

Chaplet for Saint Francis of Assisi



This chaplet is composed of 17 beads, a center piece of the St. Francis, a medal of St. Francis and the Wolf, and a Crucifix. It was created from the Novena of Saint Francis of Assisi.

Begin by kissing The Crucifix and making the sign of the cross.

On bead one pray:

Glorious Saint Francis, who voluntarily renounced all the comforts and riches of your home to follow more perfectly the life of poverty and abnegation of Jesus Christ: obtain for us, we pray, a generous contempt of all things in this world, that we may secure the true and eternal things of heaven.

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

On bead two pray:

O glorious Saint Francis, who during the whole course of your life continually wept over the passion of the Redeemer, and labored most zealously for the salvation of souls: obtain for us, we pray, the grace of weeping continually over those sins by which we have crucified afresh Our Lord Jesus Christ, that we may attain to be of the number of those who shall eternally bless His supreme mercy.

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

On the center piece pray:

O glorious Saint Francis, who, loving above all things suffering and the cross, merited to bear in your body the miraculous stigmata, by which you became a living image of Jesus Christ crucified: obtain for us, we pray, the grace to bear in our bodies the mortifications of Christ, that we may merit one day to receive the consolations which are infallibly promised to all those who now weep.

"If we be dead with Christ Jesus, we shall live also with Him," says the Apostle; "if we suffer, we shall also reign with Him." (2nd Timothy 2.11-12)

Pray for us, Saint Francis, that we may obtain the graces and favors we ask for in this novena; pray for us, especially, that we may obtain the grace of perseverance; of a holy death and a happy eternity.

On the five sets of three pray

1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, 1 Glory Be

Conclude the chaplet by saying the Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is 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; and 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; and it is in dying that we are born to
eternal life. Amen

Additional prayer may be said on the medal of St. Francis and the Wolf

Prayer For Animals

God Our Heavenly Father, You created the world to serve humanity's needs and to lead them to You. By our own fault we have lost the beautiful relationship which we once had with all your creation. Help us to see that by restoring our relationship with You we will also restore it with all Your creation. Give us the grace to see all animals as gifts from You and to treat them with respect for they are Your creation. We pray for all animals who are suffering as a result of our neglect. May the order You originally established be once again restored to the whole world through the intercession of the Glorious Virgin Mary, the prayers of St. Francis and the merits of Your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You now and forever. Amen.

Saint Francis of Assisi

Note: Novena, Prayer of St. Francis, Prayer for Animals, and information references from Jones, Terry H. Patron Saints Index. 2002. <http://www.catholic forum.com/saints/> (05/20/02)

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Who is St. Francis?

Francis Bernardone, the founder of the three Franciscan Orders, was born at Assisi, Italy in 1181. His father was a wealthy merchant of the town. During a year's imprisonment at Perugia due to his participation as a knight in an unsuccessful campaign against that town, and again during a prolonged severe illness, Francis became aware of a vocation to a life of extraordinary service to the Church of Christ.

Inspired at the age of twenty-five by the Scripture passage of Matthew commanding the disciples to evangelize the world without possessions, Francis abandoned his affluent way of life and began to live a life of radical poverty. Disinherited by his father, Francis went away penniless "to wed Lady Poverty" and to live a life that was poorer than the poor whom he served. His example soon drew followers to his way of life.

Three years later, in 1210, when his companions numbered twelve, he sought and received approval of Pope Innocent III to lead a life according to the Rule of the Holy Gospel, and they became a band of roving preachers in Christ in simplicity and lowliness. Thus began the "Friars Minor," or "Lesser Brothers."

Up and down the extent of Italy, the brothers summoned the people to faith and penitence; they refused even corporate ownership of property, human learning, and ecclesiastical preferment. Saint Francis himself never became a priest out of humility, and at first only some of his band were in Holy Orders.

Francis' practice of evangelical poverty and devotion to the humanity of Christ warmed the hearts of a "world growing cold" and soon a vast Franciscan movement was sweeping through Europe. By 1219, over 5,000 Franciscans gathered at Assisi for the famed Chapter of Mats. To accommodate this religious revival, Francis founded a Second Order through Saint Clare of Assisi for cloistered nuns and a Third Order for religious and laity of both sexes.

Francis' devotion to the Passion of Christ prompted him to make a missionary journey to the Holy Land. Worn out by his tremendous apostolic efforts, pained by the stigmata he had received in 1224, and blinded by eye disease, Francis died at sunset, October 3, 1226, while singing the eighth verse of Psalm 142: "Lead me forth from prison that I may give thanks to Your Name." He was canonized two years later by Pope Gregory IX.

Francis of Assisi has captured the heart and imagination of men of all religious persuasions by his love for God and man, as well as all God's creatures, by his simplicity, directness, and single-mindedness, and by the lyrical aspects of his multifaceted life. However, he was far more than an inspired individualist. He was a man possessed of vast spiritual insight and power; a man whose all-consuming love for Christ and redeemed creation burst forth in everything he said and did.

Fun Fact: It is believed that he healed St. Bonaventure who as a baby suffered from a bowel illness.

<https://www.blessedbeadsrosaries.com/saint-francis-of-assis>

7 Fascinating Facts About Saint Francis

1. His Name Was Originally John

At his birth in 1182, his mother had Saint Francis baptized John (Giovanni), after St. John the Baptist. However, when his father, a rich cloth merchant names Pietro di Bernardon, returned from business travels, he renamed him Francis (Francesco) because France was where he made his livelihood.

2. He Was A Party Animal

Before his conversion, Francis, who was wealthy and good looking, lead a life full of partying and frivolity . His partying buddies even called him "dominus", because he was the King of Partying, paying for lavish parties full of food, wine, and women.

3. He Wanted To Be A Warrior Like King Arthur

Francis was enamored with the Arthurian legends of France, and desired to be knight in the same vein. Francis even fought in two wars, one a civil war in Assisi, and the other as a mounted soldier against the city-state of Perugia. In the second battle, he was captured and was a POW for over a year.

4. He Traveled Into Muslim Territory To Convert The Sultan

During the 5th Crusade, Francis traveled to Egypt to convert the Sultan Malik al-Kamil. He even challenged the Islamic religious leaders to a trial by fire where he would walk through fire with them to prove the truth of Christianity. Though the Sultan did not convert, Francis and Sultan became true friends, and ten years later, al-Kamil freely gave Jerusalem to the Christians.

5. He Was The First Record Person To Receive The Stigmata

During a 40-day retreat, dedicated to the Archangel Michael, he had a vision of a six-winged Seraph attached to a cross. He miraculously received at the same time a painful wound of the heart, which seemed to pierce it. When the vision ended his own hands and feet bore the marks of the angelic crucifixion which he had seen in the vision.

6. His Grave Was Lost For Many Years

Saint Francis died on October 3, 1226. His body was originally placed in a Basilica, but not long after, out of fear that it would be lost in raids by invading Saracens, his body was hidden. The secret location was forgotten and not rediscovered until 1818.

7. The Franciscans Got Papal Approval After Innocent III Had A Vision

Francis' biographer, Saint Bonaventure, recounts that Pope Innocent III had a dream in which he saw "the Lateran basilica almost ready to fall down. A little poor man, small and scorned, was propping it up with his own back bent so that it would not fall. "I'm sure," he said, "he is the one who will hold up Christ's Church by what he does and what he teaches." After having this dream, Innocent III approved the rule of Francis and the founding of the Franciscan order.

<https://franciscanmissionaries.com/7-fascinating-facts-saint-francis/>