

## NOVENA FOR PRIESTS

Jesus, Good Shepherd, You sent us the Holy Spirit to guide Your Church and lead her faithful to You through the ministry of Your priests. Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, grant to Your priests wisdom in leading, faithfulness in teaching, and holiness in guarding Your sacred Mysteries. As they cry out with all the faithful, "Abba, Father!" May Your priests be ever more closely identified with You in Your divine Sonship and offer their own lives with You, the one saving Victim. Make them helpful brothers of one another, and understanding fathers of all Your people. On each Pentecost Sunday, renew in Your priests deeper faith, greater trust in You, childlike reliance on our Mother Mary, and unwavering fidelity to the Holy Father and his bishops.

Holy Mary, intercede for your priests.

St. Joseph, protect them.

St. Michael, defend them.

St. John Vianney, pray for them.

## ROSARY FOR PRIESTS

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

Dear Jesus, how can we ever properly thank you for our priests? They have given up everything for us, forsaking the world to nourish our souls with the Eucharist and to heal our wounds through Confession.

Send forth your Holy Spirit, RIGHT NOW, in a flood--nay--a supernatural TORRENT of grace, in swift and sure answer to this plea, bringing consolations and courage and purity and joy to our beloved priests. As only You can do, whisper into their hearts that we love them so! As only You can do, enwrap each man wearing a cassock and collar in the loving maternal arms of your Mother, who wept with You and stayed with You during your hours of suffering during Your crucifixion.

We ask this in Your Holy Name, the name above all names: Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE ROSARY



### The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son Our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell; the third day He rose again 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. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.

### The Our Father

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

### The Hail Mary

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. Amen.

### The Glory Be

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

### The Fatima Prayer

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

## PRAYERS IN PREPARATION FOR THE ROSARY

### Totally Yours

Immaculate Conception, Mary, my Mother. Live in me. Act in me. Speak in and through me. Think your thoughts in my mind. Love, through my heart. Give me your dispositions and feelings. Teach, lead and guide me to Jesus. Correct, enlighten and expand my thoughts and behavior. Possess my soul. Take over my entire personality and life. Replace it with yourself. Incline me to constant adoration and thanksgiving. Pray in me and through me. Let me live in you and keep me in this union always. Amen. - Pope John Paul II

### Memorare

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 with this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins my Mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful; O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

### Pray Before the Rosary

Queen of the Holy Rosary, you have deigned to come to Fatima to reveal to the three shepherd children the treasures of grace hidden in the Rosary. Inspire my heart with a sincere love of this devotion, in order that by meditating on the Mysteries of our Redemption which are recalled in it, I may be enriched with its fruits and obtain peace for the world, the conversion of sinners and of Russia, and the favor which I ask of you in the Rosary. (*Here mention your request.*) I ask it for the greater glory of God, for your own honor, and for the good of souls, especially for my own. Amen.

## THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES (said on Mondays and Saturdays, the Sundays of Advent and the Sundays from Epiphany until Lent)



### First Joyful Mystery THE ANNUNCIATION

The Angel Gabriel announces to Mary, a virgin, that she will become the mother of God, Word Made Flesh. For all centuries to come, Jesus will become flesh in the Holy Eucharist to nourish us in a most intimate union with Him.

We pray for all priests who daily through the words of the consecration at Mass, and through Holy Communion, bring us the Body and Blood of Christ. We pray for all future priests now being formed in the wombs of their mothers that they may be safe from physical harm, and come to Ordination as God intends. We pray for all future generations of priests. We pray also that priests may treasure the gift of celibacy.



### Second Joyful Mystery THE VISITATION

Mary visits her cousin, Elizabeth, who recognizes Mary as the living tabernacle for their Divine Lord.

We pray especially for priests who bring Holy Communion to the sick, the shut-ins, and Viaticum to the dying. We pray for all the priests who minister to the sick in other ways, counsel, comfort and console them.



### Third Joyful Mystery THE NATIVITY OF JESUS

Jesus is born in Bethlehem. The angels announce His birth; kings and shepherds come to adore Him.

We pray that all seminarians grow in knowledge and love of God to become holy priests. We pray especially for those who will be ordained soon, that they remain faithful all their lives to the sublime privilege of being "other Christs" among us. We pray that everyone will come to value the Eucharistic Feast and the Priesthood among God's greatest gifts to us. We pray that every priest will consider himself a member of the Holy Family, a true son of Mary and Joseph, and a brother-priest of Jesus, the great High Priest.



### Fourth Joyful Mystery PRESENTATION IN THE TEMPLE

Mary and Joseph, in obedience to the Law, bring Jesus to the temple to be dedicated to God. Simeon expresses his gratitude to God for revealing the Messiah to him before he dies.

We thank God for all priests who, like Simeon, have given us decades of faithful service. We pray that they may be rewarded for their generosity and self-sacrifice. We pray also for all priests whose hearts are pierced by loneliness, depression and rejection.



### Fifth Joyful Mystery FINDING JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

Jesus is found among the teachers in the temple; He returns home and is obedient to Mary and Joseph.

We pray that priests will always be found going about their Father's business, and will be obedient to the teaching of the magisterium of the Church, our Holy Father and the bishops in communion with him. We pray for all young priests that the love and dedication they experience in the first years of their priesthood may increase in the future. We pray for all priests who teach the Faith to children and adults.

## THE LUMINOUS MYSTERIES (said on Thursdays)



### First Luminous Mystery THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

Jesus descended into the waters to be baptized by John. He took up the challenge of His Father. He knew He would suffer on behalf of us and His suffering would lead to the forgiveness of sins. He knew He was king but His Throne was to be a cross.

We pray that our priests will imitate Our Lord's humility as they do their priestly duties by accepting their challenges from God.



### Second Luminous Mystery THE WEDDING AT CANA

Jesus' first miracle was made possible by the firm love and faith of Mary in her Divine Son.

Oh Lord, help our priests to develop an ever-increasing love for Mary. Help new priests to recognize that they may find their strength in Mary as they "Do whatever He tells..." them. Mary is our teacher and always leads us to her Son.



### Third Luminous Mystery THE PROCLAMATION OF THE KINGDOM

Christ came to bring mercy and forgiveness to mankind.

Oh God, bless our priests as they teach Jesus' message—baptizing, forgiving sins, and consecrating the Blessed Eucharist through the Holy Spirit. May they have a constant renewal of Life, aimed at an ever more perfect union with Christ—the Way, the Truth and the Life.



**Fourth Luminous Mystery**  
**THE TRANSFIGURATION**

Jesus leads them up the mountain where he is transfigured before them. Peter wishes that three tents be built for Jesus and His two companions in order that all might come to see them.

Oh Lord, grant priests hearts that are open to the transforming power of Your grace at every celebration of Mass. May your Real Presence in the Eucharist and through the proclamation of your Word, inspire them to lives of faithful service.



**Fifth Luminous Mystery**  
**THE HOLY EUCHARIST**

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." (John 6:51)

'There can be no Eucharist without the priesthood, just as there can be no priesthood without the Eucharist' (Pope John Paul II's, Message to Priests for Holy Thursday 2004).

Christ said, "I will be with you all days, even to the end of the world," He is there in every tabernacle of the Catholic world. Oh, Lord, strengthen the faith of all priests so they may always believe that it is truly You, Jesus, in the Holy Eucharist.

Oh Lord, help our priests to celebrate Mass prayerfully that their hearts may be drawn ever closer to you and may their time, spent in Adoration, renew and uplift their spirits.

Lord, help our priests, to know how to guide us in reaching out to others. May we all imitate Christ in service, for we are the Body of Christ.

**THE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES**

(said on Tuesdays and Fridays throughout the year and daily from Ash Wednesday until Easter Sunday)



**First Sorrowful Mystery**  
**THE AGONY IN THE GARDEN**

The apostles fall asleep; Jesus sweats blood at the thought of His coming passion and death; angels come to comfort Him.

We pray that all priests may live only to do our Father's will, as Jesus always did.



**Second Sorrowful Mystery**  
**JESUS IS SCOURGED**

Jesus is cruelly scourged and beaten by the soldiers.

We pray for priests who are persecuted, physically or mentally abused; those who are imprisoned or prevented from offering the Holy sacrifice of the Mass or receiving communion.



**Third Sorrowful Mystery**  
**JESUS IS CROWNED WITH THORNS**

Jesus is mocked as king and His precious Head is cruelly pierced by thorns.

We pray for priests who suffer for defending authentic Catholic doctrine. We pray that all Bishops will uphold the true teachings of the Catholic Church and resist temptations to compromise doctrine in the face of cultural and social pressures.



**Fourth Sorrowful Mystery**  
**JESUS CARRIES HIS CROSS**

Bruised, bleeding and exhausted Jesus is forced to drag himself and His cross up the hill of Calvary.

We pray for all priests with heavy crosses; those who are weak, lonely, or have fallen from God's grace in some way.

We pray for the Holy Father, who perhaps has the heaviest of crosses; the widespread persecution and abandonment of the Church from within and without.



**Fifth Sorrowful Mystery**  
**JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS**

Jesus sheds his last drops of Precious Blood to redeem us from sin and death.

We pray for all priests who are in their last agony and those who will die today. We pray for those who thirst for the salvation of souls. We pray that the crucifixion of their wills may accomplish God's designs for the salvation of the whole world.

We pray that priests may take Mary into their hearts, as St. John the Apostle, one of the first priests, took Mary into his home.

## THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES (said on Wednesdays and the Saturdays from Easter until Advent)



### First Glorious Mystery

#### THE RESURRECTION

Jesus arises from the dead and appears to the Apostles.

We pray that priests will remember the Crucifixion is followed by the Resurrection: darkness is always followed by Light. We pray that all priests may share the joy of the Risen Christ.



### The Second Glorious Mystery

#### THE ASCENSION

Jesus instructs His apostles and returns to His Father in Heaven.

We pray that priests may carry out Jesus' instructions to evangelize the whole world, instructing and baptizing countless souls. We pray for missionaries who live lives of utter poverty and deprivation to bring the Gospel to all people.



### The Third Glorious Mystery

#### DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit comes upon the Apostles, who are gathered with Mary.

We pray that priests may be open to the graces of the Holy Spirit to strengthen them for the task of bringing souls to God and God to souls. We pray that they may be on fire to convert the most hardened sinners and bring God's love to the whole world.



### The Fourth Glorious Mystery

#### THE ASSUMPTION

Mary is taken, body and soul, to Heaven. While she was on earth, she loved and prayed for the Apostles, the first priests.

We pray that priests will be devoted to Mary and find in her the love and comfort of a mother, the most powerful intercession of our greatest saint, and the surest refuge against Satan and his cohorts who seek destruction of priests and the priesthood.



### The Fifth Glorious Mystery

#### THE CORONATION

Mary is crowned Queen of Heaven and earth; she is rewarded for her faithfulness to God.

We pray that Mary, Queen of the Clergy, will be their model of faith and joy, and constant guide until they reach Heaven where a crown, jeweled with many souls entrusted to them on the day of Ordination, will be their reward for faithful and loving service.

## PRAYERS AFTER THE ROSARY

### Hail Holy Queen

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy 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!

Let us pray.

O God, Whose, only-begotten Son, by His Life, Death and Resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal 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.

### Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel

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

### Prayer for Priests

O Jesus, our great High Priest, hear my humble prayers on behalf of Thy priests. Give them a deep faith, a bright and firm hope and a burning love which will ever increase in the course of their priestly lives.

In their loneliness, comfort them. In their sorrows, strengthen them. In their frustrations, point out to them that it is through suffering that the soul is purified, and show them that they are needed by the Church; they are needed by souls; they are needed for the work of redemption.

O Loving Mother Mary, Mother of Priests, take to your heart your sons who are close to you because of their priestly ordination and because of the power which they have received to carry on the work of Christ in a world which needs them so much. Be their comfort, be their joy, be their strength, and especially help them to live and to defend the ideals of consecrated celibacy. Amen.

### Prayer for Priestly Vocations

O God, we earnestly beseech Thee to bless Thy Church with many vocations to the Holy priesthood: men who will serve Thee with their whole strength and gladly spend their lives for Thy Church and to make Thee known and loved. Amen.

Mary, Mother of Priests, obtain for us many holy priests.