

Octave of Prayer in Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary

St. Patrick Catholic Community
Carlsbad, CA

May 24 – May 31, 2021

An octave is **eight days of prayer**. This one begins on May 24, 2021 which this year is the Memorial of **Mary, Mother of the Church**. This is a recent addition to Marian feast days and always occurs on the day after Pentecost (which moves each year). This octave of prayer will conclude on May 31, 2021. This is the fixed date that we celebrate the **Visitation of Mary** to Elizabeth.

The intended purpose of this octave of prayer is **to offer honor and praise to the Blessed Virgin Mary**. We acknowledge her as the Mother of Jesus and the Mother of the Church. No promises or indulgences are attached to this collection of prayers.

These prayers can be prayed privately or with those whom you live. For each day, there is a Scripture passage and one of more prayers from a variety of saints. On each day we pray the Canticle of Mary (the Magnificat) which is found in chapter 2 of the Gospel of Luke. These prayers are not designated for a particular time of day. Choose a time of day to pray them at home. During the octave, one of the prayers will be prayed each day at our parish Masses on weekdays and weekends.



Day 1 - Mary, Mother of the Church

Leader: O Mary, may my heart never cease to love you,

Response: and my tongue never cease to praise you.¹

Prayer by St. Augustine

Gracious Lady, you are a mother and virgin;
you are the mother of the body and soul of our Head and Redeemer;
you are also truly mother of all the members of Christ's Mystical Body.
For through your love, you have cooperated
in the begetting of the faithful in the Church.
Unique among women, you are mother and virgin;
mother of Christ and virgin of Christ.
You are the beauty and charm of earth, O Virgin.
You are forever the image of the holy Church.
Through a woman came death; through a woman came life,
yes, through you, O Mother of God.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

After Jesus had been taken up to heaven,
the Apostles returned to Jerusalem
from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem,
a sabbath day's journey away.
When they entered the city
they went to the upper room where they were staying,
Peter and John and James and Andrew,
Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew,
James son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot,
and Judas son of James.
All these devoted themselves with one accord to prayer,
together with some women,
and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.
The Word of the Lord.

Collect from the Mass of Mary, Mother of the Church

O God, Father of mercies,
whose Only Begotten Son, as he hung upon the Cross,
chose the Blessed Virgin Mary, his Mother,
to be our Mother also,

¹ This opening verse which is used at the beginning of each day's prayer is taken from St. Bonaventure.

grant, we pray, that with her loving help
your Church may be more fruitful day by day
and, exulting in the holiness of her children,
may draw to her embrace all the families of the peoples.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

The Canticle of Mary (Luke 2)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

Concluding Prayer²

O Jesus living in Mary,
Come and live in your servants
in the holiness of your Spirit,
in the fullness of your strength,
in the perfection of your ways,
in the truth of your virtues,
in communion with your mysteries.
Come and master the enemy
in your Holy Spirit
for the glory of the Father.
Amen



² The concluding prayer for each day is a famous prayer written by St. John Eudes in the 17th century

Day 2 – Mary, Called by the Father

Leader: O Mary, may my heart never cease to love you,

Response: and my tongue never cease to praise you.

A Reading from the Gospel of Luke

The angel Gabriel was sent from God
to a town of Galilee called Nazareth,
to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph,
of the house of David,
and the virgin's name was Mary.

And coming to her, he said,
"Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you."

But she was greatly troubled at what was said
and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

Then the angel said to her,
"Do not be afraid, Mary,
for you have found favor with God.

Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,
and you shall name him Jesus.
He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High,
and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father,
and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever,
and of his Kingdom there will be no end."

But Mary said to the angel,
"How can this be,
since I have no relations with a man?"

And the angel said to her in reply,
"The Holy Spirit will come upon you,
and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.

Therefore the child to be born
will be called holy, the Son of God.

And behold, Elizabeth, your relative,
has also conceived a son in her old age,
and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren;
for nothing will be impossible for God."

Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.

May it be done to me according to your word."

Then the angel departed from her.

Prayer of St. Anselm

Mother of Salvation,
Blessed Lady,
you are the Mother of Justification
and those who are justified;
the Mother of Reconciliation
and those who are reconciled;
the Mother of Salvation
and those who are saved.
What a blessed trust, and what a secure refuge!
The Mother of God is our Mother.
The Mother of the One in whom alone we hope and whom alone we fear is our Mother!

...

The One who partook of our nature,
and by restoring us to life
made us children of His Mother,
invites us by this to proclaim
that we are His brothers and sisters.
Therefore, our Judge is also our Brother.
The Savior of the world is our Brother.
Our God has become - through Mary - our Brother!

The Canticle of Mary (Luke 2)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

Concluding Prayer

O Jesus living in Mary,
Come and live in your servants
in the holiness of your Spirit,
in the fullness of your strength,
in the perfection of your ways,
in the truth of your virtues,
in communion with your mysteries.
Come and master the enemy
in your Holy Spirit
for the glory of the Father.
Amen



Day 3 – Jesus Lives and Reigns in the Heart of Mary

Leader: O Mary, may my heart never cease to love you,

Response: and my tongue never cease to praise you.

[Litany to the Immaculate Heart of Mary \(St. John Henry Newman\)](#)

Lord, have mercy on us. *Christ, have mercy on us.*

Christ, hear us. *Christ, graciously hear us.*

Heart of Mary, *Pray for us.*

Heart of Mary, according to the heart of God, *Pray for us.*

Heart of Mary, united to the Heart of Jesus, *Pray for us.*

Heart of Mary, filled with the Holy Spirit, *Pray for us.*

Heart of Mary, sanctuary of the Holy Trinity, *Pray for us.*

Heart of Mary, tabernacle of God Incarnate, *Pray for us.*

Heart of Mary, full of grace, *Pray for us.*

Heart of Mary, blessed among all hearts, *Pray for us.*

Heart of Mary, throne of glory, *Pray for us.*

Heart of Mary, most humble, *Pray for us.*

Heart of Mary, sacrifice of Divine Love, *Pray for us.*

Heart of Mary, comfort of the afflicted, *Pray for us.*

Heart of Mary, refuge of sinners, *Pray for us.*

Heart of Mary, seat of mercy, *Pray for us.*

V. Immaculate Mary, meek and humble of heart:

R. *Make our hearts according to the Heart of Jesus.*

[A Reading from the Gospel of Luke](#)

When the angels returned to heaven, the shepherds said to one another,
"Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place,
which the Lord has made known to us."

So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph,
and the infant lying in the manger.

When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this
child.

All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds.

And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.

Prayer of St. John Eudes

O God, you willed that your only-begotten Son
should live and reign in the Heart of the Virgin Mother.
Grant us, we pray, that, following the example of Jesus and Mary,
we may constantly accomplish your will in all things,
and so merit to have but one heart with them and among ourselves.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God, forever and ever. Amen.

The Canticle of Mary (Luke 2)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

Concluding Prayer

O Jesus living in Mary,
Come and live in your servants
in the holiness of your Spirit,
in the fullness of your strength,
in the perfection of your ways,
in the truth of your virtues,
in communion with your mysteries.
Come and master the enemy
in your Holy Spirit
for the glory of the Father.
Amen



Day 4 - Do Whatever He Tells You

Leader: O Mary, may my heart never cease to love you,
Response: and my tongue never cease to praise you.

Prayer from the Roman Missal

All-holy Father,
in your divine wisdom and love
you chose that the Blessed Virgin Mary
should play her part
in the mysteries of our salvation;
grant that by heeding the words of Christ's Mother
we may do what he commands
in the Gospel he has given.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

A Reading from the Gospel of John

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana in Galilee,
and the mother of Jesus was there.
Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding.
When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."
Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet
come."
His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you."
Now there were six stone water jars there for Jewish ceremonial washings, each
holding twenty to thirty gallons.
Jesus told them, "Fill the jars with water."
So they filled them to the brim.
Then he told them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter."
So they took it.
And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing
where it came from (although the servers who had drawn the water knew),
the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him,
"Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an
inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now."
Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs in Cana in Galilee
and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him.

Prayer

Dearest Mother, you offer words of wisdom.
You invite your dear children to embrace the perfect will of the Father in Heaven.
My family helps me to listen to you speak these words to me.
Help me, by the power of your prayers,
to respond to this call to embrace the perfect will of God in my life.
My dearest Jesus, I choose to do all that You command of me.
I choose Your will without reserve and
I know that You invite me to follow in Your footsteps.
May I never be deterred by the hardships of the Cross
but be transformed by the power of Your love.
Amen.

The Canticle of Mary (Luke 2)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

Concluding Prayer

O Jesus living in Mary,
Come and live in your servants
in the holiness of your Spirit,
in the fullness of your strength,
in the perfection of your ways,
in the truth of your virtues,
in communion with your mysteries.
Come and master the enemy
in your Holy Spirit
for the glory of the Father.
Amen



Day 5 – Mary at the Foot of the Cross

Leader: O Mary, may my heart never cease to love you,

Response: and my tongue never cease to praise you.

Prayer

My dearest Mother and Queen, as you stood before the Cross of your Son,
the one thing that drew your eyes from your Son was the invitation from Jesus
to behold your new child in grace.

I am that child, dear mother, and I thank you for the gaze of love you bestow upon me.

My dear Mother, I accept you into the home of my heart
to be my spiritual mother in the order of grace.

I accept you as my queen and seek your maternal care and guidance.

Draw me to your divine Son, dear Mother,
and pray for me that I may seek Him above all else in life.

My loving Lord Jesus, as You hung upon the Cross,
Your deepest desire was the salvation of souls.

From Your Cross, You look down upon me, a lowly sinner,
and entrust Your own mother to me.

I thank You for this unfathomable gift and

I accept the maternal care of the Queen of the Universe and the Mother of All.

Mother Mary, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

A Reading from the Gospel of John

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother
and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas,
and Mary of Magdala.

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved,
he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son."

Then he said to the disciple,
"Behold, your mother."

And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

After this, aware that everything was now finished,
in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled,
Jesus said, "I thirst."

There was a vessel filled with common wine.

So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop
and put it up to his mouth.
When Jesus had taken the wine, he said,
“It is finished.”
And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit.

The Canticle of Mary (Luke 2)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

Concluding Prayer

O Jesus living in Mary,
Come and live in your servants
in the holiness of your Spirit,
in the fullness of your strength,
in the perfection of your ways,
in the truth of your virtues,
in communion with your mysteries.
Come and master the enemy
in your Holy Spirit
for the glory of the Father.
Amen



Day 6 - Mary with the Disciples at Pentecost

Leader: O Mary, may my heart never cease to love you,

Response: and my tongue never cease to praise you.

Prayer from the Roman Missal

Lord our God, as the Blessed Virgin was at prayer with the Apostles
you poured out on her in abundance the gifts of the Holy Spirit;
grant through her intercession that we too, being filled with the same Spirit,
may persevere with one mind in prayer and bring to the world around us
the Good News of salvation.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled,
they were all in one place together.
And suddenly there came from the sky
a noise like a strong driving wind,
and it filled the entire house in which they were.
Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire,
which parted and came to rest on each one of them.
And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and began to speak in different tongues,
as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.
Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem.
At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd,
but they were confused
because each one heard them speaking in his own language.
They were astounded, and in amazement they asked,
“Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans?
Then how does each of us hear them in his native language?
We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites,
inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia,
Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia,
Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene,
as well as travelers from Rome,
both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs,
yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues
of the mighty acts of God.”

Prayer of St. Ildephonsus of Spain

Virgin Mary, hear my prayer:
through the Holy Spirit you became the Mother of Jesus;
from the Holy Spirit may I too have Jesus.
Through the Holy Spirit your flesh conceived Jesus;
through the same Spirit may my soul receive Jesus.
Through the Holy Spirit you were able to know Jesus,
to possess Jesus, and to bring him into the world.
Through the Holy Spirit may I too come to know your Jesus.
Imbued with the Spirit, Mary, you could say
"I am the handmaid of the Lord, be it done unto me according to your word";
in the Holy Spirit, lowly as I am, let me proclaim the great truths about Jesus.
In the Spirit you now adore Jesus as Lord and look on him as Son;
in the same spirit, Mary, let me love your Jesus

The Canticle of Mary (Luke 2)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,

to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

Concluding Prayer

O Jesus living in Mary,
Come and live in your servants
in the holiness of your Spirit,
in the fullness of your strength,
in the perfection of your ways,
in the truth of your virtues,
in communion with your mysteries.
Come and master the enemy
in your Holy Spirit
for the glory of the Father.
Amen



Day 7 - Mary and the Trinity

Leader: O Mary, may my heart never cease to love you,

Response: and my tongue never cease to praise you.

A reading from St. Maximilian Kolbe

And in what does this life of the Spirit in Mary consist? He Himself is uncreated Love in her; the Love of the Father and of the Son, the Love by which God loves Himself, the very love of the Most Holy Trinity. he is a fruitful Love, a "Conception."

Among creatures made in God's image, the union brought about by married love is the most intimate of all. In a much more precise, more interior, more essential manner, the Holy Spirit lives in the soul of the Immaculata, in the depths of her very being. He makes her fruitful, from the very first instance of her existence, all during her life, and for all eternity.

This eternal "Immaculate Conception" [which is the Holy Spirit] produces in an immaculate manner Divine life itself in the womb or depths of Mary's soul, making her the Immaculate Conception, the human Immaculate Conception. And the virginal womb of Mary's body is kept sacred for Him; there He conceives in time the human life of the Man-God.

In the Holy Spirit's union with Mary, we observe more than the love of two beings; in one there is all the love of the Blessed Trinity; in the other, all of Creation's love. So it is that in this union Heaven and earth are joined; all of Heaven with the earth, the totality of eternal love with the totality of created love. It is truly the summit of love.

Prayer of St. John Eudes

Hail Mary, Daughter of God the Father,
Hail Mary, Mother of God the Son,
Hail Mary, Spouse of the Holy Spirit,
Hail Mary, Temple of Divinity,
Hail Mary, Pure Lily of the brilliant Trinity,
Hail Mary, Beautiful Rose of Paradise,
Hail Mary, Virgin of virgins, of whom the King of Heaven
willed to be born and with your milk to be nourished.
Hail Mary, Queen of Martyrs, whose soul a sword pierced.

Hail Mary, Blessed Lady of heaven and earth.
Hail Mary, Queen of my heart, my life, sweetness and hope.
Hail Mary, Mother most amiable.
Hail Mary, Mother most admirable.
Hail Mary, Mother of mercy!

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you!
Blessed are you among women
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus!

Blessed be your spouse, Joseph.
Blessed be your mother, Anne.
Blessed be your son, John.
Blessed be your Angel, Gabriel.

Blessed be God the Father, who chose you.
Blessed be God the Son, who loved you.
Blessed be God the Holy Spirit, who espoused you.
Blessed be forever all those who bless you and love you.
Amen.

The Canticle of Mary (Luke 2)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

Concluding Prayer

O Jesus living in Mary,
Come and live in your servants
in the holiness of your Spirit,
in the fullness of your strength,
in the perfection of your ways,
in the truth of your virtues,
in communion with your mysteries.
Come and master the enemy
in your Holy Spirit
for the glory of the Father.
Amen



Day 8 - Mary Visits Elizabeth

Leader: O Mary, may my heart never cease to love you,

Response: and my tongue never cease to praise you.

Prayer from the Roman Missal

Lord our God, Savior of the human family,
you brought salvation and joy to the home of Elizabeth
through the visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
the ark of the New Covenant.

We ask that, in obedience to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit,
we too may bring Christ to others and proclaim your greatness
by the praise of our lips and the holiness of our lives.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

A Reading from the Gospel of Luke

Mary set out
and traveled to the hill country in haste
to a town of Judah,
where she entered the house of Zechariah
and greeted Elizabeth.
When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,
the infant leaped in her womb,
and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit,
cried out in a loud voice and said,
"Most blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.
And how does this happen to me,
that the mother of my Lord should come to me?
For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears,
the infant in my womb leaped for joy.
Blessed are you who believed
that what was spoken to you by the Lord
would be fulfilled."

And Mary said:

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever.”
Mary remained with her about three months
and then returned to her home.

Litany of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth

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 Spirit, *Have mercy on us.*
Holy Trinity, one God, *Have mercy on us.*
Holy Mary, *pray for us.*
Holy Mother of God, *pray for us.*
Help of Christians, *pray for us.*
St Gabriel the Archangel, *pray for us.*
St. Joseph, *pray for us.*
St. John the Baptist, *pray for us.*
St Elizabeth, *pray for us.*
St Zachariah, *pray for us.*
St Anne, *pray for us.*
St Joachim, *pray for us.*
Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God,
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Grant, we beseech You, O Lord God, that we Your servants may
enjoy health of mind and body and by the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and

Elizabeth, her relative, we may experience the joy of being loved by You on earth, and the eternal happiness of heaven. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Prayer by St. Bernard

Mary, our Mother, the whole world reveres you
as the holiest shrine of the living God,
for in you the salvation of the world dawned.
The Son of God was pleased to take human form from you.
You have broken down the wall of hatred,
the barrier between heaven and earth
which was set us by the disobedience of Adam and Eve.
In you heaven met earth when divinity and humanity
were joined in one person, the God-Man.
Mother of God, we sing your praises, but we must praise you even more.
Our speech is too feeble to honor you as we ought,
for no tongue is eloquent enough to express your excellence.
Mary, most powerful, most holy, and worthy of all love.
Your name brings new life, and the thought of you inspires love
in the hearts of those devoted to you.

Concluding Prayer

O Jesus living in Mary,
Come and live in your servants
in the holiness of your Spirit,
in the fullness of your strength,
in the perfection of your ways,
in the truth of your virtues,
in communion with your mysteries.
Come and master the enemy
in your Holy Spirit
for the glory of the Father.
Amen

