



## SOLEMN NOVENA IN HONOR OF SAINT JOHN PAUL II



*Spiritual Father of the Religious Family of the Incarnate Word*

To be prayed by all Religious from  
October 13<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>

### PRESENTATION

Our proper rule highlights the relevance of loving and valuing the saints as intercessors and models of life.<sup>1</sup> Being that Saint John Paul II is the Spiritual Father of the Religious Family of the Incarnate Word, and therefore so intrinsically linked to the Institute from its origins; being a distinguished model of holiness for all its members and being within the framework of the “Year of John Paul the Great” -the centenary year of his birth-, we want to offer this Solemn Novena in his honor as a tribute of filial piety and perpetual gratitude.

It is right that those of us who were born under his protection and found his paternal care, pay a tribute of praise and gratitude to the Vicar of Christ who so loved the Church, worked so hard, suffered for its renewal, and who so lavished in goodness the Institute. Moreover, as he is our Patron, let us ask for his intercession before the throne of the Most High.

In him we venerate the definitive fruit of the common vocation to holiness. And from him we want to draw inspiration for a greater commitment to the cause of Christ and his Church, for an ever more authentic immolation and the ever new strength of “risking our lives so that others may have life and hope.”<sup>2</sup>

“Christ looks at you and loves you,” he told us. “I say to all of you: this is a wonderful time for the history of the Church. This is a wonderful time to be a priest, to be a religious, to be a missionary for Christ. Rejoice always in the Lord. Rejoice in your vocation.”<sup>3</sup>

May he who in life radiated joy and always instilled in us great hope, from heaven and before the throne of Him who is our Hope, encourage us in our vocation as missionaries of the Incarnate Word, which is none other than a vocation to holiness.

*Totus tuus, Maria!*

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<sup>1</sup> Cf. *Constitutions*, 235.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. *Directory of Consecrated Life*, 270; *op. cit. Vita Consecrata*, 105.

<sup>3</sup> SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Discourse to Priests and Religious in Maynooth, Ireland* (10/01/1979).



## TO BE PRAYED EVERYDAY OF THE NOVENA

*Make the Sign of the Cross and Say:*

### THE ACT OF CONTRITION

O My God,

I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee  
and I detest all of my sins because of Thy just punishment,  
but most of all because I have offended Thee, My God  
who are all good, and deserving of all my love.

I firmly resolve with the help of Thy grace,  
to sin no more,  
And to avoid the near occasion of sin.

Amen.



## THE FIRST DAY

October 13<sup>th</sup>

### Spiritual Father of the Religious Family of the Incarnate Word

*In thanksgiving to Divine Providence for the grace of our Institute being born under the pontificate of Saint John Paul II, and for his continued Paternal care.*

“Here we are before you, Mother of Christ, before your Immaculate Heart. We wish, together with the whole Church, to unite ourselves with the consecration that your Son made to the Father out of love for us [...]

The power of this consecration lasts forever and encompasses all individuals and nations. It surpasses all evil that the spirit of darkness is capable of bringing and that has already brought in our times to the heart of man and in her history. [...]

Blessed are you above all creatures, you the Servant of the Lord, who was entirely obedient to the divine call. Blessed are you, who are completely united to the redemptive consecration of your Son. Mother of the Church enlighten the People of God, on their path of faith, hope and love. Help us to live in the truth of the consecration of Christ for the entire human family of the modern world”.<sup>4</sup>

Oh, God, in your wise designs of mercy, you wanted the Institute of the Incarnate Word to be born under the pontificate of your servant, His Holiness John Paul II, the same day on which he consecrated in union with the bishops of the whole world, the Church, and all people to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. May our praises reach You as an expression of endless gratitude for that admirable favor of your divine Goodness.

Confident, we hope that from heaven, he who took care of us with tender fatherly care here on earth, and encouraged us to move ever forward,<sup>5</sup> will continue to bless and protect our Institute, which is honored to have him as Spiritual Father and makes his Magisterium a treasure of its own patrimony.

*Here pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be...*

*At the end of this prayer, the litany of Saint John Paul II is prayed (pg. 13) with the final prayer.*

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<sup>4</sup> Cf. SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Consecration of the Church and the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary* (3/25/1984).

<sup>5</sup> Cf. Saint John Paul II to Cardinal Sodano: “despite what others say, I want this institute to go forward” (1999-2000).



## THE SECOND DAY

October 14th

### Distinguished Teacher of the Truth

*We ask through the intercession of Saint John Paul II the grace to “lead men to” full and sincere adherence to Christ and his Gospel through faith”;<sup>6</sup> which should tend toward the worthy reception of the sacraments.”<sup>7</sup>*

“Love the truth above all else, with a vivid understanding for the modern society in which we live. Today’s humanity is full of people who seek the truth [...] Love the truth above all with the scruple of orthodoxy, eagerly listening to the teacher who speaks in the intimacy of each one, and remaining closely united to the Church, Mother of salvation. [...] Love the truth, dedicating yourself carefully to the work of your perfection. [...] because loving the truth means precisely to love holiness.”<sup>8</sup>

“Oh, Jesus, you have come ‘as an inflexible conqueror of error!’”<sup>9</sup> Through the intercession of the distinguished Master of Truth, Saint John Paul II, who never diluted his announcement with false conciliatory formulas but rather proclaimed it with all its splendor and demands, we beg you to grant us the grace to render “a fervent cult of the truth”,<sup>10</sup> “that the truth may become incarnate in the life”<sup>11</sup> of all the members of the Institute, and that we may know how to transmit it, even at the cost of our own blood.<sup>12</sup>

Saint John Paul II who paternally told us: “at this time you must be witnesses and missionaries of the truth”<sup>13</sup> obtain for us the grace of following the Incarnate Word, who came *into the world, to bear witness to the truth*,<sup>14</sup> that we may become priests “convinced of the truth”<sup>15</sup> “with a tongue, lips, and wisdom that the enemies of truth cannot resist”<sup>16</sup> let us go throughout the world serving her generously without overwhelming her.<sup>17</sup>

*Here pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be...*

*At the end of this prayer, the litany of Saint John Paul II is prayed (pg. 13) with the final prayer.*

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<sup>6</sup> *Redemptoris Missio*, 46.

<sup>7</sup> *Constitutions*, 166.

<sup>8</sup> Cf. SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *To the General Chapter of the Augustinians* (08/25/1983).

<sup>9</sup> Formula for the Monthly renewal of Vows; *op. cit.* WILLIAM OF THEODORIC, *On Contemplation of God*, 10: SC 61,93

<sup>10</sup> *Directory for the Missions Ad Gentes*, 139.

<sup>11</sup> *Constitutions*, 216.

<sup>12</sup> Cf. *Directory of Works of Mercy*, 249; *op. cit.* FR. CARLOS BUELA, IVE, *Priests Forever*, Part I, chap. 6. 7.

<sup>13</sup> *Homily during the Vespers of World Mission Sunday* (10/20/1979).

<sup>14</sup> Jn 18, 37.

<sup>15</sup> *Directory of Spirituality*, 112.

<sup>16</sup> *Constitutions*, 231; *op. cit.* SAINT LOUIS MARIE GRINGION DE MONTFORT, *An ardent Prayer to obtain missionaries (A burning prayer)*, 22.

<sup>17</sup> Cf. *Directory for the Missions Ad Gentes*, 139.



# THE THIRD DAY

October 15th

## The Good Shepherd

*We ask for the grace that in our major seminaries “true shepherds of souls are formed after the example of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Teacher, Priest and Shepherd.”<sup>18</sup>*

“Through the ancient and suggestive sacramental gesture of the laying on of hands and the prayer of consecration, you will become priests, in the image of the Good Shepherd, servants of the Christian people with a new and deeper title. You will participate in the same mission of Christ, sowing with full hands the seed of the word of God. The Lord has called you to be ministers of his mercy and dispensers of his mysteries. [...] Indeed, the mission of Christ extends throughout history through the work of the shepherds, to whom he entrusts the care of his flock. [...] With the call to the priesthood, a dialogue of love begins, that day by day, forges the personality of the priest through a journey of formation that begins in the family, continues in the seminary and lasts a lifetime. Only thanks to this uninterrupted ascetic and pastoral itinerary can the priest become a living icon of Jesus, the good shepherd, who gives himself for the flock entrusted to his care.”<sup>19</sup>

“Oh Jesus, ‘Good Word of the Good Shepherd!’”<sup>20</sup> you gave us in Saint John Paul II a good Shepherd who “offered his life to God for his sheep and for the entire human family, in a daily dedication to the service of the Church,”<sup>21</sup> Grant us through your intercession the grace to form “priests configured with Christ the Head and Shepherd, and therefore committed to sharing and continuing their mission of salvation in the Church and in the world;”<sup>22</sup> priestly souls who “arrive at having... *the same sentiments as Christ*,<sup>23</sup> when He offered Himself on the Cross for the salvation of the world,”<sup>24</sup> and who learn from Him “the radical gift of self, proper to the Priest”<sup>25</sup> that wherever he goes he may “transmit the charity of Christ, the Good Shepherd.”<sup>26</sup>

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<sup>18</sup> *Optatam Totius*, 4. Cited in the *Directory of Major Seminaries*, 9.

<sup>19</sup> Cf. SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Homily for Good Shepherd Sunday* (04/25/1999).

<sup>20</sup> Formula for the Monthly renewal of Vows; *op. cit.* SAINT ATHANASIUS OF ALEXANDRIA, *Against the pagans*, *Homily 40*: PG 75,79.

<sup>21</sup> CARD. J. RATZINGER, *Homily from the Funeral Mass of John Paul II* (04/08/2005).

<sup>22</sup> *Directory of Major Seminaries*, 9; *op. cit.* Cf. *Pastores Dabo Vobis*, 61.

<sup>23</sup> Phil. 2:5

<sup>24</sup> *Directory of Major Seminaries*, 103.

<sup>25</sup> *Constitutions*, 205.

<sup>26</sup> Cf. *Directory of Major Seminaries*, 395.



Saint John Paul II, excellent formator of pastors, give us suitable formators<sup>27</sup> and multiply our seminaries from where “seminarians who have ‘spirit of princes’ may arise, who admire and love the truth, who are accustomed to discipline, who love the Institute by living their own charism and who, above all, are willing to give ‘total dedication to the service of God and the pastoral ministry’, even to the point of martyrdom.”<sup>28</sup>

*Here pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be...*

*At the end of this prayer, the litany of Saint John Paul II is prayed (pg. 13) with the final prayer.*

## THE FOURTH DAY

October 16<sup>th</sup>

### Unrelenting Missionary

*We ask for the grace to be able to offer missionaries to those places where it is most difficult or have more urgent need for missionaries.<sup>29</sup>*

“We cannot remain calm if we think of the millions of brothers and sisters, also redeemed by the blood of Christ, who live without knowing the love of God. For the believer, in the singular, as well as for the whole Church, the missionary cause must be the first, because it concerns the eternal destiny of men and responds to the mysterious and merciful plan of God.”<sup>30</sup>

Christ Jesus, you are the first and greatest missionary of the Father,<sup>31</sup> and through your Vicar on earth you exhorted us to dedicate ourselves with all our strength to the new evangelization and to the mission ‘ad gentes’<sup>32</sup> give us the grace to be able to send missionaries - generous souls who know at every moment the things for which they must die<sup>33</sup>— to “the most difficult places (those which no one else wishes to go)”<sup>34</sup> so that their efforts and sufferings may be the leaven that makes the truth germinate in the hearts of men and that the desire to consecrate themselves to the noble cause of the Gospel may arise in many others.

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<sup>27</sup> *Directory of Major Seminaries*, 46; *op. cit. Vita Consecrata*, 66.

<sup>28</sup> Cf. *Directory of Major Seminaries*, 456-461.

<sup>29</sup> Cf. *Constitutions*, 30; *Directory of Spirituality*, 86.

<sup>30</sup> *Redemptoris Missio*, 86; cited in *Directory of the missions Ad Gentes*, 176.

<sup>31</sup> Cf. SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Message for World Day of Missions 2000*.

<sup>32</sup> *Ibidem*.

<sup>33</sup> *Directory of Spirituality*, 41.

<sup>34</sup> *Directory of Spirituality*, 86.



Saint John Paul the Great, protect with your intercession before the throne of the Most High all the missionaries of the Institute who spend their lives in emblematic destinations, persevering even in the midst of great difficulties and sowing through tears<sup>35</sup> many times. Obtain for all of us the grace of having an ever greater zeal for evangelization that allows us to be able to offer to the Church missionaries eager for radical and total dedications that give new and daring impulses to the missions.<sup>36</sup>

*Here pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be...*

*At the end of this prayer, the litany of Saint John Paul II is prayed (pg. 13) with the final prayer.*

## THE FIFTH DAY

October 17th

### Apostle of Mary

*We ask the intercession of the Mother of God from whom we hope to “obtain her indispensable help to prolong the Incarnation in all things.”<sup>37</sup>*

“Never like today has the Church had the opportunity to spread the Gospel, with witness and word, to all men and all peoples. [...] Like the Apostles after the Ascension of Christ, the Church must meet in the Upper Room with *Mary, the Mother of Jesus*,<sup>38</sup> to implore the Spirit and obtain strength and courage to fulfill the missionary mandate. [...] To the ‘mediation of Mary, fully oriented towards Christ and aimed at the revelation of her salvific power,<sup>39</sup> I entrust the Church and, in particular, those who are dedicated to fulfilling the missionary mandate in today’s world.”<sup>40</sup>

Saint John Paul II, privileged witness of the sweetness of Mary, who taught the Church the need to abandon herself in her tender bosom and invited us to “take the rosary with confidence in our hands”<sup>41</sup> We beg you to intercede for us before the throne of the Mother of God and grant us the grace to be true disciples of the Incarnate Word who actively participate in the redemptive task with the same attitude of the Virgin Mother, that is, with “that maternal love that must encourage all those who collaborate in the apostolic action of the Church to engender men to a new life.”<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>35</sup> *Directory of Missions Ad Gentes*, 144.

<sup>36</sup> *Redemptoris Missio*, 66; Cited in *Directory of Missions Ad Gentes*, 147.

<sup>37</sup> *Constitutions*, 17.

<sup>38</sup> Acts 1: 14.

<sup>39</sup> *Redemptoris Mater*, 22.

<sup>40</sup> *Redemptoris Missio*, 92.

<sup>41</sup> *Rosarium Virginis Mariae*, 43.

<sup>42</sup> Cf. *Directory of Missions Ad Gentes*, 171; *op. cit. Lumen Gentium*, 65.



Help us to find in the maternal solicitude of Mary, Star of Evangelization, the joy and strength necessary to persevere in our mission as well as her ever-welcoming protection that instills in us courage in the hour of trial. John Paul the Great, you who were formed by the Virgin Mother, make each one of us apostles who under the banner of Mary will spare neither means nor efforts<sup>43</sup> that Jesus may reign.<sup>44</sup> Hence, we also ask you to grant us from Her and her Divine Son the grace to be her true slaves of love.

*Here pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be...*

*At the end of this prayer, the litany of Saint John Paul II is prayed (pg. 13) with the final prayer.*

## THE SIXTH DAY

*October 18th*

### The Great Evangelizer of the Culture

*We ask for an abundance of fruits in the missionary activity of the Institute and for the spiritual and material necessities of the missions.*

“We cannot stop evangelizing: there are so many regions, so many cultural environments that remain oblivious to the good news of Jesus Christ. I am thinking of the cultures of vast regions of the world that are still on the fringes of the Christian faith. But I am also thinking of the broad cultural sectors in countries with a Christian tradition that, today, seem indifferent - if not refractory - to the Gospel. [...] The Church respects all cultures and does not impose its faith in Jesus Christ on any of them, but invites all people of good will to promote a true civilization of love founded on the evangelical values of brotherhood, justice and dignity for all.”<sup>45</sup>

O Jesus Incarnate Word, who chose Saint John Paul II to guide your Church in times of profound cultural transformations and endowed him with a great intellectual sensitivity coupled with great pastoral charity, today we, your children of the Institute of the Incarnate Word, implore you for his intercession, please grant us the grace to spend our lives in the sublime work of making the Gospel penetrate into the heart of cultures<sup>46</sup> because we are convinced that “a faith that does not become culture is a faith that is not fully accepted, not thought of in its totality, not lived faithfully.”<sup>47</sup>

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<sup>43</sup> Cf. *Constitutions*, 259.

<sup>44</sup> *Directory of Spirituality*, 225; *op. cit.* 1 Co 15, 25.

<sup>45</sup> SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Discourse to the members of the Pontifical Council of the Culture* (01/15/1985).

<sup>46</sup> Cf. *Directory for the Evangelization of the Culture*, 74; *op. cit.* *Catechesi Tradendae*, 53.

<sup>47</sup> *Directory for the Evangelization of the Culture*, 66; *op. cit.* SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Signed Letter instituting the*





Saint John Paul II, obtain for us with your powerful intercession, a heart enlarged by the breath of the Spirit of love, so that we may make the cause of evangelization “a great movement that grows in extension and depth.”<sup>48</sup> May with the captivating force of our witness we preach to all nations “the folly of the cross, which is a wisdom and a force that transcends all cultural barriers,”<sup>49</sup> and that with an ever new apostolic creativity, and the prophetic power that animated you as a shepherd burning with zeal, we may present the message of the Gospel in all its freshness for the sole glory of the Name of Jesus Christ and the salvation of souls.

*Here pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be...*

*At the end of this prayer, the litany of Saint John Paul II is prayed (pg. 13) with the final prayer.*

## THE SEVENTH DAY

*October 19<sup>th</sup>*

### Friend of Youth, and the Pope of Families

*We ask the grace for all the members of our institute to be “awakeners of vocations”<sup>50</sup> and for unity and fidelity to the one Love of all the members of the Third Order.*

“The Church has an immense need for priests. This is one of the most serious urgencies that challenge the Christian communities. Jesus does not want a Church without priests. If priests are lacking, Jesus is lacking in the world, his Eucharist is lacking, his forgiveness is lacking. For her own mission the Church also has an immense need of abundance from other consecrated vocations. The Christian people cannot accept with passivity and indifference the decrease in vocations. Vocations are the future of the Church. A community poor in vocations impoverishes the whole Church; on the contrary, a community rich in vocations is a wealth for the whole Church.”<sup>51</sup>

Oh God, you call who you will by a free initiative of love, but you want to call through our people<sup>52</sup> give us the courage to be promoters of “an

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*Pontifical Council of the Culture* (50/20/1982); AAS 74 (1982) 685.

<sup>48</sup> *Constitutions*, 268.

<sup>49</sup> SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Discourse to the members of the Pontifical Council of the Culture* (19/11/1999).

<sup>50</sup> *Directory of Spirituality*, 118; *op. cit.* SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Weekly Meeting with Pilgrims* (03/16/1983); OR (27/03/1983), 2.

<sup>51</sup> SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Message for the XXIII World Day of Prayer for Vocations* (01/06/1986).

<sup>52</sup> *Directory of Spirituality* 290; *op. cit.* SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Message for the XX World Day of Prayer for Vocations* (04/24/1983), 3; OR (04/17/1983), 20.



authentic ‘vocational culture’<sup>53</sup> – active, constant, full of drive and vitality, committed and urged by the charity of Christ<sup>54</sup>– that allows young people “to recognize and welcome the deep aspiration of man, which leads him to discover that only Christ can tell him the whole truth about his life.”<sup>55</sup> Since the family is where vocations are born, we implore you through the intercession of the “Pope of families” for your paternal help so that wherever we go we may carry out a “correct and careful family apostolate that is, in itself, a vocational apostolate,”<sup>56</sup> so that holy families arise everywhere, true domestic churches where You are loved above all things.

Saint John Paul II you who told us that “if the union in the religious family is a powerful evangelical witness, the division between brothers and sisters is a stumbling block for evangelization.”<sup>57</sup> Today we invoke your heavenly favor to help us maintain and increase the union between all the members of the Institute of the Incarnate Word, the Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará and the members of the Third Order as “a single spiritual family”<sup>58</sup> concerned with the “prolonging of the Incarnation of the Word, in all reality.”<sup>59</sup>

*Here pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be...*

*At the end of this prayer, the litany of Saint John Paul II is prayed (pg. 13) with the final prayer.*

## THE EIGHTH DAY

October 20<sup>th</sup>

### Hero of the Church of Christ

*We ask through the intercession of Saint John Paul II the grace to be faithful to the Charism which the Lord has gifted us with.*

“Each Institute must be concerned with maintaining its own appearance, the specific character of its own reason for being, which has exercised an appeal, which has aroused vocations, particular attitudes, giving a public witness worthy of appreciation. It is naive and presumptuous to believe, after all, that each institute should be equal to all others by

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<sup>53</sup> SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Message for the XXX World Day of Prayer for Vocations* (09/08/1992).

<sup>54</sup> *Directory of Spirituality*, 290; *op. cit.* Cf. 2 Co 5, 14.

<sup>55</sup> *Ibidem.*

<sup>56</sup> Cf. *Directory of the Third Order*, 376; *op. cit.* SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Homily for the Inauguration Mass of the International Congress for Vocations*; OR, 20 (1981), 303.

<sup>57</sup> SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *To the Assembly of the Union of European Major Superiors Conferences in* (11/17/1983).

<sup>58</sup> *Directory of Third Order*, 292.

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practicing a general love of God and neighbor. Whoever thought so would forget an essential aspect of the Mystical Body: the array of its constitution, the pluralism of models in which the vitality of the spirit that animates it is manifested, the transcendent human and divine perfection of Christ, its Head, who can only be imitated according to the innumerable resources of the soul animated by grace.”<sup>60</sup>

O Christ, Incarnate Word, who gave birth to this your Religious Family of the Incarnate Word under the distinguished pontificate of Saint John Paul the Great who, with even more distinguished heroism, guided the Church’s boat *out to sea*.<sup>61</sup> Remaining at all times faithful to the demands of the Gospel, we implore you through his intercession for the protection and iron defense of the same treasure that you have given us: the magnificent charism of our Institute “in which are contained the riches that the Holy Spirit has granted for the good of the Church.”<sup>62</sup>

Saint John Paul II, help us to be consistent, that is, to live in accordance with the charism and with the vows that we profess, ready to accept misunderstandings and persecutions rather than allow ruptures between what is lived and what is believed<sup>63</sup> in order to “demonstrate with the depth of our convictions and with the coherence of our actions that Jesus Christ is contemporary to us.”<sup>64</sup> Moved by the benevolence and hopeful signs of assistance that you had with us here on earth, we invoke your heavenly favor so that you may grant us the grace of being consistent throughout our lives, not only in the hour of exaltation, but also in the hour tribulation, because only then can we say that we are faithful to the charism received.

*Here pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be...*

*At the end of this prayer, the litany of Saint John Paul II is prayed (pg. 13) with the final prayer.*

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<sup>60</sup> SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *To the International Union of General Superiors in Rome* (05/14/1987); *op. cit.* *Perfectae Caritatis*, 2b.

<sup>61</sup> Cf. Lc 5: 4.

<sup>62</sup> *Directory of Consecrated Life*, 327.

<sup>63</sup> Cf. SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Homily in the Cathedral of Mexico City* (01/26/1979).

<sup>64</sup> Cf. *Directory of Spirituality*, 115; *op. cit.*, Saint John Paul II *Discourse of the Pope to the Youth of Brescia*, OR (03/10/1982), 14.



## THE NINTH DAY

October 21<sup>st</sup>

### Truly Perfect and Holy Man

*We ask for the grace that all the members of our Religious Family may have the grace of “freedom of spirit”<sup>65</sup> which is identified with sanctity.<sup>66</sup>*

“Consecrated persons will be missionaries, first of all, continually deepening the awareness of having been called and chosen by God, to whom they must therefore direct their entire lives and offer everything they are and have, freeing themselves from the impediments that could stop the total response of love. In this way they can become a true sign of Christ in the world. Their lifestyle must also reveal the ideal they profess, proposing themselves as a living sign of God and as an eloquent, though often silent, preaching of the Gospel.”<sup>67</sup>

God the Father, you are the only source of love and freedom, and you made Saint John Paul II a brave man full of the *parrhesia* of the Holy Spirit<sup>68</sup> that “helped us not to be afraid of the truth, because the truth is a guarantee of freedom”<sup>69</sup> Grant us by virtue of your merits the grace to love everything that You want us to love without being slaves of our affections for creatures, that is, to love without chaining ourselves, to possess without being imprisoned, to use without selfish enjoyment, to preserve complete independence, and seek in everything and everything only your glory.<sup>70</sup>

Saint John Paul II, who with your lifestyle showed the freedom of spirit and the spontaneity of those who have made love the supreme law and are completely united with God, grant us the grace to live the “authentic freedom that is identified with holiness, with the New Law, with the Christian faith, with charity, which is the freedom ... of the *children of God*”<sup>71</sup> and have truth as their foundation.”<sup>72</sup>

*Here pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be...*

*At the end of this prayer, the litany of Saint John Paul II is prayed (pg. 13) with the final prayer.*

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<sup>65</sup> *Constitutions*, 65.

<sup>66</sup> *Directory of Spirituality*, 195.

<sup>67</sup> *Vita Consecrata*, 25.

<sup>68</sup> Cf. FRANCIS, *Homily of Canonization* (04/27/2014).

<sup>69</sup> BENEDICT XVI, *Homily of Beatification* (05/01/2011).

<sup>70</sup> Cf. *Constitutions*, 68.

<sup>71</sup> Rom 8: 21.

<sup>72</sup> Cf. *Directory of Spirituality*, 195.



## LITANY IN HONOR OF SAINT JOHN PAUL II

Lord have mercy	<i>Lord have mercy</i>
Christ have mercy	<i>Christ have mercy</i>
Lord have mercy	<i>Lord have mercy</i>
Christ hear us	<i>Christ bear us</i>
Christ graciously heart us	<i>Christ graciously bear us</i>
God the Father of Heaven	<i>Have mercy on us</i>
God the Son, Redeemer of the World	<i>Have mercy on us</i>
God the Holy Spirit	<i>Have mercy on us</i>
Holy Trinity, One God	<i>Have mercy on us</i>
Saint John Paul II	<i>Pray for us</i>
Successor of Saint Peter	<i>Pray for us</i>
First Vicar of Christ from Polish Lineage	<i>Pray for us</i>
Molded by the Virgin Mary	<i>Pray for us</i>
Prophesized by the Virgin Mary	<i>Pray for us</i>
Miraculously Saved by the Virgin Mary	<i>Pray for us</i>
Son of Mary	<i>Pray for us</i>
Living Rosary	<i>Pray for us</i>
Gift of Heaven	<i>Pray for us</i>
Apostle of the End of Times	<i>Pray for us</i>
High-flying Mystic	<i>Pray for us</i>
Greatest Son of the Polish Nation	<i>Pray for us</i>
Great Teacher and Doctor	<i>Pray for us</i>
Great Priest and Father	<i>Pray for us</i>
Hero of the Seven Seas	<i>Pray for us</i>
Eye-Opening Prophet	<i>Pray for us</i>
Bell from on High	<i>Pray for us</i>
Undefeated Champion, surpassing all records	<i>Pray for us</i>
Master of the Dawn, and Watchman of the Morning	<i>Pray for us</i>
Eminent Shepherd	<i>Pray for us</i>
Defender of the Faith	<i>Pray for us</i>
Acclaimed by the multitudes	<i>Pray for us</i>
Broken Bread and Shed Blood	<i>Pray for us</i>
Confessor of the Faith	<i>Pray for us</i>
Priest, Victim, and Altar	<i>Pray for us</i>
Disciple of Jesus Christ	<i>Pray for us</i>



Temple of God	<i>Pray for us</i>
Lover of Wind	<i>Pray for us</i>
Living Miracle	<i>Pray for us</i>
Sun which never sets	<i>Pray for us</i>
Man of profound prayer	<i>Pray for us</i>
Giant who twisted the arm of History	<i>Pray for us</i>
Singer of Mercy	<i>Pray for us</i>
Sower of Eternity	<i>Pray for us</i>
Great Missionary of the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century	<i>Pray for us</i>
Never evasive to the Missionary Adventure	<i>Pray for us</i>
First Planetary Missionary	<i>Pray for us</i>
Champion of Justice	<i>Pray for us</i>
Profound knower of the Second Vatican Council	<i>Pray for us</i>
Victor over Communism	<i>Pray for us</i>
Lustrous joy and Feast for Souls	<i>Pray for us</i>
World Leader	<i>Pray for us</i>
Man of millennial undertakings	<i>Pray for us</i>
Gladiator of the Gospel of Jesus Christ	<i>Pray for us</i>
Exemplar Patriot	<i>Pray for us</i>
Perpetual Alleluia	<i>Pray for us</i>
Poet and Singer	<i>Pray for us</i>
Metaphysician and Warrior	<i>Pray for us</i>
August Worker	<i>Pray for us</i>
Great in prayer, sufferings, words and works	<i>Pray for us</i>
Undefeatable Warrior	<i>Pray for us</i>
Array of Seven Swords	<i>Pray for us</i>
Servant of Men	<i>Pray for us</i>
Man of Sorrows	<i>Pray for us</i>
Lighted Candle	<i>Pray for us</i>
Perfect Man	<i>Pray for us</i>
Man of Immense Virtues	<i>Pray for us</i>
Friend of Mendicants	<i>Pray for us</i>
Pilot amidst storms	<i>Pray for us</i>
Tsunami of Life, Truth and Love	<i>Pray for us</i>
Apostle of Youth and Families	<i>Pray for us</i>
Promoter of Vocations	<i>Pray for us</i>
Spiritual Father of the Religious Family of the Incarnate Word	<i>Pray for us</i>



V. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world R. *Spare us O Lord.*  
V. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world R. *Hear us O Lord.*  
V. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world R. *Have Mercy on us.*

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

**Saint John Paul the Great,**

**Spiritual Father,** under whose pontificate

Divine Providence willed our Religious Family to be born,

**Singular teacher of Truth,** in “whose magisterium we satiate our thirst for fidelity to the Lord;”<sup>73</sup>

**Good Shepherd,** who guided the world that it might open its doors to Christ,

**Untiring Missionary** who, with your example, taught us “not to be evasive to the missionary adventure;”<sup>74</sup>

**Slave and apostle of Mary** from whom, in the school of St. Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort, we learned to say every day: *Totus Tuus Maria;*<sup>75</sup>

We, your children in the Incarnate Word, invoke you as our heavenly intercessor and take refuge in the shelter of your fatherly care:

**Vicar of Christ,** who told us:

*Do not be afraid! Christ knows what is in man,*<sup>76</sup> protect and defend us.

**Great evangelizer of the culture,** who gave us your example, working unceasingly that “the very power of the Gospel should permeate patterns of thought, standards of judgement, and norms of behavior;”<sup>77</sup> strengthen our missionary efforts and make them fruitful;

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<sup>73</sup> *Directory of Vocations*, 78.

<sup>74</sup> *Directory of Spirituality*, 216.

<sup>75</sup> *Constitutions*, 19.

<sup>76</sup> *Homily of Pontifical Inauguration of Pope John Paul II* (10/22/1978).

<sup>77</sup> SAINT JOHN PAUL II, Apostolic Letter *Sapientia Christiana*, on Universities and Ecclesial Faculties (04/15/1979), 1; OR (03/06/1979), 7. Cited in the *Constitutions*, 26.



**Friend of the Youth**, whom you sought out, moved by seal's urgings,  
make us generous witnesses of the Incarnate Word,  
adept in promoting vocations,  
offering a faithful and joyful witness of consecrated life,  
carrying out our discernment with generosity,  
and our proper apostolates with seriousness,  
and working together in fraternal communion;<sup>78</sup>

**Pontiff of the Family**,<sup>79</sup> accompany and sustain this, *your* family,  
the Family of the Incarnate Word  
that we may remain, both now and forever united to the Rock, who is Christ.<sup>80</sup>

**Hero of the Church**, who with courage required by fidelity to Christ  
knew how to guide the People of God not towards those artificial paradises,  
which, without God or His holy law,<sup>81</sup> turn against man,  
but rather towards the Kingdom of Christ  
which one conquers through the cross.  
We ask you the grace that we too may be courageous and fervent  
in announcing Christ, never bargaining, never compromising, never yielding,  
never negotiating, nor doing any business with the spirit of the world.<sup>82</sup>

**Truly perfect and holy man**, grant through your intercession  
the grace of perseverance in our faithfulness to Christ and the Gospel,  
which is always faithfulness to the Church and to her mission in the world,  
faithfulness to religious life and to the particular Charism of our Institute,  
faithfulness to man and to our times.<sup>83</sup>

All of this we ask of God, One and Three, through your intercession. Amen.

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<sup>78</sup> *Directory of Consecrated Life*, 308.

<sup>79</sup> FRANCIS, *Homily of Canonization of Pope John XIII and Pope John Paul II* (04/27/2014).

<sup>80</sup> *Constitutions*, 7; *op. cit.* Cf. 1 Co 10, 4.

<sup>81</sup> Cf. SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Homily during the mass celebrated in the explanada Xico del Valle de Chalco* (07/05/1990).

<sup>82</sup> Cf. *Directory of Spirituality*, 118.

<sup>83</sup> Cf. *On the Formation of Religious Institutes*, 18; cited in *The Directory of Consecrated Life*, 362.