



**Knights of
Columbus®**

NOVENA FOR THE HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY



*Nine days of prayer on behalf of the
suffering souls in Purgatory*



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INTRODUCTION

Why We Pray

The Church has always professed the need to pray for the holy souls in Purgatory. Specifically, *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* reminds us of our duty as members of "The Church Militant" to pray for "The Church Suffering". The Church Suffering includes, *"All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation".* As such, *"...after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven".* (CCC 1030)

Our prayers therefore, are a form of compassion for those souls who may then be delivered into heaven sooner. They are unable to prayerfully help themselves. But rather, have a complete reliance on the prayers and works of the saints ("The Church Triumphant") and us.

And these prayers are true spiritual offerings to God. Through our prayerful assistance we may reduce the suffering of those in Purgatory and expedite them into the Beatific Vision and the peace of Paradise. In the Second Book of Maccabees, we come to know the efficaciousness of such prayers. Judas Maccabeus professing true belief in the Resurrection of the dead, implored his people to pray for their deceased companions. *"In doing this, he acted in a very excellent and noble way, inasmuch as he had the resurrection in mind; for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again, it would have been superfluous and foolish to pray for the dead... Thus he made atonement for the dead that they might be absolved from their sin."* (2 Maccabees 12:43-44)

In light of these scriptural lessons, the Church unhesitatingly prompts us, *"Let us not hesitate to help those who have died and to offer our prayers for them."* (CCC 1032)



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DAY ONE

St. Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, I come before you first as I initiate my novena for the holy souls in Purgatory. I ask for your continued assistance for all the suffering souls who long to see the face of God. St. Anselm declared you to be “The prince of the heavenly militia”; and God himself entrusted to you the care of the souls in Purgatory.

I pray today in the words of St. Robert Bellarmine that through your intercession, God will deliver the souls of the Faithful Departed from their suffering. I ask that you comfort them in their affliction; and encourage them in the full knowledge that they will attain the Beatific Vision and live forever in the love of the Most High. I further ask that you lead your heavenly militia to guard all people from temptation in this life and to guide them in the will of our Heavenly Father.

As an offering on behalf of the suffering souls, Dear Saint Michael, please join me in these prayers...

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

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

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 world without end. Amen.

Oh, my Jesus, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven – especially those most in need of your mercy.



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DAY TWO *Saint Gertrude*

Dear Saint Gertrude, you were blessed with the vision of Our Lord's Most Sacred Heart to which you developed a lifetime devotion. His heart poured out a fountain of mercy for which the suffering souls so greatly desire.

Through your intercession, I pray that the souls most in need of mercy, and least remembered, will be delivered by God from their suffering and welcomed into the heavenly place prepared for them since the foundation of time. Together with your spirit, I offer the prayer you taught us:

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.

As an offering on behalf of the suffering souls, dear Saint Gertrude, please join me in these additional prayers...

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

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

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 world without end. Amen.

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DAY THREE

Saint Padre Pio

Dear Saint Padre Pio, in life, you prayed fervently for the holy souls in Purgatory. Your mystical experiences acknowledge your desire to ease their suffering. Through your intercession I pray that Jesus Christ, our Savior, will welcome those who most desire to be returned to the Father. I especially pray for those who endure the greatest suffering. Together with your spirit, I offer the prayer you taught us:

O Jesus, Thou suffered and died that all mankind might be saved and brought to eternal happiness. Hear my pleas for further mercy on the souls of those who most desire to be united with you and whose freedom from Purgatory is neigh.

As an offering on behalf of these and all the suffering souls, Saint Padre Pio, please join me in these additional prayers...

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

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

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 world without end. Amen.

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DAY FOUR

Saint Francis de Sales

Dear Saint Francis de Sales, you once said, “We do not remember sufficiently our dead, our faithful departed”. How true this can be. I sometimes forget the power I have to rescue them from purgation. There are perhaps many reasons for this. But overlooking this need denies to the suffering souls “all the corporal works of mercy” that are wrapped in my most sincere and efficacious prayers.

Holy Francis, I pray today for those who through no fault of their own never knew the Trinity in this life, but strived for goodness in their lives. Through your intercession, I ask Jesus Christ, my Savior, to quickly bring them into the glory of the Paradise and give them rest from their suffering to experience the joy of eternal life.

As an offering on behalf of these and all suffering souls, dear Saint Francis de Sales, please join me in these prayers...

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

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

Glorify 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 world without end. Amen.

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DAY FIVE

St. Catherine of Genoa

Dear Saint Catherine of Genoa, God gave you the grace of a greater understanding of Purgatory. You therefore know well of our worries and concerns for loved ones who may not have yet been purified to the perfection of heaven. You know how the holy souls of Purgatory long to enter into perfect love of heaven. This alone is a great suffering. I ask you to join me in prayer for those members of my extended family and my friends who have passed from this life. Through your prayers and mine, may God bring them all to himself to live in eternal happiness. We so look forward to being reunited and wrapped together in the love of God.

As an offering on behalf of the deceased members of my family and all the suffering souls, dear Saint Catherine, please join me in these prayers...

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

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

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 world without end. Amen.

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DAY SIX *Guardian Angels*

Dear Guardian Angels of those souls in Purgatory, I come before you today to ask for your continued assistance. In their life, God assigned you to protect them from the snares of the Evil One. With your assistance, they have escaped eternal damnation. I now implore you to continue your gracious care for them while they await the divine invitation to join you in the loveliness of heaven.

Console them with your prayers and mine. Give them the fortitude needed to endure their exile with patience; and remind them that one day they will go home to God and live with him for all eternity.

Dear angels, may you soon complete your holy mission by bringing all the souls of Purgatory to the bosom of Abraham.

As an offering on behalf of the suffering souls, dear Angels, please join me in these prayers...

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

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

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 world without end. Amen.

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DAY SEVEN *St. Nicholas of Torentino*

Dear St. Nicholas of Torentino, you are the Patron Saint of the holy souls in Purgatory so I look to you today for your heavenly assistance. Today, I pray for those bishops, priests and deacons who remain separated from the High Priest, Jesus, whom they served in life. I ask that with your efficacious prayers you plead for God's mercy upon them. I especially ask for God's mercy for all those bishops, priests and deacons who conferred the holy sacraments upon me in my life.

Good and gracious God, together with St. Nicholas of Torentino, I am praying for the holy clergy who await their entry into heaven. Please hear and accept my prayers on their behalf. I especially pray for the repose of the soul of _____. In your goodness, you have conferred Saint Nicholas to be a great intercessor for the holy souls of Purgatory. I further ask that you attend to his pleading, on their behalf. Amen.

As an offering on behalf of these and all suffering souls, dear Saint Nicholas of Torentino, please join me in these prayers...

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

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

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 world without end. Amen.

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DAY EIGHT

St. Mary

Mother Mary, Queen of Heaven, you suffered at the foot of the cross and watched your son die on Good Friday. You know the pains of loss. Today, some of our brothers and sisters – also now your children – are suffering in Purgatory. I bid you, as the Mother of Our Lord, to ask for his mercy upon all who remain there. With confidence that he will respond to your requests, we seek your help on their behalf. They anxiously await meeting you, the martyrs and all the saints in the joyful life of the Trinity. Indeed, on behalf of the entire human family entrusted to you, I ask for your help in this life and in Purgatory.

As an offering on behalf of the suffering souls dear Mother Mary, please join me in these prayers...

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

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

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 world without end. Amen.

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DAY NINE

Jesus, The Divine Mercy

Dear Jesus, today I pray directly to you on behalf of the suffering souls in Purgatory. You are the Divine Mercy. By your revelations to Saint Sister Faustina, I bring before you all of the souls you love so much and who await to be with you. In their place, I ask that you ease their torments and quickly bring them to the place you have created for them in your heavenly home.

"Lord Jesus, in Your mercy, grant them eternal rest. And let perpetual light shine upon them."

Jesus Christ, Son of the Most High, have mercy on us all.

Jesus Christ, Savior of Souls, have mercy on us all.

Jesus Christ, Our Redeemer, have mercy on us all.

Jesus Christ, First Born of the Dead, have mercy on us all.

Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace, have mercy on us all.

Jesus Christ, Immanuel, have mercy on us all.

Jesus Christ, King of Heaven and Earth, have mercy on us all.

Jesus Christ, Lamb of God, have mercy on us all.

Jesus Christ, Light of the World, have mercy on us all.

Jesus Christ, you are the Resurrection and the Life, have mercy on us all.

Dear Jesus, as an offering on behalf of the suffering souls, and together with all the saints, I offer these prayers...

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

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

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 world without end. Amen.

Oh, my Jesus, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven – especially those most in need of your mercy.

