now shed before thee, and by virtue of thy Passion

release them from the pains due unto their sins. O Jesus, full of pity for the poor souls, let thy precious blood reach down into purgatory and refresh and revive the captive souls which suffer there. Stretch forth unto them thy strong right hand and bring them forth into the place of refreshment, light, and peace. Amen.

Prayer Addressed to the Faithful Departed

O most afflicted souls, may Jesus Christ have mercy upon you, who for you was crucified and died; and may he refresh you in your sufferings by the sprinkling of his precious blood. I commend you to that exceeding love which drew down the Son of God from heaven to redeem men, to endure a most bitter death on earth, that in that amazing compassion wherewith he entered into and took upon himself all the afflictions of the afflicted he may have compassion on you. And for your full solace and refreshment, I offer you all that filial love which the same Jesus Christ felt toward the Father in his divinity and toward Mary in his humanity. Amen.

Prayer to the Heart of Jesus

O gentlest heart of Jesus, ever present in the Blessed Sacrament, ever consumed with burning love for the poor captive souls in purgatory, have mercy on the souls of thy departed servants, be not severe in thy judgments, but let some drops of thy precious blood fall upon the devouring flames. And do thou, O merciful Savior, send thy angels to conduct thy departed servants to a place of refreshment, light, and peace. Amen.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Merciful Jesus, grant unto them everlasting rest.

Prayer for Mercy on the Souls in Purgatory

My Jesus, by the sorrows suffered by thee in thine agony in the garden, in thy scourging and crowning with thorns, in thy way to Calvary, in thy

crucifixion and death, have mercy on the souls in purgatory, especially those that are most forsaken. Deliver them from the dire torments they endure. Call them and admit them to thy most sweet embrace in heaven. Amen.

Thirty-Day Prayer for the Souls in Purgatory

DAY 1—The Dogmas on Heaven, Purgatory, and Gehenna

The destiny awaiting us at death is not the same for all men, for God “will render to every man according to his works.” (Rom. 2:6) Heaven, purgatory, or Gehenna are the three places to which the souls of the departed go. Heaven is the place of everlasting bliss for holy and pure souls, for “there shall not enter into it anything defiled” (Apoc. 21:27), for “who shall ascend into the mountain of the Lord: or who shall stand in his holy place? The innocent in hands and clean of heart.” (Ps. 23:3-4) Gehenna is the place of everlasting torments for reprobates. At their particular judgment Jesus shall say to them: “Depart from me, you cursed, into everlasting fire which was prepared for the devil and his angels.” (Mt. 25:41) Purgatory is the place for holy souls who are not yet purified and need to be cleansed in God’s avenging fire, for they cannot enter heaven until they have perfectly satisfied God’s justice: “Amen I say to thee, thou shalt not go out from thence till thou repay the last farthing.” (Mt. 5:26)

To be holy, one must be in a state of grace; that is, not guilty of original sin or mortal sin. Only the faithful can be holy and thus in a state of grace because all non-members of the Catholic Church are guilty of either original sin or mortal sin or both.

However, to be perfect one must not only be in a state of grace but must be free from venial sin and have all the punishment due to his sins remitted. Catholics who die in a state of grace but are guilty of venial sins or have not expiated all the punishment due to their remitted sins go to purgatory. They cannot enter heaven until their venial sins and all the punishment due to their sins are remitted. When Jesus

said that there are some sins which will not be forgiven “neither in this world, nor in the world to come” (Mt. 12:32), he implied that in the world to come, after death, there are some sins that will be forgiven. The sins that will be forgiven after death are the venial sins of Catholics in purgatory who are thus in a state of grace.

The souls in heaven and purgatory no longer have the concupiscence of the flesh, are no longer tempted, and will no longer sin.

The souls in purgatory are among the faithful departed and are known as the poor souls or the suffering souls. For the dead to be numbered among the faithful departed, they must have died not only as members of the Catholic Church but also in a state of grace. Hence if there is credible evidence that they died as non-members of the Catholic Church or in any mortal sin, then they are presumed to be in Gehenna and not of the faithful departed and thus cannot be prayed for. And even if there is credible evidence that one of the faithful died in the state of grace, there is no certainty that he is saved because he may have been guilty of secret mortal sin.

The souls in purgatory cannot help themselves; but the faithful on earth can help them by prayers, penances, alms, and other good works. Thus the faithful on earth are obliged in charity and justice to pray for the poor souls.

Prayer: Graciously hear, O God, the fervent prayers we offer thee for the suffering souls in purgatory, who not having satisfied thy divine justice have confidence in thy mercy and our intercessions. Extend unto them thy mercy, remit their venial sins and punishment due to their sins, and grant them thy consolations. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls in purgatory who need their venial sins remitted.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. (*three times*)

Practice: Examine how often and in what manner during the year you

have prayed for the souls in purgatory.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 2—Commemoration of “All Souls in Purgatory Day”

The commemoration of All Souls in Purgatory Day was instituted by the Catholic Church as a day of special prayer for all the faithful departed who are as yet deprived of the blissful contemplation of God and the possession of heaven. These holy souls endure their sufferings and count the lingering moments of time while waiting release from this prison or at least some relief from their pain. They have special confidence in their friends and relatives who are among the faithful upon earth, hoping to be lovingly cherished in their memory and aided by their fervent prayers. With holy Job they cry out: “Have pity on me, have pity on me, at least, you my friends, because the hand of the Lord hath touched me.” (Job 19:21)

The commemoration of All Souls in Purgatory Day should serve to revive and confirm our devotion on behalf of the suffering souls in purgatory. If we have been negligent in our duty toward them during the year, we must now confess this sin and amend our ways by praying for the poor souls not only once or twice a year but during the whole year.

Prayer: O God, the Creator and Redeemer of all men, grant to the souls of thy servants departed remission of their sins and punishment due to their sins, that by the pious supplications of the faithful they may graciously obtain the pardon they desire. Who livest and reignest forever and ever. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls of those who suffer the greatest torments in purgatory.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. (*three times*)

Practice: Attend a Catholic public devotion for the suffering souls (if a public devotion is available).

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 3—Our Duty to Relieve the Souls in Purgatory

The communion of saints is one of the most consoling dogmas of the Catholic Church. The saints in heaven, the faithful upon earth, and the souls in purgatory are all members of one great family. Mutual charity becomes an obligation by this perfect bond which unites the Suffering Church in purgatory and the Triumphant Church in heaven with the Militant Church upon earth, incorporating them into one body, the Holy Catholic Church. This bond of love demands that all Catholics on earth must pray for one another and to the saints in heaven; the faithful must pray for the poor souls in purgatory; the poor souls in purgatory must pray for the Catholics on earth and to the saints in heaven; and the saints in heaven must pray for the Catholics on earth and for the poor souls in purgatory. In these prayers, offered mutually, Christian charity is most beautifully and eloquently expressed.

From this obligation we derive the special duty to pray for the suffering souls in purgatory, who are unable in their extreme distress to do anything for their own relief. It is a dogma of the Catholic Church that the faithful on earth, as well as the saints in heaven, can assist the poor souls in purgatory. We must offer our petitions for the suffering souls in purgatory, that God in his goodness and mercy may mitigate and shorten their punishment and hasten their entrance into heaven. It is a dogma of the Catholic Church that by the intercession of the faithful upon earth God remits the venial sins of the poor souls, remits the punishments due to their sins, and relieves their sufferings. “In this,” says the Catholic catechism, “the supreme goodness and mercy of God deserve our grateful acknowledgment and praise, that he has granted to our frailty the privilege that one may satisfy for another.”

Prayer: O Lord Jesus Christ, thou who hast said “Where there are two or three gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them” (Mt. 18:20), look mercifully upon thy Holy Catholic Church, who

implores thy clemency on behalf of her suffering members in purgatory. End their intense pain and open unto them the portals of the heavenly Jerusalem so that they may praise thee in heaven, forever and ever. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the poor souls who during the course of their earthly lives did much to relieve the souls in purgatory.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. (*three times*)

Practice: Be conscientious and faithful in the performance of little duties and offer them for the relief of the suffering souls.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 4—The Sins of the More Mighty

The judgments of God are often different from the judgments of men: “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are exalted above the earth, so are my ways exalted above your ways, and my thoughts above your thoughts.” (Isa. 55:8-9) Though the judgments of God are severe, they are ever just. Where grace has been augmented, there also the account has been increased. “Unto whomsoever much is given, of him much shall be required.” (Lk. 12:48) From those souls upon whom God has bestowed great and special graces, he demands a more faithful cooperation; and the least infidelity to such grace is punished with extreme severity. “A greater punishment is ready for the more mighty.” (Wis. 6:9) Hence the sins of the more mighty (the prelates, priests, theologians, and secular rulers) are punished more severely than those who were not as highly privileged, such as laymen.

Prayer: O Lord, have mercy on the poor souls unto whom much was given and grant them remission of their sins and punishment due to their sins. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls in purgatory to whom much was given.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Do not let human respect prevent you from performing a duty.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 5—The Sufferings of Purgatory

The sufferings of purgatory are twofold: the pain of loss and the pain of the senses, both in proportion to temporal punishment unremitted. Having committed sin, the soul has turned away from God and therefore God deprives it of his beatific vision by delaying its entrance into heaven, which increases the pain of loss.

By sin the soul has been inordinately attached to creatures, making improper use of them, which is displeasing to God, and hence the severe punishment consisting in the pain of the senses. Thus even though the mortal sins of the poor souls have been remitted, God nevertheless punishes them for having “served the creature rather than the Creator.” (Rom. 1:25) God permits them to be chastised by the very things they had put above him, by the very things by which they sinned. “By what things a man sinneth, by the same also he is tormented.” (Wis. 11:17) For example, the mouths of those who blasphemed, the eyes that gazed upon evil things, the hands that stole or murdered—these will all be tormented in purgatory.

The sufferings of the senses in purgatory consist of fire, hideous sights and sounds, disgusting odors, and other torments which differ depending on how much these souls need to be purified.

Prayer: O Lord, by thy love and clemency graciously grant to the suffering souls in purgatory remittance of their venial sins and punishment due to their sins. Receive them into thy eternal glory, that blessed by thy beatific vision they may praise and adore thee in heaven, forever and ever. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls who have suffered for the longest time in purgatory.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Mortify your prevailing weakness or inclination.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 6—The Pain of Loss

The spiritual suffering of the pain of loss is the greatest pain in purgatory according to the Fathers of the Church. No one can comprehend the great sufferings of a soul departed which in all its ardent desire for the highest and only good sees itself repulsed as an object of God’s avenging justice. Far greater than the pain of the senses in purgatory is the pain which the holy souls must endure in being deprived of the vision of God. Because these souls, inflamed not only with a natural but also a supernatural love of God, are so vehemently attracted to the union with their highest good that in being repulsed through their own fault they experience so violent a pain as would kill them instantly if death were possible to them. Therefore this pain of being deprived of God is a far greater pain to them than the pain of the senses.

Prayer: O God, Father of mercies, grant the ardent desire of the souls in purgatory, who yearn to behold thee. Send down to them thy holy angel with the joyful tidings at the moment of their release, when their exile has ended, and bless them with perfect union with thee forever. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls who are punished for their forgetfulness of the holy presence of God during their lives.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Try to remember at all times the holy presence of God.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 7—Pain of Sorrow for Sin

The soul departed, when summoned before the judgment seat of God, is

enlightened with a perfect knowledge of the purity and sanctity of its divine Judge and clearly perceives the stains with which it is sullied and its extreme unworthiness of union with God. The thought that “I have offended God, who is everlasting beauty and perfection, and I am not yet worthy to appear before the face of the Lord, who is infinitely holy, and thus I am not worthy to take possession of my dwelling place in heaven” is the greatest sorrow of the suffering souls. Much more clearly than during their earthly lives do these holy souls comprehend the perfections of God and love him above all things; therefore the thought of having offended him is a piercing sorrow which surpasses all their other sufferings.

One of the greatest agonies is remorse of conscience for sin. There are examples on record of men who died from the effects of this vehement sorrow; yet how much more intense must be the contrition of the suffering souls in purgatory, who fully understand the great malice of sin! We know by our own experience that the depth of sorrow for having offended a person is equal to the love we bear him; therefore the greatest sorrow of the poor souls is for having offended God, whom they love above all things with a perfect love and thus with perfect contrition.

Prayer: O God, Father of grace and mercy, graciously regard the deep sorrow of the suffering souls in purgatory. Deign to accept their love; and grant them remission of their venial sins and punishment due to their sins, that united with thee they may praise thy goodness forever. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls in purgatory who when they lived did not have a sufficient fear and love of God and a horror of the sins they committed.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Be sorry for the sins you have committed. For penance, whip yourself with a cord or belt ten times on each side of your back, three times

throughout the day. If this is not possible, then replace this penance with an equivalent form of mortification.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 8—Pain of Helplessness and Desolation

The souls in purgatory have entered into the realm of divine justice. The penance and satisfaction due for their sins must be made either by the pain of purgatory itself or by the suffrages of the faithful, consisting in prayer, penance, alms, and other good works offered on their behalf, since the suffering souls can no longer earn merit for themselves and thus are entirely unable to assist themselves. Hence for them “the night hath come in which no man can work.” (John 9:4) The suffering souls, then, have no resource but that of patience, resignation, and hope.

In bestowing charity upon a person, we are usually guided by the degree of his poverty; but who is in such great need as he who possesses absolutely nothing, owes a heavy debt, is unable to labor or gain any merit or even to beg, and must nevertheless suffer torments until the last farthing has been paid? A sick man and a beggar can at least cry out for help, and the very sight of their misery will move others to compassion; but the suffering souls are not seen by us and cannot ask for our help, for the instances in which they have been permitted to implore aid of the living are exceptional cases and very few are on record. In their extreme desolation and distress, they incessantly cry out to us for relief and assistance; but since they cannot do this in a manner perceptible to us, Holy Church does it for them by instituting many touching devotions on their behalf. How could we be devoid of all sympathy for them in their sufferings and leave them in their pain and anguish! Hence “restrain not grace from the dead.” (Eccus. 7:37)

Prayer: Have mercy, O Lord, upon the suffering souls in purgatory; and in their helplessness and desolation comfort them by the prayers and petitions of the angels and saints in heaven and the faithful on earth.

Shorten the time of their suffering, and reward them with joys everlasting. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the most forsaken and helpless souls in purgatory.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: When possible, visit a Catholic cemetery and pray for the faithful departed who may be buried there.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 9—Pain of Fire in Purgatory

It is a dogma that the fire in purgatory is real material fire and thus not symbolic. Therefore what St. Paul writes to the Corinthians, “But he himself shall be saved, yet so as by fire” (1 Cor. 3:15), must be taken in a literal sense.

Hence, besides being deprived of the vision of God, souls in purgatory endure the tortures of fire, the effects of which are much more painful since it is an instrument in the avenging hand of God, a fire in comparison to which our material fire on earth is nothing, a fire that entirely penetrates the soul in whatever manner this may be accomplished. How and to what extent this is done, we know not; but we may draw our conclusions from similar instances. In like manner the fallen angels, although pure spirits, are tormented by the material fire of Gehenna, so may a similar fire torture the souls of the departed in purgatory. The justice of God can punish a spirit by means of material substance, as he can also in his omnipotence give life to a body by the agency of a spirit. According to the Holy Fathers, the fire of purgatory does not differ from the fire of Gehenna except in duration. The same fire that torments the reprobate in Gehenna also torments the just in purgatory; and the deeper the soul is in Gehenna or purgatory, the more intense the fire.

The only thing that makes the fire in purgatory more bearable than the fire in Gehenna is God’s grace, which

helps the poor souls endure the fire and gives them occasional relief.

Prayer: Refresh, O Lord, the suffering souls in purgatory with the dew of thy grace so that their pains may be relieved; and in thy mercy hasten the moment of their deliverance, that they may meet thee in heaven, where no fire but that of thy holy love shall consume them. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls in purgatory who suffer the most pain in God’s avenging fire.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Endeavor to spread the devotion for the holy souls as much as possible.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 10—The Duration of Time Spent in Purgatory

The poor souls do not stay in purgatory forever. Concerning the duration of time to be spent in purgatory, we are not informed of the length of time required for the purification of a soul. The soul, to be reunited to its Creator in heaven, must be in the state of primitive innocence which adorned Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden before they sinned. The likeness of God must be entirely restored within the soul before it can enter into the glory and holiness awaiting it in heaven.

From this it is evident that the suffering souls cannot enter heaven until perfectly cleansed either by their pains or by the prayers and suffrages of the faithful. With the Royal Prophet they cry out in plaintive voice: “As the hart panteth after the fountains of water, so my soul panteth after thee, O God! When shall I come and appear before the face of God?” (Ps. 41:2-3) They suffer until entirely purified, until the last farthing of their debt has been discharged.

Prayer: O God, the dispenser of pardon and salvation, we beseech thee, by the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all thy

saints, to grant relief to the poor souls in purgatory who are suffering in the cleansing flames of thy justice. Have mercy on them, O Lord, and bring them to the joys of everlasting bliss. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls in purgatory who are most desirous of obtaining help from you.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Be not overly anxious about things you have no power over.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 11—Our Duty to Relieve Our Suffering Relatives in Purgatory

There is a universal law to assist the needy which extends even to strangers. How much more, then, are we obliged to help the souls in purgatory who were intimately connected with us and who suffer, perhaps, for having loved us excessively.

If there be among the faithful departed our fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, and other relatives, how exceedingly painful for them to be forgotten and deserted even by those whose happiness they promoted during their sojourn upon earth. Were any of these persons afflicted with the least pain while they lived, we would have done all in our power to relieve them; but now that they have departed from us, shall we leave them in their terrible sufferings and anguish? Can we be cold and heartless toward these souls and devoid of all sympathy for them? “A hard heart shall fear evil at the last.” (Eccus. 3:27)

Prayer: O Lord, revive within the hearts of thy faithful an active sympathy for their faithful departed brethren, that these souls may not, by our indifference or neglect, suffer without relief and assistance. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls in purgatory who have been forgotten by their relatives who are of the faithful.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Suffer patiently any inconveniences throughout the day and any disagreeable occurrences in your dealings with others and offer them for the poor souls.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 12—The Special Duty to Aid Our Faithful Departed Friends and Benefactors

Besides the general duty imposed upon us by the divine law of charity to pray for the souls in purgatory, we are obliged especially to pray for our friends and benefactors who are numbered among the faithful departed.

What could more forcibly elicit our charity and gratitude than to behold our friends and benefactors in extreme distress while we have the means of alleviating their sufferings! He who by neglect or indolence suffers the souls of his friends to be tormented in the flames of purgatory without relief does not possess a spark of Christian charity!

Prayer: Have mercy, O Lord, upon the suffering souls in purgatory; mitigate the severity of thy judgment, that they, who during their earthly lives believed in thee, hoped in thee, and loved thee, may soon receive the crown of justice in heaven. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls in purgatory who have been forgotten by their friends and beneficiaries who are of the faithful.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Deny yourself a little comfort or some special consolation and offer it for the most forsaken souls in purgatory.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 13—Our Duty toward Our Faithful Departed Parents

“Honor thy father, and forget not the groanings of thy mother. Remember

that thou hadst not been born but through them, and make a return to them as they have done for thee.” (Eccus. 7:29-30)

The duty to love and pray for our father and mother extends beyond this life if they are counted among the faithful departed. Should they find no relief in their pains? Must they cry out in bitter anguish: “I have reared sons and daughters, but they have forgotten me!”

Oh, let us remember how near and dear our faithful departed fathers and mothers are to us and how greatly we are indebted to them. They cry out to us for mercy. After their death we owe them prayers, penances, alms, Masses, and other good works. Would it not be the highest degree of ingratitude to forget them in their need? How painful for them to see their possessions left to their children while they themselves receive not the benefit of the least farthing thereof! God’s commandment “Honor thy father and thy mother” is an obligation also toward our faithful departed parents.

Prayer: O God, who has commanded us to honor father and mother, look with loving kindness upon the fathers and mothers in purgatory and have mercy on them. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls of parents in purgatory who have been forgotten by their children who are of the faithful.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Mortify yourself by an act of obedience.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 14—Grand Display Is of No Value to the Holy Souls

In regard to pompous displays for the faithful departed, costly funerals and expensive displays may afford the living some consolation but are of no benefit to the departed. Let care be bestowed upon funerals and the erection of monuments, for Holy Writ reckons these among good works, and

let the living perform these last services for the faithful departed and thereby relieve their own sorrow; but let them show greater zeal, care, and generosity in succoring these souls by Masses, prayers, penances, and alms, thus giving evidence not only of a temporal but also a spiritual love for those who are departed.

Prayer: We beseech thee, O Lord, by thy mercy, hear and answer our prayers on behalf of the souls in purgatory and grant them peace and consolation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls of those who were remembered by a pompous funeral only and have no relief in their pain.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: If possible, at the first opportunity accompany the funeral of a poor person who is of the faithful departed.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 15—The Better Our Dispositions and Intentions Are, the More Merit We Can Earn for the Poor Souls

Holy Church teaches us that some prayers and other good works gain more merit than others depending on the dispositions and intentions of the one who offers them. Hence the more pure and holy our dispositions and intentions are, the more merit is gained for the poor souls. And the more we overcome our inordinate desires here upon earth, the more efficacious our prayers will be for the suffering souls in purgatory.

Prayer: Grant us the grace, O Lord, to offer our prayers and other good works with a good disposition and intention, that by thy bounty our supplications for the suffering souls may be more acceptable to thee and more beneficial to them. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the suffering souls who on earth prayed with poor dispositions and intentions for the souls in purgatory.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Endeavor to make an act of perfect contrition.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 16—The Efficacy of Prayer for the Suffering Souls

“It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from sins.” (2 Mach. 12:46) Prayer for the dead is holy because it is pleasing to God; wholesome, because through the merciful goodness of God it accomplishes its sublime and charitable object. Our sacrifices of love and mercy are very pleasing to God especially when offered for the suffering souls, whom he loves most tenderly because they are holy and sure of heaven.

To relieve the suffering souls, we can gain merit for them by our prayers, petitions, sacrifices, alms, and other good works on their behalf.

Prayer: Open, O Lord, the rich treasures of the Catholic Church in favor of the souls in purgatory, that they may receive pardon, in full or in part, and grant them relief in their pains. We beseech thee to grant us the graces to deliver and comfort a great number of suffering souls by prayer and other good works. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the poor souls who during their lives endeavored to gain many merits for the faithful departed.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Pray the [Prayer to Jesus for the Faithful Departed](#), p. 180.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 17—How God Bestows Our Merits upon the Souls in Purgatory

God uses the Catholic Church’s treasure of merits gained by the faithful for the poor souls according to his will. God has reserved to himself the right to accept entirely or

in part the satisfaction offered for any soul in purgatory. The acceptance depends upon God’s holy and adorable will and, in great measure, upon the soul having rendered itself worthy of the divine assistance during its earthly career. Besides, there may be some dispositions or intentions neglected by the person who intends to gain merits for the poor souls; therefore we have no assurance whatsoever that the merits earned for the poor souls have had the desired effect. Considering this, we should prepare most carefully our dispositions and intentions for gaining merits for the poor souls.

Prayer: Have mercy, O Lord, upon the suffering souls in purgatory and mitigate the severity of thy judgment. Let the infinite merits of thine only-begotten Son, the merits of thy saints, and our merits assist the holy souls and deliver them from their sufferings. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the poor souls who while they lived did not sufficiently gain merits for the souls in purgatory.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Offer for the souls in purgatory all the merits you can gain today.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 18—The Efficacy of Holy Mass for the Faithful Departed

The Sacrifice of the Mass is the greatest devotion and source of grace in the Catholic Church, for there Jesus Christ himself offers his infinite merits to his heavenly Father, by the hands of the priest. The unbloody Sacrifice of the Mass does not essentially differ from the bloody Sacrifice of the Cross except in the mode of oblation; and of all the means to assist the souls in purgatory, none is more valuable or meritorious than a Mass offered on behalf of the suffering souls.

We may not infer that the offering of one Mass is sufficient to release a soul from purgatory. The merits of

Jesus Christ are applied according to his adorable will, according to his justice and mercy, for the ways of God are often inscrutable.

It is therefore very salutary to have the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass offered at least once a year for the repose of a soul.

Prayer: O Lord Jesus Christ, who didst institute the unbloody Sacrifice of the Mass in commemoration of thy Sacrifice on the Cross, we beseech thee to bestow the merits of this Holy Sacrifice upon the souls in purgatory that they may soon be released from their pains. Who livest and reignest forever and ever. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls in purgatory who were most zealous to attend Mass.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: If possible, assist at Mass for the relief of the suffering souls (if a Catholic Mass is available).

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 19—Holy Communion Is of Great Benefit to the Faithful Departed

Let our love and compassion for our neighbor lead us to the holy altar, for nothing is so well calculated to obtain everlasting rest for the holy souls. A pious servant of God beheld in a vision a departed friend, wrapped in flames, and learned from him that he suffered terribly because he received our Lord in Holy Communion with but little preparation. "Therefore," added this departed friend, "I beg you, for the love we bore each other, to communicate for the benefit of my soul; but do so with great preparation and fervor. I then hope to be released from the terrible sufferings that I have indeed well deserved for my negligence toward the Blessed Sacrament." The friend at once complied with the request; and after having received Holy Communion with due preparation, he saw the departed soul enveloped in light, winging its happy flight to heaven to behold face to face the King of eternal glory.

Prayer: O Lord Jesus Christ, who in the most Holy Sacrament of the Altar hast given us thine own flesh and blood as nourishment for our souls and bodies and a pledge of our own future resurrection, grant us the grace always to receive worthily this most holy Mystery that it may be a source of salvation to us and a relief to the souls in purgatory. Who livest and reignest forever and ever. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls in purgatory who were negligent in their preparation for Holy Communion.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: If possible, receive Holy Communion for the relief of the suffering souls (if not possible, then make a Spiritual Communion).

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 20—Love of the Blessed Virgin Mary toward the Souls in Purgatory

When dying upon the cross, our divine Redeemer gave us Mary as a mother when he said to the beloved St. John, "Behold thy Mother." (Jn. 19:26-27) Hence the Blessed Virgin regards those who are of the faithful as her beloved children, and therefore she harbors tender feelings of maternal love toward her children who are suffering in purgatory. Let us give satisfaction to the Mother of love by offering abundant suffrages to her for the souls in purgatory.

Taking into consideration the great prerogatives of the Blessed Virgin and the infinite love of the Holy Trinity toward her, we cannot doubt that every soul in purgatory receives the greatest benefits by her merit and intercession. However, the Blessed Virgin does not pray to have all of these souls delivered at once, for her will is in perfect conformity to the will of God and she exercises her dominion over the souls in purgatory in perfect union with his divine will.

The text of Holy Writ has been applied to Mary: "I have walked in the waves of the sea." (Eccus. 24:8) She descends into the sea of fire, quenching the flames for the

suffering souls. It is said that the souls in purgatory experience the same joy and relief at the mere mention of her name that consoling words bring to the bedridden sick.

Prayer: O most holy and glorious Virgin Mary, blessed Mother of our Lord, we place our petitions for the suffering souls into thy hands. Cleanse our petitions from all imperfections, and by thy intercession obtain everlasting rest for the poor souls in purgatory. Through Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls in purgatory who were most zealous in their devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Pray the [Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary](#), p. 111, for the suffering souls in purgatory.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 21—Efficacy of the Rosary for the Suffering Souls

The relief of the holy souls in purgatory is one of the effects of the Rosary. The Rosary is a powerful means to help the suffering souls. Therefore, if we wish to be of assistance to the souls in purgatory, we should recommend them often in our prayers to the Blessed Virgin Mary during the holy Rosary.

Prayer: O Lord, graciously hear the prayers we offer thee in the holy Rosary in honor of Mary, thy virgin Mother, for the relief of the souls in purgatory, while by devoutly meditating upon thy holy life and sufferings we implore thy divine assistance. Who livest and reignest forever and ever. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls in purgatory who were most devoted to the holy Rosary.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Recite the Rosary for the suffering souls.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 22—Alms-Giving Affords Great Relief to the Faithful Departed

Besides prayer and other acts of devotion, there are additional good works we can perform for the relief of the suffering souls in purgatory. Among these good works, alms-giving is one of the most prominent, for this being a work of mercy is especially efficacious in obtaining assistance for the holy souls. “Prayer is good with fasting and alms and righteousness. It is better to give alms than to lay up gold. For alms doth deliver from death and shall purge away all sin. Those that exercise alms and righteousness shall be filled with life.” (Tob. 12:8-9)

Not only the rich are able to give alms but the poor can do so as well since it is not the value of the gift that is acceptable in the sight of God but the good intention by which it is bestowed.

If we, too, are numbered among the suffering souls in purgatory when we die, we will benefit from the alms we gave while we lived. And any of the faithful whom we assisted may be inspired to pray for our soul because of the charity we showed him upon earth. Therefore Holy Scripture says, “Do good to thy friend before thou die; and according to thy ability, stretching out thy hand, give to the poor.” (Eccus. 14:13)

Prayer: O Lord, graciously look down upon the alms we offer for the relief of the captive souls in purgatory. Bestow upon these souls the full merit thereof that they may be able to discharge their debt. Accept this boon of charity, we beseech thee, that when they are delivered from debt and penalty thou mayest lead them into thy heavenly kingdom. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the poor souls who while they lived gave alms for the relief of the souls in purgatory.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Bestow a gift upon a poor person and offer the merit for the souls in purgatory.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 23—Works of Penance for the Holy Souls

The Catholic Church has at all times recommended to her children to have recourse to the works of penance as one of the best means of obtaining extraordinary graces from God, and these works of mortification are of great efficacy for the faithful departed. Works of penance and mortification are expected of everyone, and even the smallest acts are beneficial. There is no one who could not occasionally deny himself some favorite food or some amusement, mortify his eyes or ears or tongue, observe silence for a time, bear in patience the pain of sickness or heat or cold or any other adversity, or curb his self will—in short, bear with submission and gratitude to God everything that causes pain or distress.

Prayer: Grant us, O Lord, the grace to do works of penance and mortification and in these works to remember the souls in purgatory. Deign to accept what we offer in the spirit of charity for the comfort and relief of these penitent souls. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the poor souls who while they lived bestowed the merit of their mortifications upon the holy souls in purgatory.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Perform an act of mortification for the souls in purgatory.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 24—Value of Good Works Offered for the Suffering Souls

Even though our good and merciful Lord loves the souls of his elect who must be purified after death and ardently desires their release, in his justice he does not release them until full satisfaction has been made.

Hence, when we appease God’s justice by our prayers, penances, and other works of satisfaction for the poor souls, we not only hasten their release but it is as if we have delivered the Lord himself from a hard captivity. He promises to give us as full a recompense as such a work of mercy practiced toward himself would deserve, for he himself said “Amen, I say to you, as long as you do it to one of these, my least brethren, you did it to me.” (Mt. 25:40) Whatever we do with a pious intention for the suffering souls will revert to our own merit and will be returned a hundredfold at the hour of our death.

Prayer: O God of love and mercy! Animated with charity and compassion for our faithful departed brethren, we offer thee our prayers and good works and supplicate thee to accept them as a propitiatory sacrifice on their behalf. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls in purgatory who were negligent in offering good works for the suffering souls.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Bear your sufferings with patience and offer them for the holy souls.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 25—Gratitude of the Holy Souls

The prayers and other works of charity which we offer for the suffering souls in purgatory not only increase our spiritual merit but also call forth the gratitude of the holy ransomed souls.

How can the faithful departed, who are loved by God so tenderly and predestined to glory, fail to be able to pray, not indeed for themselves because they are not in a condition to merit, but with efficacy for their benefactors on earth? They will speedily pay their debt of gratitude by their prayers and sufferings offered for those who befriend them; and their prayers and penances will have

great efficacy before God, whose greater honor and glory is promoted by their acts of charity.

And when these dear souls are by the help of our endeavors admitted to the vision of God, they cease not to prove the warmth of their thankfulness and love by imploring for us the help of which we are so much in need in the manifold dangers and great troubles of life. They will show their gratitude by their petitions for us before the throne of God according to the assistance we have given them in our earthly lives.

The assistance of the holy souls is also experienced in temporal wants in favor of their benefactors. These destitute, suffering souls do not wait until they enter heaven to exhibit their gratitude toward their benefactors. Whilst they still languish in purgatory, they pray for their benefactors' welfare of soul and body, recovery from disease, assistance in poverty, help in necessities, counsel and protection on journeys and in danger, and preservation and increase of their temporal goods; and above all, they aid them in the salvation of souls and come to their relief in their agonies of death and before the judgment seat of God.

Prayer: We beseech thee, O Lord, vouchsafe to hear the prayers of the suffering souls in purgatory who supplicate thee for their benefactors, that in union with these holy souls, for whom we offer our fervent prayers upon earth, we may praise thy mercies forever. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls in purgatory who suffer for the sins they committed by not doing works of charity when required.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: In spiritual and temporal wants, ask the holy souls to intercede for you.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 26—By Helping to Deliver the Souls from Purgatory, We Promote the Honor of God

St. Paul the Apostle teaches that the honor and glory of God should be the principal motive of all our actions: "Whether you eat or drink or whatsoever else you do, do all to the glory of God." (1 Cor. 10:31) The glorification of God ought to be the special aim in our works for the faithful departed, and justly so, for by our assistance God delivers these poor souls and brings them to heaven, where God is perfectly known, loved, and glorified.

If the saints have declared their readiness to suffer all the tortures imaginable for the promotion of God's glory in a single degree, what should we do and suffer for the deliverance of these souls from the flames of purgatory since in heaven they will glorify God most perfectly forever!

Prayer: We thank and glorify thee, O Lord, for thy great mercy and goodness toward the poor souls in purgatory, who love thee and ardently desire to behold thee. Comfort them then, O Lord! Let them behold thy face in the land of the blessed, where they shall honor, praise, and glorify thee, forever and ever. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the suffering souls who while on earth zealously promoted the glory of God.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: During your next shower, use cold water for part of the time if possible. If not, then perform some other act of physical mortification and offer it for the poor souls in purgatory.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 27—The Lord Rewards Our Acts of Charity for the Holy Souls

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy." (Mt. 5:7) He who bestows mercy upon the suffering souls shall himself, if he goes to purgatory, receive great relief and assistance there. Even though he

who satisfies for the suffering souls does not satisfy for himself, he performs a duty necessary for his own salvation, for if he should go to purgatory when he dies, God will see to it that the prayers of the faithful on earth will relieve him. Hence, by the mouth of the Royal Prophet, God declares: "Blessed is he that understandeth concerning the needy and the poor. The Lord will deliver him in the evil day." (Ps. 40:2)

Prayer: We beseech thee, O Lord, graciously hear the sincere and fervent prayers we offer for the souls in purgatory; and grant that the charity we extend toward our suffering brethren may obtain for us protection and help by their intercession. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls in purgatory who are suffering for their want of gratitude when they lived.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Pray the [Prayer Addressed to the Faithful Departed](#), p. 181.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 28—They Have Great Reason to Fear Who Show No Mercy toward the Faithful Departed

"With what measure you mete, it shall be measured to you again." (Mt. 7:2) It will be readily seen that these words of the divine Savior are applicable also to the assistance we should render the souls departed. He who in this life forgets the faithful departed and thus does not pray for them will not save his soul when he dies, for divine justice will punish with everlasting Gehenna his cruelty and hardness of heart. He will be damned to Gehenna forever for not loving his brothers as God commanded as a necessity for salvation. Jesus said, "A new commandment I give unto you: That you love one another, as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another." (Jn. 13:34-35) Hence he

who shows no mercy toward the suffering souls and remains cold and indifferent to their pain shall suffer everlasting fire in Gehenna in which there is no relief.

However, he who does not forget the suffering souls completely but seldom prays for them will get only as much help as he gave to the poor souls if he should go to purgatory. His complaints will be answered by the words of St. Paul: "He who soweth sparingly shall also reap sparingly." (2 Cor. 9:6)

Prayer: O God, in thy goodness and mercy have pity on the souls of those suffering in purgatory who on account of their want of charity when they lived are undeserving of thy bounty. Accept our fervent prayers in reparation for their lack of sufficient prayer and other good works for the poor souls. May they not suffer without consolation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls of the faithful departed who while they lived did not sufficiently help the poor souls.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Bear patiently the ingratitude of others and offer it for the souls in purgatory.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 29—We Can Make Even Our Most Trivial Actions Beneficial for the Holy Souls

By performing even the most trivial actions from the motive to please our dear Lord and to do his holy will, these acts become meritorious. Any meritorious act, as trivial as it may be, can benefit the poor souls in purgatory. For instance, if we are working from early in the morning until late at night, we can assist the suffering souls in an efficacious manner by offering for their relief our toil and fatigue in union with the merits of Jesus and Mary. Sick

persons or those enduring spiritual sufferings, such as temptations, slander, or unjust treatment, may likewise benefit the poor souls by offering up these sufferings. Even a simple bump on the head or stubbing a toe can be offered up for the benefit of the poor souls. For example, we can offer up a prayer or other good work or pain for the poor souls by simply saying, "I offer this for the poor souls," or "For the love of Jesus and Mary, and the relief of the suffering souls in purgatory."

Prayer: My dear Redeemer! By neglecting to offer up my trivial good works for the poor souls, how many occasions have I lost to gain merits and thus to assist the poor souls! Pardon my negligence and graciously assist me in offering these actions for them. May my prayers, alms, spiritual and bodily sufferings, and other good deeds offered for the poor souls be united with thy merits and those of thy holy mother Mary and all the saints. In return I beseech the poor souls to obtain for me, and for all those for whom I pray, abundant graces to lead a holy life and to persevere to the end. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls in purgatory who were negligent in offering up their trivial actions for the faithful departed.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Throughout the day, remember to offer up your trivial actions for the poor souls in purgatory.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

DAY 30—Perseverance in Prayers for the Faithful Departed

The Holy Catholic Church, our good and tender Mother, most ardently desires that her children be admitted to the beatific vision of God and thus incessantly offers pious supplications during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

and the Divine Office to obtain mercy for the suffering souls. Holy Church thereby teaches us to think of the poor souls frequently, for they are suffering and in need of assistance and fervent prayers, which we should never fail to offer on their behalf.

The ways of God are often inscrutable, and his designs concerning the holy souls are unknown to us. Hence there may be among their number some who have a just claim on our assistance although a long time may have passed since the close of their earthly career. If our own beloved faithful departed are no longer in need of our assistance, our suffrages will be bestowed upon others who are deserving of our mercy as well; thus our prayers and labors of love will be salutary and meritorious for others.

Prayer: We beseech thee, O Lord, grant us the grace to persevere in our charity toward the souls in purgatory. Deign to look with eyes of mercy upon these penitent souls, deliver them from their sufferings, and open to them the portals of heaven. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Intercession: Pray for the souls in purgatory who suffer for their inconstancy in the service of God while they lived.

Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen. *(three times)*

Practice: Now that this 30-day devotion has ended, do not forget the poor souls in purgatory. Pray daily for them. Examine your daily prayer schedule and make sure it includes sufficient prayers for the poor souls. Daily prayers for the poor souls can be prayers specifically for the poor souls, or they can be petitions incorporated into other prayers such as the holy Rosary or the Divine Office.

Invocation: My Jesus, mercy!

PRAYERS FOR THE REPENTANCE AND CONVERSION OF SINNERS

Prayer for the Conversion of Non-Catholic Rulers and Nations

O my Lord Jesus Christ, King of eternal glory, restorer of all things on earth, supreme and omnipotent, who with infinite wisdom re-unitest at thy feet things scattered and dispersed; enlighten the Kings of the earth, the rulers of nations; instill thy spirit into all civil institutions, into every legitimate form of government, into laws and armies; grant that all the powers of earth may recognize in thee the majesty of the eternal God, the source from which all authority is derived; illuminate the nations that they may understand that thou art the origin of rights and duties, that it is through thee that the Kings of the earth rule, and that it is to thee that Kings and people alike owe obedience. O most sweet Jesus, who hast deigned to descend into this valley of tears, and to dwell with us, suffering and dying for the salvation of us sinners, and who in charity hast set up thy abode in the midst of men, hidden under the sacramental species, and who in the fullness of the Godhead, corporally present in our tabernacles, makest thyself the food and life of our souls; oh, receive the humble but sincere and profound homage of our hearts, offered in reparation for the falling away of the rebellious. We firmly believe in thee and all that the faith infused into our hearts by the Holy Spirit has revealed to us about thee. We see in thee the beginning and the end of all existing things. We adore thee as the one true God. We wish to live only for thee and in thy service. Do thou, O Lord, save our brethren, convert the non-Catholic members of modern society gone astray, that we as brethren may together be one with thee, as thou art one with thy Father in Heaven. May thy will be done. May thy Majesty shine forth on the throne of thy earthly dominion, and the world confess thee to be the true Son of God, through whom all things were created. This we ask in thy name and

in the unity of the Father and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer for the Conversion of Atheists, Pagans, and Heretics

O sweet Jesus, remember that the souls of atheists, pagans and heretics were made by thee and fashioned to thine own image. Behold, O Lord, how many of them go down to Gehenna to the dishonor of thy holy name. Remember the cruel death thou didst suffer for their salvation. Have mercy, O Lord, on them and graciously hear the prayers of thy Catholic Church, thy most holy spouse. Remember thy mercies and compassions. Give them the grace to repent of their atheism, idolatry, heresy, hardness of heart, and evil will. Give them grace at length to know, to fear, and to love thee, Jesus Christ our Lord, our salvation, our life and resurrection, through whom we are saved and made free, to whom be all glory for evermore. Amen.

Prayer for the Conversion of Unbelievers

O Holy Spirit of truth, we beseech thee to enlighten the minds of unbelievers, to incline their hearts to love thy word and to believe the teachings of thy Catholic Church; give them courage to accept the faith and openly profess it, that they may come into union with thee and the Father and the Son, who liveth and reigneth, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer for the Conversion of Sinners

Almighty and eternal God, who seeks not the death but the life of sinners, who would save all and have none to perish, mercifully hear our prayers on behalf of those who are dead in sin, and grant that they may repent and live in thy grace. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer to Repent and Benefit from Punishments *(by St. Augustine)*

Before thy eyes, O Lord, we bring our offences and we compare them with the stripes we have received. If we consider the evil we have wrought, what we suffer is little, what we deserve is great. What we have committed is very grave, what we have suffered is very slight. We feel the punishment of sin, yet withdraw not from the obstinacy of sinning. Under thy lash our inconstancy is visited, but our sinfulness is not changed. Our suffering soul is tormented, but our neck is not bent. Our life groans under sorrow, yet mends not in deed. If thou spare us, we correct not our ways; if thou punish, we cannot endure it. In time of correction, we confess our wrongdoing; after thy visitation, we forget that we have wept. If thou stretchest forth thy hand, we promise amendment; if thou withholdest the sword, we keep not our promise. If thou strikest, we cry out for mercy; if thou sparest, we again provoke thee to strike. Here we are before thee, O Lord, shameless criminals; we know that unless thou pardon, we shall deservedly perish. Almighty God, have mercy on us, pardon us, and grant us the grace and other helps we need to truly repent when punished. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

L. Deal not with us, O Lord, according to our sins.

R. Neither requite us according to our iniquities.

LET US PRAY: O God, who by sin art offended and by penance pacified, mercifully regard the prayers of thy suppliant people and turn away the scourges of thy wrath which we deserve for our sins. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer When Severely Tempted to Sin

Lord God, help me! Come quickly to my aid. I am greatly tempted to sin.

Have mercy on me. Let me know for certain that this one sin, if it be mortal, will put me on the broad road to Gehenna, where I will suffer great pains forever and ever and ever if I commit this sin and do not repent. Help me to fear your judgment against me and also know that I am offending you who are all good and worthy of all love. I give you permission to forcibly stop me from sinning no matter what temporary deprivation or pain it may cause me, knowing that if I do not sin and am free from this great temptation, I will eventually be rewarded with the true peace and joy you promise to all those who faithfully and lovingly obey you. This I ask in the name of Jesus Christ, thy Son, in unity with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen. (RJMI)

Prayer to Overcome Stoicism

O God the Father, when you created all things through your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, you “saw that they were good” (Gen. 1:31). Give me the grace to overcome my sin of stoicism so that I may truly enjoy in proper measure the good spiritual and material things and the good passions you created. Help me to not hate or despise them but to enjoy them

without any pang of guilt. Help me to know that if I do not enjoy them, I am condemning you, the author of all good things and good passions. This I ask through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in unity with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen. (RJMI)

Prayer for Those with an Addiction

O Lord Jesus Christ, you said: Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened to you, grant me the grace and other helps I need to overcome my addiction. I believe with my whole heart that you can cure me if I really want to be cured of this addiction. With my whole heart, I do want to be cured from it! Help me to hate it with a perfect hatred. And once cured, help me to moderate what is good and avoid what is evil. Help me to know that this one sin alone will send me to Gehenna forever where I will be tormented with excruciating pains, day and night, forever and ever. I ask for your help through the intercession of your holy mother Mary, the Mediatrix of All Graces; and the intercession of St. Jude, your Apostle, the patron saint of hopeless cases. O Lord, hear my prayer and let my cry

come unto you, who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen. (RJMI)

Prayer to Repent and Be Freed from Homosexuality

O Lord Jesus Christ, through the intercession of your holy, pure, and ever-virgin mother, Mary Immaculate, grant me the grace and other helps I need to hate my homosexual sins of thought and deed with a perfect hatred. Help me that I may sincerely and with my whole heart confess these sins, repent, and amend my life. I know that you did not create men to be homosexuals and that it is your will that men do not commit these sins or any other sins. Hence I believe with my whole heart that by your grace and my cooperation I can be completely cured of this curse and sinful affliction. O Lord, you said: Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened to you. I ask, I seek, I knock. Please, I beg of you, free me from this filthy, impure sin against nature. Help me to know that this one sin alone will send me to Gehenna forever where I will be tormented with excruciating pains, day and night, forever and ever. O Lord Jesus Christ, I beseech your help, who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen. (RJMI)

PRAYERS FOR THE MENTALLY ILL OR EMOTIONALLY DISTRESSED

Exorcism prayers are especially necessary to help cure the mentally ill from demonic possession or obsession

Prayer for Deliverance from Mental Illness

Almighty God the Father, I pray thee to remit the curse that (N.) is under either because of his own sins or the sins of others. Expel the demons that possess or obsess him, and thus bring him sanity and peace of heart and mind. Have mercy upon him and deliver him from mental illness, just as thou didst deliver the father's son from the lunatic spirit that possessed him (Mt. 17:14-17), the man from madness by sending the devils that possessed him into the swine (Mk. 5:1-16), and King Nabuchodonosor from madness and restored his senses by expelling the demons that possessed him (Dan. 4). We ask this in the name and by the power of God the Son, Jesus Christ, and in unity with God the Holy Spirit; and by the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph her spouse, and the Archangels St. Michael, St. Gabriel, and St. Raphael. Amen. (RJMI)

Prayer for Those with Alzheimer's Disease

Loving God, healer and comforter of the afflicted, we pray for (N.) who suffers from the distress, anxiety, confusion, or isolation of Alzheimer's disease. Remit the curse that he is under either because of his own sins or the sins of others. In thy mercy, bring him sanity and peace of heart and mind by delivering him from Alzheimer's disease by expelling the demons that possess him. Grant that he may regain the use of reason so that he may have a chance to do whatever is necessary to be a good Catholic and thus have a hope to save his immortal soul. We make this supplication through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary; St. Joseph her spouse; the Archangels St. Michael, St. Gabriel, and St. Raphael; and in the name of Jesus Christ, thy Son, who livest and reignest with thee

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen. (RJMI)

Prayer to St. Dymphna to Alleviate Emotional Distress



I turn to thee, St. Dymphna, dear virgin and martyr, confident of thy power with God and of thy willingness to take my cause into thy hands. I praise and thank the Lord for giving thee to us as a patron of the emotionally distressed. I firmly hope that through thy kind intercession he will restore my lost serenity and peace of heart and mind. May he speak to my heart and reassure me: "My peace I give you. Let not your heart be troubled, nor let it be afraid." Pray for me, dear St. Dymphna, that my emotional turmoil may cease and that I may again know serenity and peace. Amen.

Prayer for Those Contemplating Suicide

O Lord God, from whom all good thoughts proceed, I know that I cannot think or do anything good without thy grace. Have mercy on me, for I am in dire straits and in the depths of despair to the point of committing suicide. Please, Lord God, drive away the devils and my own pride and perverse will that are tempting me to take my own life.

Place in me thy grace, make me humble and penitent, give me peace of heart and mind, and make me know, and more importantly believe, that if I commit suicide I will suffer forever in Gehenna worse pains than anyone can suffer on earth. Help me to believe that suicide is not an escape but a trap to thrust me into Gehenna forever, where there is no peace of heart, mind, or body but only everlasting, excruciating torments. If thou wilt answer my prayer, I promise to do whatever I must to be a good Catholic so that I may be saved and be with thee forever, where there is no more pain, sadness, despair, sickness, or any other evil thing but only everlasting peace, happiness, joy, bliss, health, and all other good things. This I ask through Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord, and by the mediation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the intercession of St. Jude. Amen. (RJMI)

Prayer for Those in Mourning

Almighty God, who knowest the weakness and frailty of our nature, I beseech thee to give unto me, thy servant, whom thou hast stricken with this sorrow, such measure of thy grace as shall enable me to bear it with humility, resignation, and submission to thy divine will. Grant that no impatient murmuring or repining thoughts may find a place in my heart, that I may not sorrow as those who have no hope. Let not my grief exceed the bounds of reason and religion, but so temper it, I beseech thee, with the consolations of thy Holy Spirit, that whatever I may want in outward consolation I may find in the inward consolation of perfect submission to thy holy will and unshaken trust in thy loving mercy. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSINGS AND CONSECRATIONS

Blessing of a Crucifix

L. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

L. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

LET US PRAY: O Holy Lord, almighty Father, eternal God, bless ✠ this crucifix that it may be a saving help to mankind. Let it be a bulwark of faith, an encouragement to good works, the salvation of souls; and may it be consolation, protection, and a shield against the cruel darts of the enemy. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

LET US PRAY: O Lord Jesus Christ, bless ✠ this cross by which thou hast snatched the world from Satan's grasp and upon which, by thy suffering, thou hast overcome him who is the prompter of sin and who rejoiced in Adam's deception at the tree of paradise. (*Here sprinkle the crucifix with holy water.*) May this symbol of salvation be sanctified in the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, ✠ and of the Holy ✠ Spirit; and may all who kneel and pray before this crucifix receive health of soul and body. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

The person who administered the blessing kneels before the crucifix and devoutly venerates and kisses it.

Blessing of a Rosary

To the honor and glory of the Virgin Mary, Mother of God, and in memory of the mysteries of the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, may this rosary be blessed and sanctified. In the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, ✠ and of the Holy ✠ Spirit.

R. Amen.

Sprinkle the rosary with holy water.

Blessing of a Statue or Picture of God

L. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

L. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

LET US PRAY: O almighty and everlasting God, thou dost approve of images of thyself in order that when we behold them we may be led to contemplate and imitate thy ways, life, and holiness. Wherefore, we beseech thee to bless ✠ and sanctify ✠ this image wrought to the memory and worship of (N.)²⁷; and grant that whosoever through the inspiration of this image earnestly strives to worship and to honor (N.) may obtain mercy and grace in this life and everlasting glory in the next. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

The image is sprinkled with holy water.

Blessing of a Statue or Picture of the Blessed Virgin, an Angel, or a Saint

L. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

L. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

LET US PRAY: O almighty and everlasting God, thou dost approve of images of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the angels and saints in order that when we behold them we may be led to contemplate and imitate their lives and holiness. Wherefore, we beseech thee to bless ✠ and sanctify ✠ this image wrought to the memory and honor of (N.); and grant that whosoever through the inspiration of this image earnestly strives to honor him (or her) may by his (or her) merits obtain grace in this life and

everlasting glory in the next. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

The image is sprinkled with holy water.

Blessing of Liturgical Incense

NOTE: Only liturgical incense is allowed; pagan or secular incense is forbidden.

The priest or head of the household blesses the incense:

By the intercession of blessed Michael the Archangel, standing at the right hand of the Altar of Incense, and of all his elect, may the Lord vouchsafe to bless ✠ this incense and accept it as an odor of sweetness. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

May this incense which thou hast blessed, O Lord, ascend to thee; and may thy mercy descend upon us.

Let my prayer be directed as incense in thy sight, the lifting up of my hands as evening sacrifice. Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth and a door round about my lips. Let not my heart turn aside to wicked deeds to make excuses for sins with men who work iniquity, nor let me associate with the choicest of them.

Blessing of the Advent Wreath

(See in this book, [The Blessing of the Advent Wreath](#), p. 74.)

Blessing of the Chalk for Epiphany Day

L. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

L. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

LET US PRAY: O Lord God, bless ✠ this chalk to render it helpful to men. Grant that they who use it in faith and with it inscribe upon the entrance of

²⁷ Such as the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Infant of Prague, the Blessed Trinity, etc.

their homes the names of thy saints Gaspar, Melchior, and Baltassar may through their merits and intercession enjoy health of soul and body. Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

Sprinkle the chalk with holy water.

Blessing of Homes on Epiphany Day

L. Peace be unto this home.
R. And unto all that dwell herein.

Ant. From the East came the Magi to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; and opening their treasures, they offered costly gifts: gold to the great King, incense to the true God, and myrrh in symbol of his burial. Alleluia.

The Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55)

✠ My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior

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 generation to them that fear him.

He hath showed 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 away
empty.

He hath received Israel his servant,
being mindful of his mercy, as he
spoke to our fathers, to Abraham, and
to his seed forever.
Glory Be...

*Meanwhile the home is sprinkled and
incensed, and at the end of the
canticle repeat the above antiphon.*

L. Many shall come from Saba.
R. Bearing gold and incense.
L. O Lord, hear my prayer.
R. And let my cry come unto thee.

L. The Lord be with you.
R. And with thy spirit.

LET US PRAY: O God, who by the
guidance of a star didst this day
reveal thy sole-begotten Son to the
Gentiles, grant that we who now
know thee by faith may be brought to
the contemplation of thy heavenly
majesty. Through the same Jesus
Christ, our Lord, who liveth and
reigneth with thee in unity of the
Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.
R. Amen.

L. Be enlightened and shine forth, O
Jerusalem, for thy light is come and
upon thee is risen the glory of the
Lord, Jesus Christ, born of the Virgin
Mary.

Our Father...

L. Nations shall walk in thy light, and
kings in the brilliance of thy origin.
R. And the glory of the Lord is risen
upon thee.

LET US PRAY: O Lord, almighty
God, bless ✠ this home that it may be
a shelter of health, chastity, self-
conquest, humility, goodness,
mildness, obedience to the
commandments, and thanksgiving to
God the Father, God the Son, and
God the Holy Spirit. May thy
blessing be upon this dwelling and
upon them that live herein. Through
Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

*Using blessed chalk, the priest or
head of the household writes above
each door leading to the outside of
the home in the following manner:
XX+G+M+B+XX, replacing the
XX's with the first two digits of the
year and last two digits of the year.
For example: 20+G+M+B+20.*

Blessing of the Cord of St. Philomena



L. Our help is in the name of the
Lord.

R. Who made Heaven and Earth.

L. The Lord be with thee.
R. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus Christ we beg you to bless
this cord (cincture); and grant that
they who are to wear it may, by the
protection of Saint Philomena, Virgin
and Martyr, be shielded from every
danger and obtain health of soul and
body. Who livest and reignest
forever. **R.** Amen.

(Sprinkle the cord with Holy Water)

Receive this cord about thy loins, so
that they may be girt with
moderation, purity, and chastity,
symbolized by the white. And may
thy soul and body be girt to shed thy
blood for Christ and thus die and kill
for Christ if necessary, symbolized by
the red. In the Name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
R. Amen.

(See in this book [Prayer for Those
Who Wear the St. Philomena Cord](#), p.
160.)

Blessing for Birthdays

*Blessing by a priest or the head of the
household:*

May God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Holy Spirit bless you
and grant you all the graces and other
helps you need to save your soul. We
thank God for creating and redeeming
you; and we pray that you will
cooperate with God's grace and other
helps in order to give glory to God,
to save your soul, and to help save the
souls of others. (RJMI)

When prayed by yourself:

I thank you, God the Father, God the
Son, and God the Holy Spirit, for
creating and redeeming me. I pray
that I will cooperate with thy graces
and other helps in order to give thee
great glory, to save my soul, and to
help save the souls of others. (RJMI)

Daily Blessing of Equipment

*Can be prayed the first time you use
any equipment during the day.*

Bless these gifts, O Lord, that I have received from thy bounty, through Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord. I beg of thee, O Lord God, to have mercy on me, that I may use these gifts and instruments thou hast given me primarily for thy greater glory and for no sinful purpose. And I beg of thee to have mercy on me, that thou wouldst appoint thy holy angels to protect these gifts and instruments thou hast given me so that the devils may not put their dirty, filthy, stinky, rotten paws upon them so as to interfere with this great and good work God hast given me. Amen. (RJMI)

Consecration of Equipment, Homes, or Property

For appliances, TV's, computers, cars, land, homes, etc. Pluralize if necessary.

L. Our help is in the name of the Lord.
R. Who made heaven and earth.

L. The Lord be with you.
R. And with thy spirit.

LET US PRAY: O almighty God, through Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord, and the Blessed Virgin Mary, his mother, I dedicate and consecrate this *(name of item)* to thee on this day of *(date)*. Bless it ✠ and protect it. I promise to use it for thy greater glory and for the salvation of souls. I promise never to use it for any sinful purpose, and I beg thy constant protection so that I may keep this promise. Have mercy on me and prosper the work produced with the assistance of this *(name of item)*; make my work fruitful and keep it free from all idols, evil works, and any stain of sin. This I ask through Jesus Christ thy Son who lives and reigns with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen. (RJMI)

Sprinkle the item with holy water.

Blessing of Travelers

Canticle of Zachary: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel because he hath visited and wrought the redemption of his people and hath raised up a

horn of salvation to us in the house of David his servant. (Lk. 1:68-69)

Glory Be...

Along ways of peace and prosperity may the almighty and merciful Lord lead you, and may the Archangel Raphael accompany you on your journey. And may you in peace, health, and joy return unto your own.

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

Our Father...

L. Preserve thy servants.
R. Who trust in thee, O my God.

L. Send them aid, O Lord, from on high.
R. And from Sion watch over them.

L. Be thou unto them a mighty fortress.
R. In the face of the enemy.

L. Let the enemy be powerless against them.
R. And the son of iniquity do nothing to harm them.

L. May the Lord be praised at all times.
R. May God, our helper, grant us a peaceful journey.

L. Show us thy ways, O Lord.
R. And conduct us along thy paths.

L. Oh, that our ways be directed.
R. To the keeping of thy precepts.

L. For crooked ways will be made straight.
R. And rough ways smooth.

L. God hath given his angels charge over you.
R. To guard you in all undertakings.

L. O Lord, hear my prayer.
R. And let my cry come unto thee.

L. The Lord be with you.
R. And with thy spirit.

LET US PRAY: O God, who didst lead the sons of Israel through the sea over a dry path, and didst reveal the way to the three Magi by the guidance of a star, vouchsafe to grant thy servants a happy journey and a peaceful time, that accompanied by thy angel they may safely reach their present destination and come finally to the haven of everlasting security.

O God, who didst lead thy servant Abraham out of Ur of the Chaldeans, safeguarding him in all his wanderings, guide these thy servants, we implore thee. Be thou unto them support in battle, refuge in journeying, shade in the heat, covering in the rain, a carriage in tiredness, protection in adversity, a staff in insecurity, a harbor in shipwreck, so that under thy leadership they may successfully reach their destination and finally return safe to their homes.

Give ear, we pray thee, O Lord, to our entreaties! Direct the steps of thy servants on the paths of righteousness so that in all the trials and tribulations of the journey and of life they may have thee as their constant protector. Grant, O almighty God, that thy servants march forth on the way of security.

Hear our prayers, O Lord, and graciously accompany thy servants on their journey. And since thy power reaches everywhere, dispense thy mercy to them in all places, that protected by thy help from all dangers they will be able to offer thanksgiving to thee. Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

May the peace and blessing of God the Father, ✠ God the Son, ✠ and God the Holy Spirit ✠ come upon you and remain with you for all time.
R. Amen.

The travelers are now sprinkled with holy water.

Seasonal Blessing of Fields, Gardens, and Livestock

Leader: O Lord, thou hast visited the earth and hast plentifully watered it; thou hast many ways enriched it. The river of God is filled with water; thou hast prepared their food, for so is its preparation. Fill up plentifully the streams thereof, multiply its fruits; it shall spring up and rejoice in its showers. Thou shalt bless the crown of the year of thy goodness, and thy fields shall be filled with plenty. The beautiful places of the wilderness shall grow fat, and the hills shall be girded about with joy. The rams of the flock are clothed, and the vales shall abound with corn; they shall

shout, yea they shall sing a hymn.
(Ps. 64:10-14)

Glory Be...

L. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

L. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

LET US PRAY: O God, from whom every good has its beginning and from whom it receives its increase, hear our prayers, we implore thee, that what we begin for thy honor and glory may be brought by the gift of thine eternal wisdom to a happy ending. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

L. Vouchsafe to bless ✠ our fields, gardens, and livestock.

R. We beseech thee, hear us.

L. Vouchsafe to bless ✠ and consecrate ✠ our fields, gardens, and livestock.

R. We beseech thee, hear us.

L. Vouchsafe to bless, ✠ consecrate, ✠ and protect ✠ from devilish infection our fields, gardens, and livestock.

R. We beseech thee, hear us.

L. Vouchsafe mercifully to ward off and dispel from our fields, gardens, and livestock all lightning, hailstorm, injurious tempests, harmful floods, inclement weather, and pests.

R. We beseech thee, hear us.

Our Father...

L. Send forth thy Spirit, and the world shall arise as new.

R. And the countenance of the earth shall be renewed.

L. The Lord will give goodness.

R. And the earth shall yield her fruit.

L. O Lord, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto thee.

L. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

LET US PRAY: O almighty God, we humbly implore thee that thou wouldst shower thy blessing ✠ upon our fields, gardens, and livestock and nurture them with favorable weather. Grant to thy people a constant gratitude for thy gifts. Destroy any infertility from our earth and

livestock; and fill the hungry with thy gifts which the fruitful earth and livestock will yield in fullness, that the poor and needy may praise thy wondrous name forever and ever.

R. Amen.

Sprinkle the fields, gardens, and livestock with holy water.

Blessing of Livestock

For horses, cattle, sheep, goats, swine, rabbits, poultry, etc., that are used as livestock.

L. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

L. The Lord be with thee.

R. And with thy spirit.

L. LET US PRAY: O Lord God, King of heaven and earth, the Father's Word by whom were made all creatures that aid man and are used for his sustenance, look down, we beseech thee, on us thy servants, and as thou dost intervene in our necessities and distresses, deign to ✠ bless, guard, and watch over these *(name the type of livestock being blessed)*. At their creation thou didst ordain that thy creatures shouldst be fruitful and multiply. In thy gracious mercy, grant that these creatures which thou hast created to serve us may likewise follow thy command and in bountiful fertility fulfill the purpose for which they were created for our use. This we ask in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Here the livestock are sprinkled with holy water.

Blessing of Pets

For dogs, cats, or other pets.

L. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

L. The Lord be with thee.

R. And with thy spirit.

L. LET US PRAY: O Lord God, King of heaven and earth, the Father's Word by whom were made all creatures that aid and accompany man, look down, we beseech thee, on us thy servants, and deign to ✠ bless,

guard, and watch over this *(name the type of pet being blessed)* that thou hast created and given to man as a companion. Instill a gentle, loving, and loyal spirit in this creature that it may live out its days in safety, health, and peace and be a source of joy and consolation to the master thou hast placed over it. This we ask in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Here the pet is sprinkled with holy water.

Blessing of a Sick Animal

L. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

L. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

LET US PRAY: We humbly and perseveringly implore thy mercy, O Lord, that this animal afflicted with severe sickness may be cured in thy name and by the power of thy blessing ✠. Let any effects of evil spirits in this animal become extinct lest sickness afflict it again; and be thou, O Lord, the guardian of its existence and the remedy for its illness. Through Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

R. Amen.

Sprinkle the animal with holy water.

Blessing of Fruit, Vegetable, and Herb Plants

L. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

L. The Lord be with thee.

R. And with thy spirit.

L. LET US PRAY: Almighty and everlasting God, sower and tiller of the heavenly Word, who dost cultivate the field of our hearts with heavenly tools, hearken to our prayers and pour forth bountiful blessings upon these *(list the type of plant being blessed)* plants. By thy protecting hand, turn away the fury of the elements, disease, and the teeth of beasts and insects, so that as these plants grow, they may be filled with

thy blessing ✠ and mayest be harvested without hindrance, thus fulfilling the purpose for which thou didst create them for the service of men. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, who livest and reignest with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

R. Amen.

Here the plant is sprinkled with holy water.

Blessing of Ornamental Plants

L. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

L. The Lord be with thee.

R. And with thy spirit.

L. LET US PRAY: Almighty and everlasting God, who didst create beautiful plants to be gazed upon by Adam and Eve in the garden of paradise, and through thy generosity,

even after they sinned, dost continue to decorate the earth with thy glorious ornamental creations for the enjoyment of mankind, hearken to our prayers and pour forth bountiful blessings upon this *(list the type of ornamental plant being blessed)* plant. By thy protecting hand, turn away the fury of the elements, disease, and the teeth of beasts and insects, so that as these plants flourish, they may be filled with thy blessing ✠ and mayest be a source of happiness to men and cause them to be thankful to thee, O Lord, the Creator of all beauty. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, who livest and reignest with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

R. Amen.

Here the plant is sprinkled with holy water.

Blessing for All Other Things

This form may be used for the blessing of anything which has no special blessing; such as musical instruments, cars, furniture, hobby materials, games, etc.

L. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

L. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

LET US PRAY: O God, by whose word things are made holy, pour out thy blessing ✠ on this creature *(or item)*. And grant that whosoever uses it in accordance with thy will and thy law and with a spirit of thanksgiving may experience, by thy power, protection in soul and health in body as he invokes thy most holy name. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

Sprinkle the item with holy water.

BRIEF PRAYERS

Blessed be God!

My God and my all!

Praised be Jesus Christ, now and
forevermore.

My Jesus, mercy!

Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, increase in
us our faith, hope, and charity.

Eternal Father! I offer thee the
precious blood of Jesus in satisfaction
for my sins and for the wants of the
Holy Catholic Church.

May the most just, most high, and
most adorable will of God be in all
things done, praised, and magnified,
forever and ever. Amen.

My Lord, grant that I may love thee,
and that the reward of my love may
be to love thee ever more and more.

Jesus, my God, I love thee above all
things.

O Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on
me.

Savior of the world, have mercy on
us.

Jesus and Mary.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, bless us
now and at the hour of our death.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, I give thee
my heart and my soul. Jesus, Mary,
and Joseph, assist me in my last
agony. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, may
I breathe out my soul in peace with
thee.

Sweet heart of Mary, be my love!

Blessed be the holy and Immaculate
Conception of the Blessed Virgin
Mary, Mother of God.

Mother Mary, preserve me this day
from sin.

Mother of love, of sorrow, and of
mercy, pray for us.

Holy Mary, deliver us from the pains
of Gehenna.

My Mother Mary, my trust!

Mary, Virgin Mother of God, pray to
Jesus for me.

In thy conception, O Virgin Mary,
thou wast immaculate; pray for us to
the Father, whose Son Jesus Christ,
conceived of the Holy Spirit, thou
didst bring forth.

To thee, O Virgin Mother, who wast
never defiled with the stain of
original sin and who never committed
a sin, I commend and entrust the
purity of my heart.

Mary, our hope, have pity on us.

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

As the hart panteth after the fountains
of water, so my soul panteth after
thee, O God. (Ps. 41:2)

Come, O Lord, and tarry not.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, save me lest
I perish.

OTHER PRAYERS

Before and After Meal Prayers

Prayer before Meals

Bless us, O Lord, and these thy gifts which we are about to receive from thy bounty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Invoke God or the saint(s) of the day, followed by your special patron saint(s).)

N. _____, have mercy on us or pray for us. Hail Mary...

Prayer after Meals

We give thee thanks, almighty God, for these gifts which we have received from thy bounty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Daily prayer intentions

Lord's Day: I pray above all else that I may have a pure, holy, innocent, childlike love of you, my God, as my Father, and Mary, as my mother, and that I may persevere in that love now and forever.

2nd Weekday: I pray for the conversion of the Jews and Moslems and all the other unbaptized people in the world.

3rd Weekday: I pray for the conversion of the Protestants and Schismatics and all the other baptized self-professed non-Catholics throughout the whole world.

4th Weekday: I pray for Catholics and nominal Catholics.

5th Weekday: I pray for the papacy and a future Roman Pontiff.

6th Weekday: I pray for our suffering brothers in purgatory. Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. And may they rest in peace. Amen.

7th Weekday: I pray for Catholic priests and for the conversion of non-Catholic priests. I also pray for the

Catholic priests in purgatory: Everlasting rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen.

Prayer for Religious Vocations

O Lord, by the Sea of Galilee you saw two brothers, Peter and Andrew, and called them to you and said "Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Send workers into your harvest, O Lord, so that thy commandments may be obeyed, the Catholic faith taught, and your sacrifice be renewed.

Stir up in your Catholic Church, O Lord, the devotion and fortitude needed to make worthy ministers for your altars and powerful preachers of your Word.

O Lord, may there be an increasing number of Catholic priests to teach the faith, to rule your flock, and to offer prayers and sacrifices upon your altars. And may there be an increasing number of brothers and sisters to serve you in religious orders.

Lord, grant that those whom you have chosen as ministers or other religious will serve you with pure hearts and minds and be worthy servants of your boundless love.

O Lord, in your kindness, be attentive to the prayers and offerings of your people. May the stewards of your mysteries and other religious increase in number and persevere to the end in loving and serving you.

This we ask in your name and in the unity of the Father and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer for Secular Vocations

O Lord Jesus Christ, help me know your will for me. Let your light shine into the depths of my heart that I may know what you want me to do with my life. Help me believe that you have a special plan for me and to

know what that plan is. O Lord, help me discern how you want me to serve you in this world. Give me the wisdom to hear your voice and the courage to answer your call like our Blessed Mother did. And give me peace of heart and mind. I offer this prayer in your name and in the unity of the Father and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer for Catholic Secular Rulers

O Lord Jesus Christ, high and mighty, King of kings, Lord of lords, the ruler of princes, who dost from thy throne behold all the dwellers upon earth. Most heartily we beseech thee with thy favour to behold our most gracious Catholic ruler, *N.* _____, and so replenish him with the grace of thy Holy Spirit, that he may always incline to thy will and walk in thy way. Endue him plenteously with heavenly gifts that he may rule according to the Catholic faith, in obedience to the Catholic Church, and in love, wisdom, justice, and mercy. Grant him health, wealth, and a long life. Strengthen him that he may vanquish and overcome all his enemies. And finally after this life, may he attain everlasting joy and felicity. This we ask in your name and in the unity of the Father and the Spirit. Amen.

Prayer for Non-Catholic Secular Rulers

For thou, Jesus Christ, O heavenly Master, King of kings, and King of the Ages, givest to the sons of men glory and honour and power over all things that are upon the earth. Grant unto Kings and Rulers, O Lord, to rule their nations in honesty, justice, mercy, and virtue, at least according to the natural law. May they favor the well-being of Catholics who live in their dominions so they may practice their Catholic faith in peace, security, and without hindrance. This we ask in your name and in the unity of the Father and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer for Catholic Doctors and Other Health Care Workers

Almighty God, thou has created the human body with infinite wisdom. Ten thousand times ten thousand organs hast thou combined in it that act unceasingly and harmoniously to preserve the whole in all its beauty the body which is the envelope of the immortal soul. They are ever acting in perfect order, agreement and accord. Yet, when the frailty of matter or accidents derange this order or interrupts this accord, then forces clash and the body crumbles into the primal dust from which it came. Thou sendest to man diseases as beneficent messengers to foretell approaching danger and to urge him to avert it.

Thou hast blest thine earth, thy rivers and thy mountains with healing substances; they enable thy creatures to alleviate their sufferings and to heal their illnesses. Thou hast endowed man with the wisdom to relieve the suffering of his brother, to recognize his disorders, to extract the healing substances, to discover their powers and to prepare and to apply them to suit every ill. In thine Eternal Providence, thou hast chosen me to watch over the life and health of thy creatures. I am now about to apply myself to the duties of my profession. Support me, Almighty God, in these great labors that they may benefit mankind, for without thy help not even the least thing will succeed.

Inspire me with love for my art and for thy creatures. Do not allow thirst for profit, ambition for renown and admiration, to interfere with my profession, for these are the enemies of truth and of love for mankind and they can lead astray in the great task of attending to the welfare of thy creatures. Watch over me so that I may never use my profession to do something contrary to your law (such as abortion) and thus to do something sinful. May I be ready to lose all than sin against thee.

Preserve the strength of my soul and of my body that they ever be ready to cheerfully help and support rich and poor, good and bad, enemy as well as friend. In the sufferer let me see only

the human being. Illumine my mind that it recognize what presents itself and that it may comprehend what is absent or hidden. Let it not fail to see what is visible, but do not permit it to arrogate to itself the power to see what cannot be seen, for delicate and indefinite are the bounds of the great art of caring for the lives and health of thy creatures. Let me never be absent-minded. May no strange thoughts divert my attention at the bedside of the sick, or disturb my mind in its silent labors, for great and sacred are the thoughtful deliberations required to preserve the lives and health of thy creatures.

Grant that my patients have confidence in me and my art and follow my directions and my counsel. Remove from their midst all charlatans and the whole host of officious relatives and know-all nurses, cruel people who arrogantly frustrate the wisest purposes of our art and often lead thy creatures to their death.

Should those who are wiser than I wish to improve and instruct me, let my soul gratefully follow their guidance; for vast is the extent of our art. Should conceited fools, however, censure me, then let love for my profession steel me against them, so that I remain steadfast without regard for age, for reputation, or for honor, because surrender would bring to thy creatures sickness and death.

Imbue my soul with gentleness and calmness when older colleagues, proud of their age, wish to displace me or to scorn me or disdainfully to teach me. May even this be of advantage to me, for they know many things of which I am ignorant, but let not their arrogance give me pain.

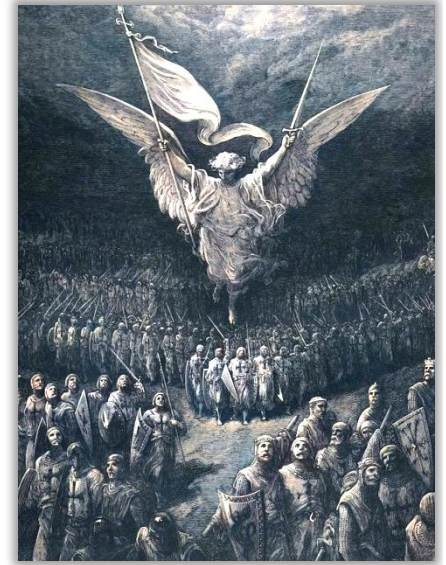
Let me never be content in the great science of my profession. Never allow the thought to arise in me that I have attained to sufficient knowledge, but vouchsafe to me the strength, the leisure and the ambition, ever to extend my knowledge. For our art is great and ever expanding.

Almighty God! Thou hast chosen me in thy mercy to watch over the life and death of thy creatures. I now apply myself to my profession. Support me in this great task so that it

may benefit mankind, for without thy help not even the least thing will succeed.

This I ask in the name of Jesus Christ, thy Son, in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

RJMI's Prayer to Kill for Christ



O Lord God, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who is mighty in battle array, and St. Michael the Archangel, thou hast said that there is a time to kill and a time for war. Grant me the spirit and ability to kill and to go to war for Christ, the Catholic Church, and Catholic faith if necessary. Give me the grace to despise effeminacy and cowardness. Let thy enemies flee before me. Let me not hesitate to kill or maim in thy holy name and for a just cause. May I not reject the sword that Jesus says we must take up if necessary when he told his followers that a time will come when they must buy and thus use the sword. (Lk. 22:36) May I readily and willingly and with great joy obey Jesus when he said, "As for those my enemies who would not have me reign over them, bring them hither and kill them before me." (Lk. 19:27)

This I ask, O Father, in the name of thy Son, Jesus Christ, and in unity with the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer for God's Protection

O Lord God Almighty, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who is mighty in battle array, and St. Michael the Archangel, protect me from my enemies. In the words of King St. David, I say, "Who shall rise up for me against the evildoers? Or who shall stand with me against the workers of iniquity? Unless the Lord had been my helper, my soul had almost dwelt in the underworld." (Ps. 93:16-17) "[I] shall say to the Lord: Thou art my protector and my refuge, my God, in him will I trust. For he hath delivered me from the snare of the hunters and from the sharp word. He will overshadow thee with his shoulders, and under his wings thou shalt trust. His truth shall compass thee with a shield. Thou shalt not be afraid of the terror of the night, of the arrow that flieth in the day, of the business that walketh about in the dark, of invasion, or of the noonday devil. A thousand shall fall at thy side and ten thousand at thy right hand, but it shall not come nigh thee. But thou shalt consider with thy eyes and shalt see the reward of the wicked. Because thou, O Lord, art my hope, thou hast made the most High thy refuge. There shall no evil come to thee, nor shall the scourge come near thy dwelling. For he hath given his angels charge over thee to keep thee in all thy ways. In their hands they shall bear thee up lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt walk upon the asp and the basilisk, and thou shalt trample under foot the lion and the dragon. Because he hoped in me, I will deliver him. I will protect him because he hath known my name. He shall cry to me, and I will hear him. I am with him in tribulation, I will deliver him, and I will glorify him. I will fill him with length of days, and I will shew him my salvation." (Ps. 90:2-16)

This I ask through our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, who lives and reigns with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer for Righteous Anger and to Banish Sinful Anger



Almighty God, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Michael the Archangel, fill my heart with righteous anger and drive far from it sinful anger; for I know that without righteous anger, I cannot truly love you and thus cannot be saved. Help me to hate the things you hate, to abhor the things you abhor, despise the things you despise, and to be angry at the things you are angry at, and in the same measure. I also know that without righteous anger, I will be effeminate and fall into the heresies of non-judgmentalism and non-punishmentalism to one degree or another.

Help me to know that righteous anger is based upon justice, law and order, and not upon personal vengeance, personal vendettas. This is the anger Jesus had toward the Jews who refused to believe in him and when he whipped them out of the Temple for defiling God's home. (Mk. 3:1, 5; Jn. 2:13-15)

May I not, then, be so concerned about the injustice done to me, but be angry at the injustice itself, how it offends God, and how it will affect others if not corrected. May I always be ready to forgive those who truly repent of their injustices and thus no longer be angry with them.

O God, banish from my heart all sinful hatred, as sinful hatred burns in one's bosom and causes one to lose a degree of reason, judgment, and mercy because it is based solely upon the personal injury done to oneself

and not primarily for the sake of justice, the common good, and hopefully for the correction of the offender. One sign of the worst kinds of sinful hatred is the total lack of mercy in which one does not forgive and forget the sinful offences of repentant sinners.

O please, Lord God, grant me the grace to fill my heart with righteous anger and to banish from it sinful anger, and I promise to cooperate with thy grace.²⁸

This I ask through our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, who lives and reigns with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen. (RJMI)

Prayer to St. Michael for Catholic Policemen



St. Michael, heaven's glorious Commander of Police, who once so neatly and successfully cleared God's premises of all its undesirables, look with kindly and professional eyes on your earthly force.

Give us cool heads, stout hearts, hard punches, and uncanny flair for investigation and wise judgment.

Make us the terror of burglars and other lawbreakers, the friends of children and law-abiding citizens, kind to strangers, polite to bores, strict with law-breakers, and impervious to temptations.

In troubles and riots give us sheer muscle without temper; give us love for truth and evidence without any thought of self.

²⁸ See RJMI article [Anger, Rebuke, Hatred, and Curses](#).

You know, St. Michael, from your own experiences with the Devil that the policeman's lot on earth is not always a happy one. But by your faith and sense of duty that so pleased God, your hard knocks that so surprised the Devil, and your angelic self-control, give us inspiration and strength.

Make us first and foremost loyal to the law of God and then to law of the land.

And when we lay down our night sticks, enroll us in your heavenly force, where we will be as proud to guard the throne of God as we have been to guard the city of all the people. Amen.

Prayer for Catholic Firefighters



O God, when I am called to duty, whenever flames may rage, give me the strength to save some life, whatever be its age.

Help me embrace a little child before it's too late or save an older person from the horror of that fate.

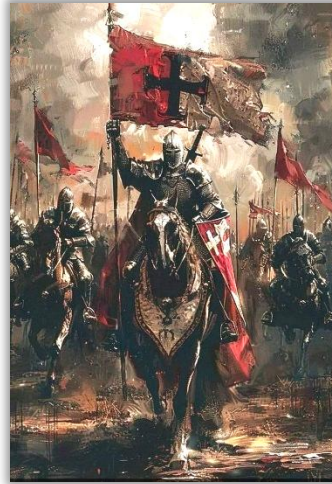
Enable me to be alert and hear the weakest shout, and quickly and efficiently to put the fire out.

I want to fulfill my calling to give the best in me, to guard my every neighbor and protect their property.

And if, according to my fate, I am to lose my life, may I be in a state of grace and gain everlasting life.

This I ask, through the special intercession of St. Florian, and through Jesus Christ thy Son, our Lord, in unity with the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer for Catholic Soldiers in Wartime



For who is God but the Lord? Or who is God but our God, the Catholic God? God who hath girt me with strength and made my way blameless, who hath made my feet like the feet of harts and who setteth me upon high places, who teacheth my hands to war. And thou hast made my arms like a brazen bow. And thou hast given me the protection of thy salvation, and thy right hand hath held me up. And thy discipline hath corrected me unto the end; and thy discipline, the same shall teach me. Thou hast enlarged my steps under me, and my feet are not weakened. I will pursue after my enemies and overtake them, and I will not turn again till they are consumed. I will break them, and they shall not be able to stand. They shall fall under my feet. And thou hast girded me with strength unto battle and hast subdued under me them that rose up against me. And thou hast made my enemies turn their back upon me and hast destroyed them that hated me. They cried but there was none to save them; even to the Lord, but he heard them not. And I shall beat them as small as the dust before the wind. I shall bring them to nought like the dirt in the streets. (Ps. 17:32-43)

Prayer for Catholic Lawyers

May the spirit God rest upon me—a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the Lord. And may I carry

out my duty in the love and fear of the Lord. May I not by appearance judge, nor by hearsay decide, nor by bribes or human respect lie. But may I judge the rich and the poor with justice, and decide aright for those unjustly afflicted. May I strike the ruthless with the rod of my mouth; and with the breath of my lips, slay the wicked. May faithfulness to God and justice according to his law be a band around my heart and mind.

I pray, for the glory of God and in the pursuit of his justice, that I may be keen in study, accurate in analysis, correct in conclusion, able in argument, loyal to clients, honest with all, courteous to adversaries, ever attentive to the truth. And may I always put God's law above human law so that I many never sin in carrying out our duties as a lawyer.

This I ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer for Gifts of the Holy Spirit and to Love God and Others

O Most Holy Trinity, I pray that thou wilt grant me the Holy Spirit's gifts of the fear of the Lord (*bow your head*), faith, hope, charity, prudence, temperance, fortitude, justice, counsel, understanding, piety, wisdom, knowledge, chastity, peace, patience, mildness, moderation, goodness, longsuffering, fidelity, joy, and benignity. And most of all, grant that I may love thee, O most holy Trinity, above all things, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. And second to thee, to love thy greatest masterpiece, thy holy mother and my holy mother, Mary; and to love the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph; St. Joachim and St. Anne; St. Zachary and St. Elizabeth and St. John the Baptist; Ss. James, Jude, and Simon; Ss. Booz and Ruth; St. King David; and all thy other blood relatives who are in heaven; and to love St. Michael, St. Gabriel, St. Raphael, and my Guardian Angel; to love St. Abraham and St. Peter; and St. Mary Magdalen; and to love all thy angels and saints; and to love my neighbor

as myself for the love of thee; and to love the truth so that in whatever I do this day I may distinguish the truth from the lies.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us. St. Joseph, pray for us. Good St. Anne, pray for us. Saint (*of the day*), pray for us. St. John the Baptist, pray for us. Saint (*your patron saint*), pray for us. St. Benedict, pray for us. Ss. Peter and Paul, pray for us.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us. (*three times*)

Most precious blood of Jesus, save us. (*three times*)

Eucharistic heart of Jesus, have mercy on us. Divine heart of Jesus, convert sinners, save the dying, set free the holy souls in purgatory. Most holy face of our Lord Jesus Christ, bless us and protect us. Most holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, bless us and protect us. Amen. (RJMI)

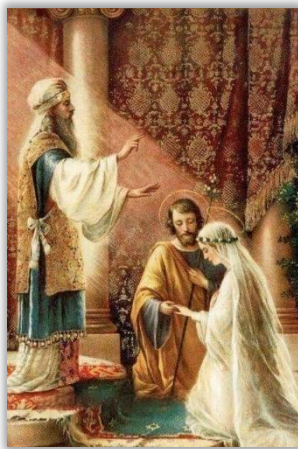
Prayer to Overcome Intellectual Pride and Doubts Regarding Dogmas

O Lord Jesus Christ, through the intercession of thy holy Mother Mary, Seat of Wisdom, and of St. Joseph, the patron of the Holy Catholic Church, and of St. Gabriel the Archangel, the most glorious prince of the heavenly messengers, have mercy on me. Give me the grace to overcome my intellectual pride, which deceives me by false wisdom and thus prevents me from obtaining true wisdom, which is the full deposit of the Catholic faith, and the ability to believe it and live by it in heart, word, and deed. Help me to believe by faith alone the dogmas that are above human understanding and the dogmas that are not only above human science but contrary to it, such as the dogma on the Holy Eucharist. Help me to take to heart St. Paul's words regarding these dogmas "Now faith is the substance of things to be hoped for, the evidence of things that appear not." (Heb. 11:1)

Help me not to love arguing for the sake of arguing, debating for the sake of debating, and arguing and debating with fools. Help me to be truly humble and thus not to exalt my

intellect to show off how smart I am. Help me to know the difference between knowledge and true wisdom. Help me to know that one can have all the knowledge in the world and yet not have true wisdom. Help me to be humble as your apostles were. They were simple fishermen and yet had true wisdom. Help me to not only reject but also hate scholasticism, by which I mean the glorification of philosophy. Help me to see that all those who do not have true wisdom are confounded and confused in one way or another, and by their own fault because they do not really seek the full truth; and what's worse is that most do not even realize they are confounded and confused but instead revel in it. Open my heart, eyes, and mind to see the folly in all of this and thus no longer be deceived because of my intellectual pride. This I ask in thy name and in unity with the Father and Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen (RJMI)

Prayer for Finding a Spouse



All-Good and Merciful Lord, I know that any enduring happiness in my life dependeth upon my wholehearted love for thee and upon mine actions according to thy Holy will in all things; wherefore, direct, my soul, O God, and fill my heart. I seek to please thee above all things, for thou art my creator and my God. Preserve me from pride and self-love. Let love, wisdom, reason, modesty, and constancy adorn me. Idleness is hateful unto thee and breedeth vice; grant unto me the inclination to be fruitful in labor, and bless thou my work.

Thy law commandeth that man and wife live in a holy, loving, and continent matrimonial union. Wherefore, lead me, Holy Father, to this blessed calling, for thou hast said that it is not good that man should live alone and, having created woman as his helper, thou blesses them to be fruitful and multiply that they may fill the earth.

Hear my humble prayer which ascendeth unto thee from the depths of my heart. Grant unto me a holy, honest and pious spouse, that through our love and harmony together we bring forth holy children to love and obey you and that we may praise thee, our compassionate God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Prayer for Spouses

Lord Jesus, grant that I and my spouse may have a true love for each other. Grant that we may both be filled with faith and trust in you. Give us the grace to live with each other in love, peace, and harmony. May we bear with one another's weaknesses and grow from each other's strengths. Help us to forgive one another's failings and grant us patience, kindness, cheerfulness, and the spirit of placing the well-being of one another ahead of self. May the love that brought us together grow and mature with each passing year. Bring us both ever closer to you through our love for each other. Let our love for you and one another grow to perfection. This we ask in your name and in the unity of the Father and Holy Spirit. Amen

Prayer to the Holy Family



Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, bless us and grant us the grace to love God and the

Catholic Faith above every earthly thing, as we are bound to do, and to ever show forth our love by our faith and good deeds.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, bless us and grant us the grace of openly professing with courage and without human respect, as we are bound to do, the faith that we received when we entered the Catholic Church.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, bless us and grant us the grace of sharing in the defense and propagation of the Catholic faith, as we are bound to do, whether by word or by the sacrifice of our fortunes and our lives.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, bless us and grant us the grace of loving one another in mutual charity, as we are bound to do, and establish us in perfect harmony of thought, will, and action under the rule and guidance of our holy pastors.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, bless us and grant us the grace of conforming our lives fully to the commandments of God's law as decreed by his Holy Catholic Church, as we are bound to do, so that we may live always in that charity which they set forth.

Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

The Life Everlasting

(by St. Augustine)

As the hart panteth after the fountains of water, so my soul panteth after thee, O God. My soul hath thirsted after the strong living God; when shall I come and appear before the face of God? O thou fountain of life, thou spring of living waters, when shall I pass from this desert, from this pathless, barren land to the waters of thy sweetness, to see thy beauty and thy glory, and to slake my soul's thirst at the gushing streams of thy love? I thirst, O Lord: Thou art the fountain of life; give thou me to drink. I thirst, O my Lord; I thirst for thee, the living God. Oh, when shall I come and appear before thy face! Shall I in very deed see that day, that

day of joy and gladness, that day which the Lord hath made that we may rejoice and be glad in it?

O bright and glorious day which knoweth no evening, whose sun shall no more go down, in which I shall hear the voices of praise, the voices of joy and thanksgiving, and thy voice, O Lord, saying unto me: Enter into the joy of thy Lord, enter into joy everlasting, into the house of the Lord thy God, where are things great and unsearchable and wonderful and without number; enter into joy wherein is no sorrow but untroubled gladness, wherein is all manner of good and no manner of evil, where all thine heart's desire shall be satisfied and all that thou fearest and hatest shall be far from thee, where life shall be calm and glad, wherein the hateful enemy shall not enter nor any breath of temptation shall come near thee; where is supreme and settled security, and tranquil joy and joyful happiness, and a happy life everlasting, an everlasting blessedness, the Blessed Trinity, and the unity of the Trinity, the Godhead in unity, the blissful vision of the Godhead, the joy of thy Lord!

O joy upon joy, joy transcending all joys! When shall I enter into thee and behold my Lord, whose dwelling is in thee! I shall go thither and see this great sight. And now what keepeth me back? Woe is me that my sojourning is prolonged! How long, O Lord, shall it be said to me: Wait, wait, yet awhile? Come, O Lord, delay no longer! Come, Lord Jesus Christ, and visit us in peace; come and bring forth thy captives from their dungeon, that they may praise thee with a perfect heart! Come, thou desire of all nations, show thy face and we shall be saved! Come, my light, my Redeemer, bring my soul out of prison that it may give thanks to thy name.

Blessed are they who have passed over the great and wide sea to the everlasting shore and are now blessed in their desired rest. Blessed are they who have escaped from all evils and are secure of their unfading glory in thee, thou kingdom of blessedness! How long shall I be tossed about on the waves of this my mortal life, crying unto thee, O Lord God, while

thou hearest me not? Hear me, O Lord, from this great and wide ocean, and bring me to the everlasting haven.

O everlasting kingdom, kingdom of endless ages, wherein rests the untroubled light and the peace of God which surpasseth all understanding, where the souls of the saints are at rest and everlasting joy is upon their heads, and sorrow and sighing have fled away! Oh, how glorious is the kingdom in which all thy saints dwell with thee, O Lord, clothed with light as with a garment and having on their heads a crown of precious stones! For there is infinite unfading joy, gladness without sorrow, health without a pang, life without toil, light without darkness, life without death; there the vigor of age knows no decay and beauty withers not, nor doth love grow cold nor joy wane away, for there we look evermore upon the face of the Lord God of hosts.

O Christ, our refuge and strength, thou hope of mankind, whose light shineth from afar upon the dark clouds which hang around us; behold, thy redeemed ones cry unto thee, thy banished ones whom thou hast redeemed with thine own most precious blood. Hear us, O God our Savior, thou who art the hope of all the ends of the earth and of those that are afar off on the wide sea. We are tossed about on the wild and raging waves in the dark night; and thou, standing on the everlasting shore, dost behold our sore peril. Save us for thy name's sake! Guide us amidst the shoals and quicksands which beset all our course, and so bring us in safety to the haven where we desire to be. Amen.

Prayer for All Things Necessary to Salvation

O my God, I believe in thee; but do thou strengthen my faith. All my hopes are in thee; do thou secure them. I love thee with my whole heart; teach me to love thee daily more and more. I am sorry for having offended thee; do thou increase my sorrow.

I adore thee as my Creator; I aspire after thee as my Redeemer, Judge,

and King of kings. I give thee thanks as my constant benefactor; I call upon thee as my sovereign protector.

Vouchsafe, O my God, to conduct me by thy wisdom, to restrain me by thy justice, to forgive me by thy mercy, to defend me by thy power.

To thee I desire to consecrate all my thoughts, words, actions, and sufferings, that henceforward I may think of thee, speak of thee, and willingly refer all my actions to thy greater glory and suffer willingly whatever thou shalt appoint.

Lord, I desire that in all things thy will may be done, because it is thy will, and in the manner that thou wilt.

I beg of thee to enlighten my understanding, to inflame my will, to purify my body, and to sanctify my soul.

Give me strength, O my God, to expiate my offences, to overcome my temptations, to not fall prey to evil passions, to moderate my good passions, to do penance when required, and to acquire the virtues proper for my state.

Fill my heart with tender affection for thy goodness, a hatred for the sins I have committed and for all sins, a love for my neighbor, contempt of the evil things of the world, and love of thee above all things.

May I be obedient to the legitimate commands of my superiors, benevolent to my inferiors, loyal to my friends, and loving toward my enemies but harsh with them if they deserve it.

Assist me to overcome avarice by almsgiving, unrighteous anger by mildness, and tepidity by devotion.

O my God, make me prudent in my undertakings, courageous in dangers, patient in afflictions, and humble in prosperity.

Grant that I may ever be attentive in my prayers, temperate at my meals, diligent in my employments, and constant in my resolutions.

Let my conscience be ever upright and pure, my exterior modest, my

conversation edifying, and my comportment well-balanced.

Assist me that by corresponding to thy grace, I may repent of my sins, overcome temptations, bridle my concupiscence, keep thy commandments, and work out my salvation with fear and trembling.

Discover to me, O my God, the deceits and vanities of this world, the greatness of heaven, the shortness of time, and the length of forever.

Grant that I may prepare for death, fear thy judgments, escape Gehenna, and in the end obtain heaven, through thy Jesus Christ, thy Son, in unity with the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer for Enlightenment

Almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord, and the mediation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, I beg of thee to show me the way and the truth that leads to everlasting life. If I am not now on that path, please, O please, show me what I must do to enter that path and be saved.

Lord, thy servants teach that "There is a way that seemeth to a man right, but the ends thereof lead to death..."²⁹ and "I am not conscious to myself of any thing, yet I am not hereby justified."³⁰ Please, Lord, help me to truly examine my conscience; expose any sins that I may be hiding from myself. Do not let me make excuses for my sins. "Who can understand sins? From my secret ones cleanse me, O Lord. Let not my heart turn aside to wicked deeds to make excuses for sins."³¹ Reveal my sins to me in spite of my stubbornness. I know that none of my sins can be forgiven unless I am inside the Catholic Church because "Outside the Catholic Church there is no salvation or remission of sins." If I am outside the Catholic Church for mortal sins of apostasy, heresy, or schism, show me these sins. Do not let me make excuses for them. Tell me what I must do to enter the Catholic Church in order that my sins can be forgiven so that I may have a hope to be saved.

²⁹ Prv. 16:25.

³⁰ 1 Cor. 4:4.

³¹ Ps. 18:13; 140:4.

If I am guilty of sins against the moral commandments, show them to me so that I can confess them with perfect contrition and will sin no more.

Lord, thou hast promised that all who wholeheartedly seek thee shall find thee. Thy Son hast said, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you. For everyone that asketh, receiveth; and he that seeketh, findeth; and to him that knocketh, it shall be opened."³² Behold, I ask, I seek, and I knock.

I know that only those who obey all of thy words are blessed. "Blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it."³³ Please, O please, I beg of thee, Lord God, have mercy on me and show me the way to everlasting life and give me whatever I need to follow that way by obedience to all of thy words and commandments.

For I know, Lord, that "our sufficiency is from God."³⁴ For thy Son hast said that "without me you can do nothing."³⁵ Hence I cannot do anything good with a good motive without thy grace and other helps. "For it is God who worketh in (me), both to will and to accomplish, according to his good will."³⁶ Please, O please, Lord, give me all the grace and other helps I need to save my soul, and I pray that I may cooperate with those graces and other helps in order to be saved.

Lord, I have confidence that thou wilt answer my prayer provided I offer it with my whole heart, for thou never refuseth any good thing to those who truly desire it and are willing to love and obey thee. May it not be said of me "You ask and receive not, because you ask amiss."³⁷ If I have offered this prayer with a double heart or some other impure motive so as not to be heard by thee, then please reveal this also to me so that I may pray it again with a pure heart and deserve to be heard by thee. O God, this I ask of thee through our Lord Jesus Christ

³² Mt. 7:7-8.

³³ Lk. 11:28.

³⁴ 2 Cor. 3:5.

³⁵ Jn. 15:5.

³⁶ Phil. 2:13.

³⁷ Ja. 4:3.

thy Son, the author and finisher of faith,³⁸ who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen. (RJMI)

Pray [The Penitential Psalms](#), p. 76.

Prayer for Generosity

Lord, teach me to be generous.
Teach me to serve thee as thou dost deserve,
To give and not to count the cost,
To fight and not to heed the wounds,
To toil and not to seek for rest,
To labor and not to ask for reward
except that of knowing that I do thy holy will.

Prayer of Oblation

Take, O Lord, into thy hands my entire liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my will. All that I am and have thou hast given me, and I surrender them to thee to be so disposed in accordance with thy holy will. Give me thy love and thy grace; with these I am rich enough. Amen.

Prayer for Perfection

O God the Holy Spirit, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and my Guardian Angel, make me aware of my sins so that I may confess them, do penance for them, and amend my life so that I may be perfect as God is perfect, and holy as God is holy. From my secret sins cleanse me, O Lord, and from those of others spare thy servant. Let not my heart turn aside to wicked deeds to make excuses for sins. May I not fall prey to stoicism, gluttony, alcoholism, over-sleeping, laziness, sloth, over-recreating, fornication, despair, impatience, over anxiousness, over-curiosity, bragging, willful distractions in prayers (*add whatever else applies*). Through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with the Father and thee, O Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. (RJMI)

Prayer for Perseverance

O supreme and eternal God, I thank thee for creating me, redeeming me,

and giving me all the graces and other helps to be a good Catholic, and for having waited for my repentance after so many sins. O infinite Bounty, I love thee above all things and I repent with all my heart for having offended thee. I have confidence that thou hast already pardoned me; but being always in danger of again falling into sin, I beg of thee to grant me holy perseverance until death. Help me, O Lord, for thou knowest my weakness, and suffer me not again to be separated from thee. May I never again have the misfortune of losing thy grace. O Mary, my Mother, obtain for me holy perseverance. Amen.

Prayer for Those Undergoing Chastisement

Almighty and most merciful Father, who lovest those whom thou chastisest, turn away thine anger from me and look down in pity upon my distress and sorrow. Grant that the affliction which it has pleased thee to bring upon me may be a means of drawing me nearer to thee. Strengthen me, O Lord, that I may not languish in fruitless and unavailing sorrow but by the assistance of thy Holy Spirit may truly repent, meekly submit, and effectually be comforted; that I may obtain that peace which the world cannot give, and may pass the rest of my life in humble resignation and cheerful obedience. Teach me to set my affections on things of heaven over the things of earth; on those joys which never fade, the pleasures that are at thy right hand for evermore. Amen.

Brief Renunciation of Satan

I renounce Satan with all his works and pomps and pledge myself to Jesus Christ forever.

Prayer after Abjuration

O God, the triune and undivided Godhead, the most holy and eternal Trinity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, who can neither lie nor be deceived, I beg and pray that thou wilt have mercy on me and forgive me, a repentant sinner, of each and every mortal sin that has denied thee

and has placed me outside the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church, outside of which there is no salvation. I also beg the holy, perpetual virgin Mary, Mother of God, our Queen, through her sorrowful and immaculate heart; with St. Joseph, patriarch of the Most Holy Family and protector of holy Mother Church; St. Michael the Archangel, prince of the heavenly host and our defender in battle; St. John the Baptist; the holy apostles Peter and Paul; St. Joachim and St. Anne; and all the angels and saints to pray for me before the throne of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ the King, that he may hide me in his most sacred wounds, cover me with his most precious blood, and wash me clean with the water that flowed from his pierced side in his crucifixion and death. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on me, strengthen me, and suffer me not to fall due to my concupiscence or human weakness into these sins or any sin again. Protect me from the deceptions and snares of Satan, who with his lying signs and wonders appears as an angel of light. Please, dear God, save me from the world, the flesh, and the Devil so that I may not be damned to the everlasting fires of Gehenna, because I know that I am nothing, can know nothing, and can do nothing without thee, O Lord my God. By cooperating with thy priceless graces obtained from thy infinite sacrifice on the cross, and by uniting myself with thee, may I be made worthy to become the saint that thou hast called me to be in order that I may attain after my death and judgment the perfect happiness and everlasting bliss of loving, praising, and glorifying thee by gazing upon thy most adorable and holy face in heaven, together with all the angels and saints, forever and ever. Amen. (RJMI)

³⁸ Heb. 12:2.

