



St. Monica's Prayer Group For Loved Ones Who Have Left the Faith

Novena to Saint Monica

Exemplary Mother of the great Augustine, You perseveringly pursued your wayward son, not with wild threats, but with prayerful cries to heaven. Intercede for all mothers in our day so that they may learn to draw their children to God. Teach them how to remain close to their children, even the prodigal sons and daughters who have sadly gone astray.

Dear St. Monica, troubled wife and mother, many sorrows pierced your heart during your lifetime, yet you never despaired or lost faith. You prayed daily for the conversion of your beloved husband, Patricius and your beloved son, Augustine.

Grant me that same fortitude, patience and trust in the Lord. Intercede for me, dear St. Monica that God may favorably hear my pleas for Grant me the grace to accept His will in all things, through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God forever and ever. Amen (Source unknown)

Prayer for Good Friends

"To support one another in the things of the Spirit is the true sign of good will between brothers, of loving kinship and sincere affection. ...He brought his brother to the very Source of Light, and Peter was so joyful and eager that he would not delay even for a moment." (A Sermon by St. John Chrysostom on St. John's Gospel, the feast of St. Andrew.)

Prayer: Dear Mother Mary and St. Monica, please send our loved ones who have strayed good friends who will help them seek and find what is truly good. "No one is good but God alone" (Mk 10:18). The draw of the world is great in our troubled days and much confusion exists, spread sensually in our hyper-technological times. Silence that draws us to the hidden whispers of Our Lord is drowned by the brash and always present noise of empty media clamoring. Send them loving and sincere friends who will lead them to the joy and peace of knowing your Son and Lord, and their great dignity as beloved sons and daughters of the Almighty God. Make them eager, like St. Peter, for the Truth. We ask this in Jesus name. Amen

The Lord says...stop your crying and wipe away your tears. All that you have done for your children will not go unrewarded. There is hope for your future: your children will come back home. I, the Lord, have spoken." Jeremiah 31:16-17

For Inner Peace

“Bring your people to safety, Lord and bless those who are your inheritance...Have mercy on us, Lord ...in you, Lord, I trust. (Te Deum)

I don't ask if he/she went to Mass anymore. I know the answer. I don't want to drive them away further. St. Ambrose told St. Monica her tears would not be wasted, God would answer her prayers. I cling to that, Lord. The lifeless eyes of those we love tell much. Help us to wait as the Prodigal's Father does, not running after him, not crying out, but waiting with hope, praying with confidence in the Divine Mercy.

Tears of anxious parents and loved ones sometimes flow like a torrent, unstoppable. Lord, you cried tears of blood for us, for our loved ones, for the cold heart, for those whom you knew just wouldn't care that you hung on the Cross out of love for each one of us. How Lord, can I compose myself with the agonizing thought of this beloved child losing his eternal soul?

I must turn to your Mother Mary. She suffered at the Cross, watching them (her children) beat You, spit on You, curse You. Yet she stood faithfully, silently, trusting in the Eternal Wisdom of God with a love beyond all telling. She knows our pain. So we must follow Our Mother's example. We must offer up our maternal pain in union with hers, at the Foot of the Cross. We must trust that no pain is to be wasted, all for the forgiveness of sin, my sin, our sin, the sin of our families, the sin of the world. She is the Mother of all until the end of time. She knows maternal pain beyond our imagination. Mary, give us your strength as we pray for our children, for all of your children throughout the world.

Help us always to trust as you did. Keep in our mind the promise, “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it”.(Proverbs 22:6)

Forgive us our sins, especially if we have in any way contributed to their leaving the holy faith. Help us to remember your love for us, and let that fill us with a holy joy, sincere, comforting, healing and constant. St. Monica, pray for us. Mary our Mother, help us to make our “Fiat” every day with joy.

Let our prayers be united with those in our presence, understanding each other's sorrow, and let us be one in our love for one another on this our pilgrim path. Help us to remember that God loves perfectly and Mary's maternal heart is pure and strong in joining us. He knew before we were formed in our own mother's womb, that this day we would be here together, praying for our children in union His Sacred and Mary's immaculate heart. Let us be one in our pleadings to Our Loving Father, with Jesus His only begotten Son, in union with the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Divine Mercy Prayers

For Those Who Do Not Believe In God and Those Who Do Not Know Him

Most Compassionate Jesus, You are the Light of the whole world. Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who do not believe in God and of those who as yet do not know You. Let the rays of Your grace enlighten them that they, too, together with us, may extol Your wonderful mercy, and do not let them escape from the abode which is Your Most Compassionate Heart.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls of those who do not believe in You, and of those who as yet do not know You, but are enclosed in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. Draw them to the light of the Gospel. These souls do not know what great happiness it is to love You. Grant that they, too, may extol the generosity of Your mercy for endless ages. Amen

(From the Divine Mercy Novena, Day 4.)

For Those Separated From the Church

“Bring Me the souls of those who have separated from my Church and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. During My bitter Passion they tore at My body and heart, that is, My Church. As they return to unity with the Church, My wounds heal, and in this way they alleviate My Passion.”

Most Merciful Jesus, Goodness Itself, You do not refuse light to those who seek it of You. Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who have separated from your Church. Draw them by Your light into the unity of the Church, and do not let them escape from the abode of Your Most Compassionate heart, but bring it about that they, too, come to glorify the generosity of Your mercy.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls of those who are separated from your Son’s Church, especially those who have squandered Your blessings and misused Your graces by obstinately persisting in their errors. Do not look upon their errors, but upon the love of Your own Son and upon His bitter Passion, which He underwent for their sake, since they too, are enclosed in His most Compassionate Heart. Bring it about that they also may glorify Your great mercy for endless ages. Amen.

From the Divine Mercy Novena, Day 5

Prayer for the Troubled and Despondent

O’ God we thank and praise you for the gift of life – your gift to each one of us, given a day at a time.

Let us never be over anxious about the future, but leave it in the hands of God.

Each day arranged by Him is His gift, His act of love for each of us.

Lord enlighten and comfort, those who through pain, fear, despair or any evil influence, may be tempted to injure or destroy the precious gift of life entrusted to them.

Fr. Donatus McNamara O.F.M.Cap. Divine Mercy Apostolate, Dublin

Prayer of Parents for Their Children

O Lord, omnipotent Father, we give you thanks for having given us children. They are our joy, and we accept with serenity the worries, fears and labors which bring us pain. Help us to live them sincerely. Through us, you gave life to them; from eternity, you knew them and loved them. Give us wisdom to guide them, patience to teach them, vigilance to accustom them to the good through our example. Support our love so that we may receive them back when they have strayed and make them good. It is often so difficult to understand them, to be, as they would want us to be, to help them to go on their way. Grant that they may always see our home as a haven in their time of need. Teach us and help us, O good Father, through the merits of Jesus, your Son and our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for a Lonely Soul

**Jesus, Friend of a lonely heart,
You are my haven, You are my peace.
You are my salvation.
You are the bright ray that lights up the path of my life.
You are everything to a lonely soul.
You understand the soul even though it remains silent.
You know our weaknesses, and You comfort and heal, sparing us sufferings**
St. Faustina's Diary, 1,114.

Apostles of Mercy Prayer

**Merciful Jesus, we believe in You, and we trust in You.
Come to the aid of our weakness and our incapacity
Grant that we may be able to make
You known and loved by all
And confident in the immensity of Your Love
We may be able to combat the evil
Which is in us and in all the world,
For Your Glory and our salvation. Amen**

