

Novena – Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary September 29 - October 7



It is customary with men of the world to balance their accounts at the end of the year and determine their profits. The Church prepares to do this as she comes to the Feast of Christ the King, and that of All Saints and All Souls and the end of the Liturgical Year.

But the Feast of the Holy Rosary (October 7) is a reckoning even more solemn, the profits even bigger: the Church opens her balance-sheet with the gain accruing to Our Lady from the mysteries, which compose the entire liturgical cycle.

Christmas, the cross, the triumph of Jesus, these produce the holiness of us all; but before and above all, the holiness of Mary.

The crown, which the Church thus offers today to the Queen of heaven and earth, is made up of the triple crown of those sanctifying mysteries; joyful, sorrowful, luminous and glorious. These were the cause of her joy, the cause of her sorrow and of her glory.

The Joyful Mysteries, the Sorrowful Mysteries, The Luminous and the Glorious Mysteries in the life of Jesus her Divine Son. They are an integral part of her life as well.

Such is Mary's Rosary; a new and fruitful vine, which began to blossom at Gabriel's salutation, and whose fragrant garlands form a link between earth and heaven.

In its present form, St. Dominic made the rosary known to the world at the time of the struggles with the Albigensians, that social war of such ill-omen for the Church. The rosary was then of more help than armed forces against the power of Satan; it is now the Church's last resource.

It would seem that, the ancient forms of social prayer being no longer loved by the people, the Holy Spirit has willed by this easy and ready summary of the liturgy to maintain, in the isolated devotion of these unhappy times, the essential of that life of prayer, faith, and Christian virtue, which the public celebration of the Divine Office formerly kept up among the nations.

This simple weapon given by the Mother of God and conceived by the eternal Wisdom of God is far-reaching in its effects. It leads wandering man to the Queen of Mercy, it destroys ignorance of the fundamentals of the Faith, ignorance which is the food of heresy, and it teaches him to find once more 'the paths consecrated by the Blood of the Man-God, and by the tears of His Mother.' (Pope Leo XIII, Sept. 8, 1892 Encyc. On the Rosary)

Pope Leo XIII and every Pontiff of modern times has pointed out, over and over again, that the Holy Rosary is the means of salvation more than once experienced by our fathers.

In fact, Pope Leo consecrated the entire month of October to the Holy Rosary, this devotion that is so dear to heaven.

Pope Leo honored Our Lady in her litanies with a new title, Queen of the most holy rosary; and raised this day to the honor of a second-class

feast with a proper Office. This feast is also a memorial of glorious victories, which do honor to Our Lady of the Rosary. Heaven itself corroborated these honors given to Our Lady. Only a short time after this, Our Lady of Fatima appeared in 1917, and in October of that year, the very month dedicated to the Holy Rosary, she announced to the world: *"I am the Lady of the Rosary."*

Day One – A Plea for Reparation

"Do you wish to offer yourselves to God to endure all the sufferings that He may be pleased to send you, as both an act of reparation for the sins with which He is offended and an act of supplication for the conversion of sinners?" Our Lady of Fatima

Prayer:

O Mary Immaculate, who appeared at Fatima to Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta to ask for the conversion of a sinful world, I beg thee for the grace to grieve sincerely over my own sins and over those that weigh so heavily upon the souls of men, sins that crushed thy Divine Son beneath the Cross and then nailed Him to it upon the heights of Calvary.

O Advocate of Sinners, compenetrated my heart with true contrition and an intense gratitude and love for so good a God. In union with thy Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart, I offer my poor heart, such as it is, with all its miseries, its weakness and good desires, in reparation to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus – thy Son and our God – for the many sins, outrages, blasphemies, sacrileges, and offenses by which He is so grievously offended.

(Here mention your request) **Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.**

Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, pray for us.

Day Two – For the Conversion of Sinners

"If men knew what eternity is, they would do everything to change their lives."

"Confession is a sacrament of mercy. Therefore, one must approach the confessional with confidence and joy. Without confession there is no salvation." - Jacinta

Prayer:

O Mary Immaculate, who at Fatima confided to three little children the anguish and pain of a true mother's heart with the plea, "Let them offend Our Lord no more for He is already much offended," obtain for sinners the grace of repentance. Mindful of our own sinfulness and unworthiness, graciously accept our desire to pray and sacrifice for the conversion of sinners.

O Refuge of Sinners, obtain for them and for us the pardon of so many sins. A word from thee will obtain grace and forgiveness for all.

Hasten, O Lady, the conversion of sinners that they may love Jesus and cease to offend God, already so much offended, and thus avoid eternal punishment. Turn thine eyes of mercy towards us so that henceforth we may love God with all our heart while on earth and enjoy Him forever in Heaven.

(Here mention your request) **Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.**

Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, pray for us.

Day Three – Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and World Peace

“Jesus wishes to use you in order to make me known and loved. He wishes to establish devotion to my Immaculate Heart in the world. I promise salvation to those who embrace it; and these souls will be beloved of God like flowers arranged by me to adorn His throne.” Our Lady of Fatima

“Tell everybody that God grants us His graces through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, that they should ask her for them, that the Heart of Jesus wants the Immaculate Heart of Mary to be honored along with Him, that they should ask the Immaculate Heart of Mary for peace because God has placed it in her keeping.” - Jacinta

Prayer:

O Mary Immaculate, who at Fatima made known to Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta God’s request for devotion to thy Immaculate Heart to obtain peace in the world, restore in our souls that “tranquility of order” of which Saint Augustine speaks. We do not seek rest from our labors or the cessation of turmoil in our surroundings, but that true interior peace of which thou art Queen.

O Queen of Peace, restore harmony in our families, order in our society, so ravaged by the evils of sin. Through thy powerful intercession with the Prince of Peace, Who assumed our human nature in thy virginal womb, obtain for us perseverance in virtue, patience in trial, courage in persecution, zeal for His glory, enthusiasm in loving and serving our God, and confidence in the public defense of His Holy Name and of His divine and natural laws.

(Here mention your request) **Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.**

Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, pray for us.

Day Four – The Holy Rosary

“The Most Holy Virgin in these last times in which we live has given a new efficacy to the recitation of the Rosary to such an extent that there is no problem, no matter how difficult it is, whether temporal or above all spiritual, in the personal life of each one of us, of our families...that cannot be solved by the Rosary. There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot resolve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary.” - Lucia

Prayer:

O Mary Immaculate, who revealed thyself at Fatima to Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta as “Our Lady of the Rosary,” renew in my heart the joy of true devotion to thee.

May the contemplation of the mysteries contained in the Life, Passion, and Glory of thy Divine Son be for me strength in weakness, assurance in doubt, courage in suffering, and gratitude in joy.

O Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, in these times of trial and confusion, obtain for me, by the Precious Blood of thy Son, pardon for my sins, the salvation of my soul, and the necessary means to secure it. Protect my family from the dangers that surround us and keep us secure under thy protection. Grant that the Holy Catholic Church may triumph over her enemies, and that the Kingdom of Christ may be propagated on earth.

(Here mention your request) **Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.**

Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, pray for us.

Day Five – Purity and Modesty

“To be pure in body is to keep chastity. To be pure in soul is not to commit sins, not to look at what one should not see . . .”

“Fashions that will greatly offend Our Lord will appear. People who serve God should not follow fashions. The Church has no fashions. Our Lord is always the same.”

“The sins that lead more souls to Hell are the sins of the flesh.” - Jacinta

Prayer:

O Mary Immaculate, who appeared at Fatima to Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta clothed in dazzling white, have mercy on those tempted by the sin that most directly contrasts with thy lofty purity. O blessed Virgin, whose virginity was so beloved by God that He performed an unheard-of miracle to preserve it in thee, have compassion on those who struggle against the horrendous seductions of impurity.

O Virgin Most Pure, grant to these souls an energetic repulse against this temptation and ward off sinful occasions from them. Fill their souls to overflowing with an intense and intransigent love for holy purity.

Restore them to their baptismal innocence and permeate them entirely with the supremely pure fragrance of thy chastity. O Immaculate Heart of Mary, form anew in the poor dwelling of our hearts, the Most Sacred and Adorable Heart of Jesus thy Son, Who is Eternal and Incarnate Purity itself.

(Here mention your request) **Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.**

Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, pray for us.

Day Six – Priests, Religious and Rulers

“Pray much for priests! Pray much for religious! Priests should only occupy themselves with the affairs of the Church. Priests should be pure, very pure. The disobedience of priests and religious to their superiors and to the Holy Father greatly offends Our Lord.”

“Pray much for those who govern! Woe to those who persecute the religion of Our Lord! If the government left the Church in peace and gave freedom to the holy Faith, it would be blessed by God.” - Jacinta

Prayer:

O Mary Immaculate, who at Fatima entrusted to Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta a merciful solution to the moral crisis of our times, look with compassion upon those who govern our souls and those who rule over our nation. A serious rendering of their grave responsibilities will be required by Almighty God of these spiritual and temporal leaders for all those placed in their charge.

O Mother of the Eternal High Priest and Divine Victim, obtain for His priests the grace to apply to themselves the words they say every day at the altar, “This is my Body, this is my Blood,” recalling interiorly, “I am no longer myself, I am Jesus, Jesus crucified. I am, like the bread and wine, a substance no longer itself, but by consecration another.” And obtain for our civil leaders a love and veneration for the divine and natural laws that, guided by them, they may rule your people in righteousness.

(Here mention your request) **Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.**

Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, pray for us.

Day Seven – The Vision of Hell

“Our Lady showed us a great sea of fire which seemed to be under the earth.

Plunged in this fire were demons and souls in human form, like transparent burning embers, all blackened or burnished bronze, floating about in the conflagration, now raised into the air by the flames that issued from within themselves together with great clouds of smoke, now falling back on every side like sparks in a huge fire, without weight or equilibrium, and amid shrieks and groans of pain and despair, which horrified us and made us tremble with fear.

The demons could be distinguished by their terrifying and repulsive likeness to frightful and unknown animals, all black and transparent.” - Lucia

Prayer:

O Mary Immaculate, who at Fatima showed Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta a brief – but terrifying – glimpse of Hell, preserve us from its ravishing flames, “O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of Hell.”

How generous was their response to thy maternal plea to “Pray, pray much, and sacrifice for sinners, for many souls go to Hell because there is no one to offer sacrifices and pray for them.”

O Mother of Mercy, in thee God clothed Himself in our humanity that He might redeem us from sin and open for us the gates of Paradise. The immeasurable suffering of His Passion and Death should evince from our souls a love commensurate with the abandon with which He shed His Precious Blood, and yet we persist in our sins. Shake us from our spiritual lethargy by this vision of Hell and move us to heed thy motherly plea to amend our own lives and pray for sinners.

(Here mention your request) **Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.**

Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, pray for us.

Day Eight – The Errors of Russia

“You have seen hell where the souls of poor sinners go. To save them, God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. If what I say to you is done, many souls will be saved and there will be peace. The war [World War I] is going to end: but if people do not cease offending God, a worse one will break out during the Pontificate of Pius XI [World War II]. When you see a night illumined by an unknown light, know that this is the great sign given you by God that He is about to punish the world for its crimes, by means of war, famine, and persecutions of the Church and of the Holy Father. To prevent this, I shall come to ask for the consecration of Russia to my Immaculate Heart, and the Communion of reparation on the First Saturdays. If my requests are heeded, Russia will be converted, and there will be peace; if not, she will spread her errors throughout the world . . .” Our Lady of Fatima

Prayer:

O Mary Immaculate, who at Fatima predicted to Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta that unless men converted and thy requests were fulfilled, worse calamities would befall, show thyself a mother to us in these perilous times.

The “errors of Russia” – atheistic Communism with all of its inherent and consequential immorality – had not even manifested themselves when you spoke, but have indeed “spread throughout the world.”

O Mary, Help of Christians, the heart of such a mother cannot fail but be moved with compassion at the sight of thy children suffering under the yoke of Communism. But what sorrow must be thine on seeing the vast majority of men accepting those errors which you warned them against! In these times of such brazen impiety, show thy power with the signs of thy former victories, and look with mercy upon the Church of thy Son, sorely oppressed in this mighty conflict.

(Here mention your request) **Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.**

Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, pray for us.

Day Nine – The Triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

“ . . . if not, she will spread her errors throughout the world, causing wars and persecutions of the Church. The good will be martyred; the Holy Father will have much to suffer; various nations will be annihilated. In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy Father will consecrate Russia to me, and she shall be converted, and a period of peace will be granted to the world. In Portugal, the dogma of the faith will always be preserved, etc. . . .” Our Lady of Fatima

Prayer:

O Mary Immaculate, who at Fatima in 1917 warned the world through Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta of a terrible chastisement, and in 1973 in New Orleans wept with the abandon of a heartbroken mother, how truly devastating must be the sight of the world in our own days! What moral aberrations have been embraced in the years since you wept! Thou art truly the Mother of Sorrows!

But thou art also that “woman clothed with the sun” chosen by God the Father to be the Mother of His Only-Begotten Son and espoused by God the Holy Ghost. Thy “Fiat” launched the work of redemption, thy intercession, the first public miracle of the Son of God, and in thy company the Apostles received the Holy Ghost at Pentecost. Fill our souls with a total and unwavering confidence in the fulfillment of thy prophesy at Fatima: “In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph!”

(Here mention your request) **Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.**

Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, pray for us.