



PRAYER FOR THE SOULS IN PURGATORY

October 24th – November 1st, 2025



The practice of praying for the souls in Purgatory dates back to the **early Church**, when Christians began offering prayers and Masses for the dead, believing that intercession could help those who died in God's grace but were not yet purified enough to enter Heaven.

The formal **Novena for the Souls in Purgatory** evolved, particularly during the Middle Ages, as devotion to the Holy Souls intensified. Saints such as **St. Gertrude the**

Great, St. Catherine of Genoa and **St. Padre Pio** fervently promoted prayers for the dead. St. Gertrude, in particular, received a special prayer from Christ with a promise to release many souls from Purgatory when it is devoutly recited.

Why People Pray This Novena

1. To Help the Souls Reach Heaven

Catholics believe that those in Purgatory are assured of Heaven, but they undergo purification for their sins. Prayers, novenas, and Masses offered on their behalf can **speed up their journey** to eternal life.

2. Spiritual Work of Mercy

Praying for the dead is considered a **spiritual act of mercy**, reflecting the communion of saints—that the Church on earth can assist the Church suffering (in Purgatory).

3. Mutual Intercession

Those souls who are released by our prayers are believed to become powerful intercessors for us once they enter Heaven.

4. Gratitude and Remembrance

Many people pray the novena out of **love for deceased family and friends**, or to thank God for their lives and ask that their souls be at peace.

Day 1 – Trust in God’s Mercy

“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.” (Matthew 5:7)

Meditation

Today we begin our novena by placing our trust in God’s infinite mercy. His mercy endures forever, and He desires the salvation of all souls. As we pray for those in Purgatory, we also renew our own faith in His love and forgiveness.

Daily Intention

Let us pray for the souls who have no one to pray for them, especially the most forgotten and abandoned.

Prayer for the Holy Souls

Merciful Lord, You are the hope of all who trust in You. Embrace the forgotten souls in Purgatory with Your healing light. Let them know they are not alone, and may our prayers be a comfort and a bridge to Your heavenly home.

Prayer of St. Gertrude

Eternal Father, I offer You the Most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, those in my own home, and within my family. **Amen.**

Closing Prayer

Jesus, meek and humble of heart, hear our prayer. May the souls in Purgatory rest in Your eternal peace. **Amen.**

Day 2 – For Deceased Family Members

“It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins.” (2 Maccabees 12:46)

Meditation

Our family shapes who we are and continues to affect our lives even after death. Today we remember parents, grandparents, siblings, and extended family who have gone before us. May our prayers honor their memory and assist their souls.

Daily Intention

Let us pray for the repose of the souls of our deceased family members, that they may enjoy the reward of eternal life.

Prayer for the Holy Souls

Loving Father, welcome our departed loved ones into the light of Your face. May their good deeds follow them, and may their faults be purified in Your mercy.

Prayer of St. Gertrude

Eternal Father, I offer You the Most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, those in my own home, and within my family. **Amen.**

Closing Prayer

Jesus, meek and humble of heart, hear our prayer. May the souls in Purgatory rest in Your eternal peace. **Amen.**

Day 3 – For Forgotten Souls

“The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them.”
(Wisdom 3:1)

Meditation

Some souls are forgotten by the world—those who died without family or friends to remember them. Yet they are never forgotten by God. Our prayers today are an act of love and solidarity with them.

Daily Intention

Let us pray for those whose names are lost to time, who suffer alone in silence.

Prayer for the Holy Souls

O God, You remember every soul You created. Draw near to those whose earthly lives are forgotten, and bring them swiftly to Your glory.

Prayer of St. Gertrude

Eternal Father, I offer You the Most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, those in my own home, and within my family. **Amen.**

Closing Prayer

Jesus, meek and humble of heart, hear our prayer. May the souls in Purgatory rest in Your eternal peace. **Amen.**

Day 4 – For Those Who Died Suddenly or Unexpectedly

“Watch, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.” (Matthew 25:13)

Meditation

Death can come swiftly and without warning. Today, we pray for those who died without preparation, confession, or the last rites. We entrust them to God’s mercy.

Daily Intention

Let us pray for all who died suddenly, especially through accident, disaster, or violence.

Prayer for the Holy Souls

Compassionate Savior, look with mercy on those who were unprepared for death. Let Your grace transform their sudden passing.

Prayer of St. Gertrude

Eternal Father, I offer You the Most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, those in my own home, and within my family. **Amen.**

Closing Prayer

Jesus, meek and humble of heart, hear our prayer. May the souls in Purgatory rest in Your eternal peace. **Amen.**

Day 5 – For the Most Suffering Souls

“We suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.” (Romans 8:17)

Meditation

Some souls undergo deeper purification, burdened by the weight of earthly attachments. Our prayers can help lighten their suffering and speed their entry into glory.

Daily Intention

Let us pray for the souls who suffer most in Purgatory and long most ardently for Heaven.

Prayer for the Holy Souls

Lord of mercy, relieve the most afflicted souls in Purgatory. Grant them courage, hope, and the joy of knowing they are nearing Your embrace.

Prayer of St. Gertrude

Eternal Father, I offer You the Most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, those in my own home, and within my family. **Amen.**

Closing Prayer

Jesus, meek and humble of heart, hear our prayer. May the souls in Purgatory rest in Your eternal peace. **Amen.**

Day 6 – For Souls of Priests and Religious

“Well done, good and faithful servant... Enter into the joy of your Lord.” (Matthew 25:21)

Meditation

Those who served the Church through holy orders and religious life have offered their lives for others. We remember them with gratitude and ask God to perfect their souls.

Daily Intention

Let us pray for the souls of priests, deacons, and religious brothers and sisters.

Prayer for the Holy Souls

Lord Jesus, reward Your servants who brought You to others. Let their service be purified and their joy made complete in Heaven.

Prayer of St. Gertrude

Eternal Father, I offer You the Most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, those in my own home, and within my family. **Amen.**

Closing Prayer

Jesus, meek and humble of heart, hear our prayer. May the souls in Purgatory rest in Your eternal peace. **Amen.**

Day 7 – For Those Who Died With Unforgiven Sin

“Nothing impure will ever enter it [Heaven].” (Revelation 21:27)

Meditation

While these souls died in friendship with God, they still carried the stain of venial sins or unresolved earthly attachments. Today we pray for their purification.

Daily Intention

Let us pray for souls who still carry the wounds of sin and need healing.

Prayer for the Holy Souls

God of mercy, cleanse these souls with the fire of Your love. Let the light of Your forgiveness shine upon them.

Prayer of St. Gertrude

Eternal Father, I offer You the Most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, those in my own home, and within my family. **Amen.**

Closing Prayer

Jesus, meek and humble of heart, hear our prayer. May the souls in Purgatory rest in Your eternal peace. Amen.

Day 8 – For the Most Devoted Souls

“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard... what God has prepared for those who love Him.” (1 Corinthians 2:9)

Meditation

Some souls lived in great devotion—attending daily Mass, praying the Rosary, and offering sacrifices. Their love for God was deep. We honor them today.

Daily Intention

Let us pray for devout souls who longed for God and now await full union with Him.

Prayer for the Holy Souls

Gracious God, bring into Your eternal joy those souls who loved You with fervor and faithfulness.

Prayer of St. Gertrude

Eternal Father, I offer You the Most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, those in my own home, and within my family. **Amen.**

Closing Prayer

Jesus, meek and humble of heart, hear our prayer. May the souls in Purgatory rest in Your eternal peace. **Amen.**

Day 9 – Thanksgiving and Trust

“He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more.” (Revelation 21:4)

Meditation

As we conclude this novena, we give thanks for God’s justice, mercy, and the hope of eternal life. We entrust every soul to His love.

Daily Intention

Let us give thanks for God’s promise of salvation and pray for all souls still in need of our intercession.

Prayer for the Holy Souls

Lord, we praise You for Your loving plan of redemption. Grant eternal rest to all the faithful departed, and peace to all who mourn them.

Prayer of St. Gertrude

Eternal Father, I offer You the Most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, those in my own home, and within my family. **Amen.**

Closing Prayer

Jesus, meek and humble of heart, hear our prayer. May the souls in Purgatory rest in Your eternal peace. **Amen.**
