

Novena to the Blessed Virgin Mary <u>Fr. Justin Rosary Hour • P. O. Box 454 • Athol Springs, NY 14010</u>

⁷ Dear Devotees of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Friends, Benefactors and Patrons of the Rosary Hour, Praised be Jesus Christ!

"We entrust ourselves to You, Healing the Sick"

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

We begin this letter with the **prayer of Pope Francis to the Mother of God. May** is upon us - "**the month of Mary**". In May, the Church presents to us the best mother, **Mary the Immaculate Mother of Jesus Christ** and **our Mother**. Before her, spiritually united, let us open our hearts to her in prayer with the Rosary Hour Family by participating in the May devotions. If we do not have these devotions in our church, or if we are not able to participate in them (due to age, illness or work), let us pray the **Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary** in our homes.

"A mother is she who can take the place of all others but whose place no one else can take." (Card. Gaspard Mermillod, †1892). Let us remember our mothers with love, remembrance, and gratitude. If your mother is still alive, share your time with her, give her a kiss, send her all the best wishes, a letter, make a phone call, or prepare a nice gift for her. And if your mother has passed on to God, remember her in your prayers. Let us thank God for our lovely mothers, and pray for them not only on the Mother's Day but every day.

Let us consecrate ourselves to Mary because we trust in her powerful intercession. We are needy of everything, and Mary is the Mediatrix of All Graces. God made her so great, so powerful, to our advantage. The Second Vatican Ecumenical Council tells us that Mary, assumed into Heaven, continues her maternal work over us, until we see each other safely in Paradise. Let us recommend ourselves to Mary in all our necessities, but especially so that she may pray for us "now and at the hour of our death": they are the two principal moments of life.

The Franciscans eagerly urge you to join our 9-day Novena to the Mother of God, which will begin on Mothers' Day and end on the 18th of May, the day on which St. John Paul II was born 100 years ago. During the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and devotions the Franciscan shall extol the Virgin Mary using many titles, begging that She be for us, earth's wanderers, the best Mother. Through the intercession of the Mother of God, we shall commend to God all mothers and all the special intentions entrusted by the Friends of the Rosary Hour.

On the enclosed reply form, please write the name of your Mother and include the intentions that are very dear to you. Without your assistance (prayers and monetary gift) today it would be very difficult to fulfill the mission of preaching the Word of God by the Franciscans.

May the Mother of God, our most loving Mother, intercede for you in God. With prayers and gratitude,

Br. Daniel Geary, OFM Conv.

Br. Daniel and the Rosary Hour Community



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