

JESUS CHRIST, HIS LOVE, MY PERFECTION

2017 Lenten Mission Prayers

Order of Prayers to begin each Talk: (1) Prayer to the Holy Ghost, (2) Invocations to the Divine Perfections, (3) Soul of Christ, (4) Specific invocation of Soul of Christ, (5) *Transfige, dulcissime Dómine Iesu*, (6) Prayer to the Sacred Heart, (7) Prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary, (8) Prayer to St. Joseph, and (9) Prayer to either St. Paul or St. Agnes (*Raccolta* #486 and #560). [Note: Prayer #4 is not included in these pages.]

(1) Prayer to the Holy Ghost [St. Alphonsus Liguori]

Holy Ghost, divine Paraclete, Father of the poor, Consoler of the afflicted, Light of hearts, Sanctifier of souls! behold me prostrate in Thy presence; I adore Thee with the most profound submission, and I repeat a thousand times with the seraphs who are before Thy throne: Holy, Holy, Holy! I firmly believe that Thou art eternal, consubstantial with the Father and the Son. I hope that by Thy goodness Thou wilt sanctify and save my soul.

I love Thee, O God of love! I love Thee more than all the things of this world; I love Thee with all my affections, because Thou art infinite goodness that alone dost merit all love; and since, insensible as I have been to Thy holy inspirations, I have been so ungrateful as to offend Thee by so many sins, I ask Thee a thousand pardons for them, and I supremely regret having ever displeased Thee, O sovereign Good! I offer Thee my heart cold as it is, and I supplicate Thee to let a ray of Thy light and a spark of Thy fire enter therein to melt the hardened ice of my iniquities. Thou who hast filled with immense graces the soul of Mary, and inflamed with a holy zeal the hearts of the apostles, vouchsafe also to set on fire my heart with Thy love.

Thou art a divine Spirit, fortify me against evil spirits; Thou art a fire, enkindle in me the fire of Thy love; Thou art a light, enlighten me so that I may know eternal things; Thou art a dove, give me great purity of heart; Thou art a breath that is full of sweetness, dissipate the storms that my passions raise up against me; Thou art a tongue, teach me the manner of praising Thee without ceasing; Thou art a cloud, cover me with the shadow of Thy protection; and if, finally, Thou art the author of all heavenly gifts, ah, I beseech Thee to grant them to me: vivify me by Thy grace, sanctify me by Thy charity, govern me by Thy wisdom, adopt me by Thy bounty as Thy child, and save me by Thy infinite mercy, so that I may never cease to bless Thee, to praise Thee, to love Thee, at first during my life on this earth, and afterwards for all eternity in Heaven. *Amen*.

(2) Invocations to the Divine Perfections

Infinite sanctity of God — purify me.
Infinite wisdom of God — direct me.
Infinite power of God — support me.
Infinite patience of God — bear with me.
Infinite bounty of God — enrich me.
Infinite justice of God — spare me.

Infinite immensity of God — possess me.
Infinite love of God — consume me.
Infinite mercy of God — plead for me.
Blessed eternity of God — prepare me, call me, receive me forever. *Amen*

(3) Anima Christi [*Prayer of St. Ignatius of Loyola*]

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.	Permit me not to be separated from Thee.
Body of Christ, save me.	From the malignant enemy, defend me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.	In the hour of my death, call me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.	And bid me come to Thee, that, with Thy
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.	saints, I may praise Thee forever and
O Good Jesus, hear me.	ever. <i>Amen.</i>
Within Thy wounds hide me.	

(4) Prayer not Included (*Here, Father will pray a different prayer each day.*)

(5) Transfige, dulcissime Dómine Iesu [*Prayer of St. Bonaventure*]

Pierce, O most sweet Lord Jesus, my inmost soul with the most joyous and healthful wound of Thy love, with true, tranquil, and most holy apostolic charity, that my soul may ever languish and melt with love and longing for Thee, that it may yearn for Thee and faint for Thy courts, and long to be dissolved and to be with Thee.

Grant that my soul may hunger after Thee, the bread of Angels, the comforting nourishment of holy souls, our daily and supersubstantial bread, having all sweetness and savor and every delight of taste; let my heart ever hunger after and feed upon Thee, upon Whom the Angels desire to look, and may my inmost soul be filled with the sweetness of Thy savor; may it ever thirst after Thee, the source of life, the fount of wisdom and knowledge, the fountain of everlasting light, the flood of pleasure, the richness of the house of God.

May my soul ever compass Thee, seek Thee, find Thee, run to Thee, attain to Thee, meditate upon Thee, speak of Thee, and do all things to the praise and glory of Thy Name, with humility and discretion, with love and delight, with ease and affection, and with perseverance unto the end; and mayest Thou alone be ever my hope, my entire assurance, my riches, my delight, my pleasure, my joy, my rest and tranquility, my peace, my sweetness, my fragrance, my sweet savor, my food, my refreshment, my refuge, my help, my wisdom, my portion, my possession, and my treasure, in Whom may my mind and my heart remain fixed and firm and rooted immovably for ever more. *Amen.*

(6) Prayer to the Sacred Heart

Heart of Jesus, which burnest with love for men, consume our hearts with the love of Thee.

O Sacred Heart! which didst pour forth on Calvary from Thy open wound the torrents of Thy charity! O generous Heart! which, from the altar where Thou immolatest Thyself each day, and from the tabernacle where Thy love reposes, dost not cease to shed Thy blessings on the earth! O tender Heart! which has so much loved men, which lovest them still, who will always love them, unworthy though they be of Thy goodness!, inflame with Thy warmth our dry, hard, icy hearts, or rather take from us these “hearts of stone,” and give us hearts which know how to love Thee, which love Thee alone, or which love nothing but in Thee and for

Thee; hearts like to Thy heart, in order that, consumed in Thy unity, and united in Thy charity, we may one day be crowned in Thy glory. *Amen.*

(7 & 8) Prayers to Our Lady and St. Joseph - Monday, March 13, 2017

O Heart of Mary, Mother of God, and our Mother; Heart most worthy of love, in which the adorable Trinity is ever well-pleased, worthy of the veneration and love of all the Angels and of all men; Heart most like to the Heart of Jesus, of which thou art the perfect image; Heart, full of goodness, ever compassionate toward our miseries; deign to melt our icy hearts and grant that they may be wholly changed into the likeness of the Heart of Jesus, our divine Savior. Pour into them the love of thy virtues, enkindle in them that divine fire with which thou thyself dost ever burn. In thee let Holy Church find a safe shelter; protect her and be her dearest refuge, her tower of strength, impregnable against every assault of her enemies. Be thou the way which leads to Jesus, and the channel, through which we receive all the graces needful for our salvation. Be our refuge in time of trouble, our solace in the midst of trial, our strength against temptation, our haven in persecution, our present help in every danger, and especially at the hour of death. May the Divine Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary be known, praised, blessed, loved, worshipped and glorified now and always, here and in all places! *Amen.* [see [Raccolta](#) #393]

We come to thee, O glorious patriarch St. Joseph, behold us prostrate at thy feet, begging thee to receive us as thy servants and thy children. Next to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, of which thou art the faithful copy, we acknowledge that there is no heart more tender, more compassionate, than thine. What, then, have we to fear, or rather, for what should we not hope, if thou dost deign to be our benefactor, our master, our model, our father and our mediator?

Most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, we ask thee by the love thou hast for Jesus and Mary, to protect and defend the Holy Church of God from the snares of all her enemies, especially the enemies who dwell within. Protect and defend the Catholic Church from every pest of heresy, blasphemy, impurity, and corrupting sin. And may we, after having honored, imitated, and served thee on earth, eternally sing with thee the mercies of Jesus and Mary. *Amen.*

St. Joseph, pray for us.

(7 & 8) Prayers to Our Lady and St. Joseph – Tuesday, March 14, 2017

To thee, O Immaculate and Sorrowful Mother of God, do we have recourse in this supreme hour of mankind's need, amidst such storms indeed as have never been known, shaking Mother Church to her very foundations.

Thou, who standing by the foot of the Cross, didst once share so closely in the sufferings of thy Divine Son, with what compassion art thou not moved today for the suffering of His Mystical Body, the Church! Russia has so spread her errors throughout the world that the human element of the Church has been widely infected; within the very bosom of the Church

the virus of a false ecumenism poisons souls without number, either tearing them away or keeping them outside of the unity of the true Faith and the one and only Ark of Salvation. Indeed, the good are being persecuted and martyred, and the See of Peter itself is under sinister attack by a bishop dressed in white.

During this holy season of Lent, we wish to place ourselves under thy powerful and loving motherly protection, thou to whom God promised from the beginning wouldst crush the head of the infernal serpent. We look to thine Immaculate Heart, a perfect image of the Divine Heart of thy Son. This shall be our refuge and the way that will lead us to God.

O most sweet Mother and Queen, we consecrate ourselves this day to Thine Immaculate and Sorrowful Heart. We consecrate our eyes, our ears, our mouths, our hearts, our whole being, without reserve. We relinquish all that we have that we may be wholly thine. Wherefore, good Mother, as we are all thine, keep us and guard us in thy Heart; bring us to the restoration of all things in Christ through the glorious triumph of thine Immaculate Heart. *Amen.*

St. Joseph, father and guardian of virgins, into whose faithful keeping were entrusted Innocence itself, Christ Jesus, and Mary, the Virgin of virgins. I pray and beseech thee through Jesus and Mary, those pledges so dear to thee, to keep me from all uncleanness, and to grant that my mind may be untainted, my heart pure and my body chaste; help me always to serve Jesus and Mary in perfect chastity. *Amen.* [[Raccolta](#) #473]

St. Joseph, pray for us.

(7 & 8) Prayers to Our Lady and St. Joseph - Wednesday, March 15, 2017

O Virgin Immaculate, Mother of God and my Mother, from thy sublime height turn upon me thine eyes of pity. Filled with confidence in thy goodness and knowing full well thy power, I beseech thee to extend to me thy loving assistance in the journey of life, which is so full of dangers for my soul. And in order that I may never be the slave of the devil through sin, but may ever live with my heart humble and pure, I entrust myself wholly to thee. I consecrate my heart to thee forever, my only desire being to love thy divine Son Jesus. Mary, none of thy devout servants has ever perished; may I too be saved.

O Mary, Mother of God and my dear Mother, how much I love thee! And yet in reality how little! Thou dost teach me what I ought to know, for thou teachest me what Jesus is to me and what I ought to be for Jesus. Most holy Mother, how close to God thou art, and how utterly filled with Him! Sweetest Mother, obtain for me the grace of loving Jesus; obtain for me the grace of loving thee! *Amen.* [[Raccolta](#) #'s 369 & 352]

Petition for St. Joseph's Blessing

Bless me, O my dearly beloved Father, St. Joseph, bless my body and my soul; bless my resolutions, my words and deeds, all my actions and omissions, my every step; bless all that I possess, all my interior and exterior goods, that all may redound to the greater honor of God. Bless me for time and eternity and preserve me from every sin.

Obtain for me the great grace to make atonement for all my sins by love and contrition here on earth, so that, after my last breath, I may without delay, prostrate at thy feet, return thee thanks in Heaven for all the love and goodness thou, O dearest Father, didst show me here below. *Amen.*

St. Joseph, pray for us.

(7 & 8) Prayers to Our Lady and St. Joseph - Thursday, March 16, 2017

Most holy and immaculate Virgin Mary, our most tender Mother, and powerful Help of Christians, we dedicate ourselves entirely to thy most sweet love and holy service. We consecrate to thee our minds and all our thoughts, our hearts and all our affections, our bodies and all our senses and all our strength; we promise to be ever willing to labor the greater glory of God and the salvation of souls.

Meanwhile do thou, O incomparable Virgin, who hast ever been the Help of the Christian people, continue to show thyself such, especially in these our days. Bring low the enemies of our holy religion and frustrate their wicked designs. Enlighten and strengthen bishops and priests, and keep them ever united in obedience to the Pope, their infallible teacher.

O great Mother of God, teach us to copy thy virtues, especially angelic purity, profound humility, and ardent charity; so that by word and example we may, as far as is possible in our state of life, be living images of thy blessed Son Jesus in the midst of the world, and make thee known and loved, in the sure hope that thus we may succeed in bringing many souls to salvation. *Amen.* [Raccolta #413]

O glorious St. Joseph, chosen by God to be the foster-father of Jesus, the chaste spouse of Mary ever Virgin, and the head of the Holy Family, most confidently do we implore at this moment thy powerful aid for all the Church Militant on earth. Intercede for the true conversion and sanctification of the Supreme Pontiff and all the Bishops and priests of the Church; cause all the peoples of the earth to submit themselves in a docile spirit to Holy Mother Church, which is the ark of salvation for all men.

Dear St. Joseph, obtain for me great purity of heart and grant that, following thine example, I may direct all my actions to the greater glory of God, in union with the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary and in union with thee. Finally, pray for me, that I may be a partaker in the peace and joy which were thine at the hour of thy holy death. *Amen.* [Raccolta #474]

St. Joseph, pray for us.

(7 & 8) Prayers to Our Lady and St. Joseph - Friday, March 17, 2017

O Immaculate Virgin Mary, who being conceived without sin, didst direct every movement of thy most pure heart toward God, and wast always submissive to His divine will; obtain for me the grace to hate sin with all my heart and to learn from thee to live in perfect resignation to the will of God. *Sweet Heart of Mary, be my salvation.*

O glorious Queen of Martyrs, whose sacred heart, in the Passion of thy Son, was cruelly pierced by the sword foretold by the holy and aged Simeon; obtain for my heart true courage and holy patience to bear well the tribulations and trials of this wretched life; may I show myself to be thy true child by crucifying my flesh and all its desires in following the mortification of the Cross. *Sweet Heart of Mary, be my salvation.*

O Mary, mystic rose, whose lovable heart, burning with the living fire of love, adopted us as thy children at the foot of the Cross, becoming thus our most tender Mother, make me experience the sweetness of thy motherly heart and the power of thine intercession with Jesus, in all the dangers that beset me during life, and especially at the dread hour of my death; in such wise may my heart be ever united to thine, and love Jesus both now and through endless ages. *Sweet Heart of Mary, be my salvation. Amen.* [Raccolta #392]

I cast myself at thy feet, O glorious St. Joseph, and sincerely venerate thee as the chaste spouse of the Mother of God, as the head of the holiest Family that ever existed, as the foster-father of Jesus Christ, as the faithful preserver of the treasures of the Blessed Trinity. In thee I venerate the choice of God the Father who desired to share with thee His power over His Eternal, only-begotten Son. In thee I venerate the choice of God the Son, who wished to be dependent on thee and to owe His subsistence to the labor of thy hands. In thee I venerate the choice of God the Holy Ghost, who wished to entrust to thee His faithful Spouse and to give thee to her as her guardian and companion through life.

Present me, O great Saint, to the Adorable Trinity, with whom thou hadst so glorious and so intimate communication. Obtain that I may never efface by sin the sacred image to the likeness of which I was created. Beg for me, that my Divine Redeemer would kindle in my heart, and in all hearts, the fire of His love, and infuse therein the virtues of His Adorable infancy: His purity, simplicity, obedience, and humility. Obtain for me likewise a lively devotion to thy Virgin Spouse, and protect me so powerfully in life and death that I may have the happiness of dying as thou didst, in the friendship of my Creator, and under the immediate protection of the Mother of God. *Amen.*

St. Joseph, pray for us.

(9) Prayer to St. Agnes Virgin and Martyr – Monday, May 13, 2017 [Raccolta, #560]

O singular example of virtue, glorious Saint Agnes, by the living faith which animated thee from thy tenderest years, and rendered thee so pleasing to God that thou didst merit the martyr's crown: obtain for us the grace to keep our holy faith inviolate within us, and to profess ourselves Christians sincerely in word and work; may our open confession of Jesus before men cause Him to bear a favorable witness to us before His eternal Father.

(9) Prayer to St. Paul the Apostle – Tue & Thur, May 14 & 16, 2017 [Raccolta, #486]

O glorious Saint Paul, who, from being a persecutor of the Christian name, didst become its most zealous Apostle, and who, to carry the knowledge of Jesus, our divine Savior, to the uttermost parts of the earth, didst joyfully suffer prison, scourgings, stonings, shipwreck and all manner of persecutions, and who didst finish thy course by shedding the last drop of thy

blood: obtain for us the grace to accept, as favors bestowed by the mercy of God, the infirmities, sufferings and misfortunes of this life, that we may not grow slack in our service of God by reason of these vicissitudes of our exile, but that we may rather show ourselves ever more devoted. Amen.

Saint Paul the Apostle, pray for us.

(9) Prayer to St. Agnes Virgin and Martyr – Wednesday, May 15, 2017 [Raccolta, #560]

O invincible Martyr, Saint Agnes most renowned, by thy confidence in God's help, when, being condemned by the impious Roman prefect to see the lily of thy purity stained and trampled in the mire, thou didst not despair, still trusting firmly in the God who giveth His angels charge over them that trust in Him: we beseech thee by thine intercession to obtain for us from Almighty God the forgiveness of all our sins and the sure confidence that He will bestow upon us life everlasting and the means necessary to merit it.

(9) Prayer to St. Agnes Virgin and Martyr – Friday, May 17, 2017 [Raccolta, #560]

O courageous maiden, Saint Agnes most pure, by the burning love with which thy heart was on fire, and which preserved thee from harm in the midst of the flames of passion and of the stake, where the enemies of Jesus Christ sought to destroy thee: obtain for us from Almighty God that every unclean flame may be extinguished in us and only that fire, which Jesus Christ came to enkindle upon the earth, may burn within us; so that, after spending a blameless life in the practice of this fair virtue, we shall be worthy to have a share in the glory thou didst merit by the purity of thy heart and by thy martyrdom.

[10] Final Prayer [St. John Eudes]

O Jesus, King of my heart, Thou hast placed me on earth only that I may love Thee. Oh, how noble, how holy and how lofty is the end for which Thou hast created me! God of my heart, since Thou hast created me only to love Thee, do not allow me to live except in love of Thee, ever growing in Thy love. Thou hast bought, at the price of Thy blood, every minute of my time and of my life so that I might use them in loving Thee. Too much, too much, alas, have I wasted on self-love, on love of the world, and on attachment to created things. Let me have no more days and hours, except to love Thee.

O Jesus, King of my love, increase in me the desire to love Thee, may I aspire to Thee incessantly; may I tend towards Thee perpetually; may I yearn for Thee night and day without ceasing. O Sweetest Jesus, give me life only that I may love Thee more and more. *Amen.*

Sub tuum præsidium confugimus, Sancta Dei Genetrix.

We fly to thy patronage, O holy Mother of God; despise not our petitions in our necessities, but deliver us always from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.