THE HOLY CLOAK OF ST. JOSEPH NOVENA (30 DAYS)

This precious treasury of prayers in honor of St. Joseph is to be prayed for 30 days, commemorating the earthly thirty years which St. Joseph spent in the company of our Lord. St. Teresa of Avila vouched for its efficaciousness, writing “If you really want to believe in it, prove it to yourself by reciting the Novena and you will be finally convinced.”

It takes approximately 20-25 minutes and “the extraordinary graces obtained by this prayer are innumerable”. It is suggested that one be specific in petition, rather than florid and vague. Indeed, listen to Roy Schoeman’s anecdote about the nuns, the potatoes and St. Joseph at the end of his podcast episode from March 2019, linked below.

This devotion calls upon a special patronage from our glorious patriarch St. Joseph and, in order to warrant such a merit, it is suggested that one make additional offerings for the Holy Souls, for whom this devotion is also particularly helpful. One might, for example, pray the De Profundis daily after the 6:00pm Angelus, and/or the Daily Prayers for the Holy Souls. One could also offer daily the Litany for the Poor Souls.

It is said that any missed days may be caught up on the 30th day. So if one were to miss 2 days (not recommended), then the prayers in their totality would be recited 3 times on the final day.

Section 1: prayers

**Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I give Thee my heart and my soul.**

3X GLORY BE *

(* To the Holy Trinity, giving thanks for having ‘exalted St. Joseph to a position of such exceptional dignity.’)

**Offering 1:**

**O Glorious Patriarch St. Joseph,** I humbly prostrate myself before you. I beg the Lord Jesus, your Immaculate Spouse, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and all the Angels and Saints in the Heavenly Court, to join me in this devotion. I offer you this precious cloak, while pledging my sincerest faith and devotion. I promise to do all in my power to honor you throughout my lifetime to prove my love for thee.

**Help me, St. Joseph.** Assist me now and throughout my lifetime, but especially at the moment of my death, as you were assisted by Jesus and Mary, that I may join you one day in Heaven and there honor you for all eternity. Amen.

**Offering 2:**

**O Glorious Patriarch St. Joseph,** prostrate, before you and thy Divine Son, Jesus, I offer you with heartfelt devotion, this precious treasury of prayers, being ever mindful of the numerous virtues which adorned thy sacred person. In You, O Glorious Patriarch, was fulfilled the dream of your precursor the first Joseph, who indeed seemed to have been sent by God to prepare the way for your presence on this earth. In fact, not only were you surrounded by the shining splendor of the rays of the Divine Sun, Jesus, but you were splendidly reflected in the brilliant light of the mystic moon, the Blessed Virgin Mary. O Glorious Patriarch, if the example of the ancient Jacob, who personally went to congratulate his favorite son, who was exalted on the throne of Egypt, served to bring all his progeny there, should not the example of Jesus and Mary, who honored thee with their greatest respect and trust, serve to bring me, thy devoted servant, to present thee with this precious cloak in your honor.

**Grant, O Great St. Joseph,** that the Almighty God may turn a benevolent glance toward me. As the ancient Joseph did not reject his guilty and cruel brothers, but rather accepted them with love and protected and saved them from hunger and death, I beseech thee, O Glorious Patriarch, through thine intercession, grant that the Lord may never abandon me in this exiled valley of sorrows. Grant that He may always number me as one of thy devoted servants who dost live serenely under the patronage of your Holy Cloak. Grant that I may live always within the protection of this patronage, every day of my life and particularly at that moment when I draw my dying breath. Amen.
Prayer 1:

**Hail O Glorious St. Joseph**, you who are entrusted with the priceless treasures of heaven and earth and foster-father of Him Who did nourish all the creatures of the universe. You are, after Mary, the Saint most worthy of our love and devotion. You alone, above all the Saints, were chosen for that supreme honor of rearing, guiding, nourishing and even embracing the Messiah, Whom so many kings and prophets would have so desired to behold.

**St. Joseph**, save my soul and obtain for me from the Divine Mercy of God that petition for which I humbly pray.

And for the Holy Souls in Purgatory, grant a great comfort from their pain. Amen.

3X GLORY BE

Prayer 2:

**O powerful St. Joseph**, you were proclaimed the Patron of the Universal Church, therefore, I invoke you, above all the other Saints, as the greatest protector of the afflicted, and I offer countless blessings to your most generous heart, always ready to help in any need.

**To thee, O Glorious St. Joseph**, come the widows, the orphans, the abandoned, the afflicted, the oppressed. There is no sorrow, heartache or anguish which you have not consoled. Deign, I beseech you, to use on my behalf those gifts which God hast given you, until I too shall be granted the answer to my petition. And you, Holy Souls in Purgatory, pray to St. Joseph for me. Amen.

3X GLORY BE *

Prayer 3

Countless are those who have prayed to you before me and have received comfort and peace, graces and favors. My heart, so sad and sorrowful, cannot find rest in the midst of this trial which besets me. O Glorious St. Joseph, you know all my needs even before I set them forth in prayer. You know how important this petition is for me. I prostrate myself before you as I sigh under the heavy weight of the problem which confronts me.

There is no human heart in which I can confide my sorrow; and even if I should find a compassionate creature who would be willing to assist me, still he would be unable to help me. Only you can help me in my sorrow, St. Joseph, and I beg thee to hear my plea.

Has not St. Teresa left it written in her dialogues that the world may always know "Whatever you ask of St. Joseph, you shall receive."

**O St. Joseph, comforter of the afflicted**, have pity on my sorrow and pity on those Poor Souls who place so much hope in their prayers to thee. Amen.

3X GLORY BE *

Prayer 4

**O Sublime Patriarch St. Joseph**, because of your perfect obedience to God, you may intercede for me.

For thy holy life full of grace and merit, hear my prayer.
For thy most sweet name, help me.
For thy most holy tears, comfort me.
For thy seven sorrows, intercede for me.
For thy seven joys, console me.
From all harm of body and soul, deliver me.
From all danger and disaster, save me.
Assist me with your powerful intercession and seek for me, through thy power and mercy, all that is necessary for my salvation and particularly the favor of which I now stand in such great need. Amen.

3X GLORY BE

Prayer 5

O Glorious St. Joseph, countless are the graces and favors which you have obtained for afflicted souls. Illness of every nature, those who are oppressed, persecuted, betrayed, bereft of all human comfort, even those in need of their life bread — all who implore thy powerful intercession are comforted in their affliction.

Do not permit, O dearest St. Joseph, that I alone be the only one of all who have appealed to you, to be denied this petition which I so earnestly beg of you. Show your kindness and generosity even to me, that I may cry out in thanksgiving, "Eternal glory to our Holy Patriarch St. Joseph, my great protector on earth and the defender of the Holy Souls in Purgatory." Amen.

3X GLORY BE

Prayer 6

Eternal Father, who art in Heaven, through the merits of Jesus and Mary, I beg you to grant my petition. In the name of Jesus and Mary I prostrate myself before your Divine presence and I beseech you to accept my hopeful plea to persevere in my prayers that I may be numbered among the throngs of those who live under the patronage of St. Joseph.

Extend your blessing on this precious treasury of prayers which I today offer to him as a pledge of my devotion. Amen.

3X GLORY BE

Section 2: Supplications in honor of St. Joseph’s hidden life with Jesus and Mary

St. Joseph, pray that Jesus may come into my soul and sanctify me.
St. Joseph, pray that Jesus may come into my heart and inspire it with charity.
St. Joseph, pray that Jesus may come into my mind and enlighten it.
St. Joseph, pray that Jesus may guide my will and strengthen it.
St. Joseph, pray that Jesus may direct my thoughts and purify them.
St. Joseph, pray that Jesus may guide my desires and direct them.
St. Joseph, pray that Jesus may look upon my deeds and extend His blessings.
St. Joseph, pray that Jesus may inflame me with love for Him.
St. Joseph, request for me from Jesus the imitation of thine virtues.
St. Joseph, request for me from Jesus true humility of spirit.
St. Joseph, request for me from Jesus meekness of heart.
St. Joseph, request for me from Jesus peace of soul.
St. Joseph, request for me from Jesus a holy fear of the Lord.
St. Joseph, request for me from Jesus a desire for perfection.
St. Joseph, request for me from Jesus a gentleness of heart.
St. Joseph, request for me from Jesus a holy acceptance of suffering.
St. Joseph, request for me from Jesus the wisdom of faith.
St. Joseph, request for me from Jesus His blessing of perseverance in my good deeds.
St. Joseph, request for me from Jesus the strength to carry my crosses.
St. Joseph, request for me from Jesus a disdain for the material goods of this world.
St. Joseph, request for me from Jesus the grace to always walk on the narrow path towards heaven.
St. Joseph, request for me from Jesus the grace to avoid all occasion of sin.
St. Joseph, request for me from Jesus a holy desire for eternal bliss.
St. Joseph, request for me from Jesus the grace of final perseverance.
St. Joseph, do not abandon me.
St. Joseph, pray that my heart may never cease to love thee and that my lips may ever praise thee.
St. Joseph, for the love thou bore for Jesus, grant that I may learn to love Him.
St. Joseph, graciously accept me as thy devoted servant.
St. Joseph, I give myself to thee; accept my pleas and hear my prayers.
St. Joseph, do not abandon me at the hour of my death.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I give Thee my heart and my soul.

3X GLORY BE

Section 3: Invocations to St. Joseph

1) Remember O most chaste spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, my good protector St. Joseph, that never was it known that anyone who came to thy protection, and sought thy intercession was left unaided. Confidently I prostrate myself before thee and fervently beg for thy powerful intervention. O foster-Father of our dear Redeemer, despise not my petition, but in thy mercy, hear and answer me. Amen.

2) Glorious St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and virginal father of Jesus, look upon me and watch over me; lead me on the path of sanctifying grace; take heed of the urgent needs which I now beg you to envelop within the folds of your fatherly cloak. Dismiss those obstacles and difficulties standing in the way of my prayer and grant that the happy answer to my petition may serve for the greater glory of God and my eternal salvation. As a pledge of my undying gratitude, I promise to spread the word of your glory while offering thanks to the Lord for having so blessed your power and might in heaven and earth. Amen.

Section 4: Litany of St. Joseph

Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, hear us.
Christ, graciously hear us.

God the Father of Heaven, (have mercy on us.)
God the Son, Redeemer of the world, (have mercy on us.)
God the Holy Ghost, (have mercy on us.)
Holy Trinity, One God, (have mercy on us.)
Holy Mary, (* pray for us)
St. Joseph, (* pray for us)
Noble scion of David, (*)
Light of the Patriarchs, (*)
Spouse of the Mother of God, (*)
Chaste Guardian of the Virgin, (*)
Foster-father of the Son of God, (*)
Sedulous Defender of Christ, (*)
Head of the Holy Family, (*)
Joseph most just, (*)
Joseph most chaste, (*)
Joseph most prudent, (*)
Joseph most valiant, (*)
Joseph most obedient, (*)
Joseph most faithful, (*)
Mirror of patience, (*)
Lover of poverty, (*)
Model of all who labor, (*)
Glory of family life, (*)
Protector of virgins, (*)
Pillar of families, (*)
Consolation of the afflicted, (*)
Hope of the sick, (*)
Patron of the dying, (*)
Terror of the demons, (*)
Protector of Holy Church, (*)
Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, (spare us, O Lord.)
Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, (graciously hear us, O Lord.)
Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, (have mercy on us.)

He made him the lord of His household. (And prince over all his possessions.)

Let us pray.

God, Who, in Thine ineffable Providence didst vouchsafe to choose blessed Joseph to be the Spouse of Thy most holy Mother; grant, we beseech Thee, that we may be worthy to have him for our intercessor in heaven whom, on earth, we venerate as our protector. Who lives and reigns world without end. (Amen.)

Section 5: closing prayer of the Holy cloak

O Glorious Patriarch St. Joseph, you who were chosen by God above all men to be the earthly head of the most holy of families, I beseech you to accept me within the folds of thy holy cloak, that you may become the guardian and custodian of my soul.

From this moment on, I choose you as my father, my protector, my counselor, my patron and I beseech you to place in your custody my body, my soul, all that I am, all that I possess, my life and my death.

Look upon me as one of your children; defend me from the treachery of my enemies, invisible or otherwise, assist me at all times in all my necessities; console me in the bitterness of my life, and especially at the hour of my death. Say but one word for me to the Divine Redeemer Whom you were deemed worthy to hold in your arms, and to the Blessed Virgin Mary, your most chaste spouse. Request for me those blessings which will lead me to salvation. Include me among those who are most dear to you and I shall set forth to prove myself worthy of your special patronage. Amen.

Prayer to St. Joseph:

To thee do we cry in our tribulations, O Blessed Saint Joseph, as we confidently invoke thy patronage, after that of your most holy spouse, the Blessed Virgin Mary.

By the sacred bond of devotion which linked you to the Immaculate Virgin, Mother Of God, and for the fatherly love you lavished on the child, Jesus, we beg thee to cast a glance on those heavenly gifts which the Divine Redeemer has obtained for all mankind through His Precious Blood and through thy power and mercy, help us in our needs.

O holy protector of the Holy Family, protect us children of the Lord Jesus Christ; keep far from us the errors and evils which corrupt the world; assist us from Heaven in our struggles against the powers of darkness. And as you once protected the Divine Child from the cruel edict of Herod, now defend the Church and keep it safe from all dangers and threats; spread over all of us thy holy patronage so that by following thy example and aided by thine spiritual guidance, we may all aspire to a virtuous life, look to a holy death and secure for ourselves the blessings of eternal happiness in heaven. Amen.

DEVOTION TO ST. JOSEPH:

The Blessed Virgin Mary asks Ven. Mary of Agreda for a loving devotion to St. Joseph:
“My daughter, although thou hast described my spouse, Saint Joseph, as the most noble among the princes and saints of the heavenly Jerusalem; yet neither canst thou properly manifest his eminent sanctity, nor can any of the mortals know it fully before they arrive at the vision of the Divinity. Then all of them will be filled with wonder and praise as the Lord will make them capable of understanding this sacrament. On the last day, when all men shall be judged, the damned will bitterly bewail their sins, which prevented them from appreciating this powerful means of their salvation, and availing themselves, as they easily could have, of this intercessor to gain the friendship of the just Judge. The whole human race has much undervalued the privileges and prerogatives conceded to my blessed spouse and they know not what his intercession with God is able to do. I assure thee, my dearest, that he is one of the greatly favored personages in the divine presence and has immense power to stay the arms of divine vengeance.

“I desire that thou be very thankful to the divine condescension for vouchsafing thee so much light and knowledge regarding this mystery, and also for the favor which I am doing thee therein. From now on, during the rest of thy mortal life, see that thou advance in devotion and in hearty love toward my spouse, and that thou bless the Lord for thus having favored him with such high privileges and for having rejoiced me so much in the knowledge of all his excellences. In all thy necessities thou must avail thyself of his intercession. Thou should induce many to venerate him and see that thy own religious distinguish themselves in their devotion. That which my spouse asks of the Lord in heaven is granted upon the earth and on his intercession depend many and extraordinary favors for men, if they do not make themselves unworthy of receiving them. All these privileges were to be a reward for the amiable perfection of this wonderful saint and for his great virtues; for divine clemency is favorably drawn forth by them and looks upon saint Joseph with generous liberality, ready to shower down its marvelous mercies upon all those who avail themselves of his intercession.”

(Excerpt from Mystical City of God)