



St. Catherine of Alexandria

Feast Day: November 25

Patron Saint: Unmarried girls, Apologists, Craftsmen who work with wheels, Archivists, Dying People, Educators, Girls, Jurists, Knife Sharpeners, Lawyers, Librarians, Libraries, Maidens, Mechanics, Millers, Hat-Makers, Nurses, Philosophers, Preachers, Schoolchildren, Students

St. Catherine of Alexandria was born around 287 to pagan parents. According to tradition, Catherine was a member of the nobility. She was well-educated, intelligent, and scholarly as a young girl.

When Catherine was fourteen, she received a vision of the Blessed Mother and the Infant Jesus. The vision moved her greatly, and she decided to convert to Christianity.

During her teenage years, the emperor, Maxentius, began persecuting Christians. Rather than hide from persecution, Catherine boldly visited the emperor to denounce his cruel actions.

Emperor Maxentius decided against immediately executing Catherine. Instead, he called together fifty learned philosophers and orators to debate her. Catherine readily accepted this challenge, and she allowed the Holy Spirit to speak through her.

The words Catherine spoke in defense of the faith were so moving that many of the pagan listeners immediately converted to Christianity. Maximus had these new converts executed and ordered that Catherine be tortured and imprisoned.

Catherine was tortured through scourging. She was scourged so severely that her body was covered in wounds, but she refused to renounce her Faith. Instead, she raised her eyes to Heaven, showing no fear or pain.

When the brutal scourging did nothing to move Catherine from her faith, the emperor ordered her to be imprisoned without food. But during her imprisonment, angels appeared to her and tended to her wounds. Christ also appeared to her, and a dove brought her food each day.

Catherine's example of courage became widely known, and over two hundred people came to visit her. Many were inspired to convert to Christianity by her example.

When the emperor realized that torture was not moving Catherine to renounce her Faith, he changed tactics and proposed marriage to her. Even though this would have given Catherine great power as an empress, she refused. Instead, she said that she was married to Christ and that her virginity belonged to Him.

After her refusal, the emperor ordered that she die a torturous death on a breaking wheel. This form of death was normally used only for the most awful criminals. But when Catherine touched the wheel she was to die on, it miraculously shattered.

Seeing that the torturous death he planned for her would not work, the emperor ordered her to be beheaded instead. She faced her death bravely.

According to legend, angels brought Catherine's body to Mt. Sinai. Emperor Justinian later ordered that a monastery be established there in her honor. St. Catherine's monastery still stands today and is one of the world's oldest monasteries.

In the summer of 1425, a young French girl named Joan, standing in her parent's garden, gazed into the mist closely enveloping her and saw something. It was Saint Michael the Archangel and two women wearing rich crowns. One of these women was Saint Catherine of Alexandria. Catherine spoke sweetly and softly to young Joan, saying that she would be Joan's counsel, guide, and protector. She even promised to one day lead Joan to paradise. Years later, when Joan acquitted herself well under questioning by theologians, just as Catherine had done when questioned by philosophers, the townspeople said that Joan of Arc was none other than Saint Catherine of Alexandria come down to earth again. She is also one of the 14 Holy Helpers, along with St. Eustace and St. George.

Read more at: <https://www.praymorenovenas.com/st-catherine-of-alexandria-novena>

<https://mycatholic.life/saints/saints-of-the-liturgical-year/november-25-saint-catherine-of-alexandria-optional-memorial/>



Chaplet Prayers on the reverse



Praying the Chaplet of St. Catherine of Alexandria

Opening Prayer on the Crucifix: St. Catherine, glorious virgin and martyr, resplendent in the luster of wisdom and purity! Your wisdom refuted the enemies of Divine Truth and covered them with

confusion. Your immaculate purity made you a spouse of Christ, so that after your glorious martyrdom, Holy Angels carried your body to Mount Sinai. Implore for me progress in the science of the saints and the virtue of holy purity, that vanquishing the enemies of my soul, I may be victorious in my last combat and after death be conducted by the Holy Angels into the eternal beatitude of Heaven. Amen.

1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's (Decade Rosary)

1. *That I may actively choose to love God and be as devoted in my choice to follow Christ. Hail Mary...*
2. *That I may be as courageous in speaking out against evil as you were and as bold in my defense of others. Hail Mary...*
3. *That all who suffer for their faith may be as strong and never waiver in their devotion and that I may be as steadfast in my faith as you were. Hail Mary...*
4. *For an increase in grace for everyone who is called upon to defend the Faith as you were, and that I may always allow God to work through me. Hail Mary...*
5. *That I may always choose to do what is right, no matter how hard it may be. Hail Mary...*
6. *That I may never let my sufferings deter me from serving God. Hail Mary...*
7. *That I may never let my trials turn me from the path of holiness. Hail Mary...*
8. *That I may never miss an opportunity to be a holy example to others. Hail Mary...*
9. *That I may never allow the chance for earthly power to move me from my devotion to God. Hail Mary...*
10. *That I may be courageous for my faith, even to the point of death if necessary. Hail Mary...*

Closing Prayer on Medal: O God, Who distinguished Your holy virgin and martyr Catherine by the gift of great wisdom and virtue, and a victorious combat with the enemies of the Faith, grant us, we beseech You, through her intercession, constancy in the Faith and the wisdom of the saints, that we may devote all the powers of our mind and heart to Your service. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

<https://www.catholicdoors.com/prayers/novenas/p03847.htm>

<https://www.praymorenovenas.com/st-catherine-of-alexandria-novena>

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Decade Rosary with Tiny Saints©