

Novena Prayer to St. Maria Goretti

Saint Mary Goretti, who, strengthened by God's grace, did not hesitate, even at the age of twelve, to shed your blood and sacrifice life itself to defend your virginal purity, look graciously on the unhappy human race, which has strayed far from the path of eternal salvation. Teach us all, and especially youth, with what courage and promptitude we should flee for the love of Jesus, anything that could offend Him or stain our souls with sin. Obtain for us from our Lord victory in temptation, comfort in the sorrows of life, and the grace which we earnestly beg of Thee, **(mention your request)** and may we one day enjoy with Thee the imperishable glory of heaven. Amen.

The Nine Day Novena to St. Mary Goretti

DAY ONE

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen

Most lovable little Saint, who valued your purity above any earthly gain, and who sealed this choice with a martyr's death, obtain for me also a strong love of this virtue, so consoling to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The pleasures of the world create many temptations for me. I turn to your powerful intercession in Heaven, so that with this help I may remain ever loyal to God, no matter what the price. In danger inspire me to repeat with you, "No, it is a sin!" Amen.

Recite the **Litany of the Blessed Virgin** followed by:

Sweet Heart of Jesus, be my Love!

Sweet Heart of Mary, be my Salvation!

Recite the **Prayer to Saint Mary Goretti** above, followed by:

Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be to the Father,

Saint Mary Goretti, Pray for us!

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

DAY TWO

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen

Dear Saint Mary Goretti, model of loving obedience to parents, teach me to imitate your example. Help me to overcome all selfishness and stubborn pride, draw my parents to Thee, then lead me to accept this authority as the Voice of God in my life. Help them to direct me aright and enable me to obey their every wish. Amen.

Recite the **Litany of the Blessed Virgin** followed by:

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Sweet Heart of Mary, be my Salvation!

Recite the **Prayer to Saint Mary Goretti** above, followed by:

Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be to the Father,

Saint Mary Goretti, Pray for us!

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

DAY THREE

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen

Dear Little Saint Mary! You were ready for the moment of martyrdom because your short life was given over to daily and heroic self-denial. Your great love of the Sacred Hearts made all this possible. Teach me to love Jesus and His Blessed Mother, so that I too will be inspired to daily self-denial. I am inclined to pamper myself, to gratify my senses, and to excuse myself from all penance. This keeps me from being a true follower of Christ. Help me, lovable Little Martyr, to a sincere practice of self-denial, so that I may be your worthy follower and thus gain Heaven for all Eternity. Amen.

Recite the **Litany of the Blessed Virgin** followed by:

Sweet Heart of Jesus, be my Love!

Sweet Heart of Mary, be my Salvation!

Recite the **Prayer to Saint Mary Goretti** above, followed by

Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be to the Father,

Saint Mary Goretti, Pray for us!

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

DAY FOUR

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen

Dear Little Saint! Your days were spent in the filth of the marshes, willingly helping your desperately poor parents and family. Obtain for me the grace to accept my present circumstances in life, no matter how difficult or humiliating they may be. "Just one little drop of water" as the only request that fell from your parched lips during those last horrible hours of life. How much I demand, how unhappy I am when I cannot have my share of the world's conveniences and gaudy attractions! Teach me by your heroic example to be content with what I have, to be grateful for the blessings God has already showered upon me. Amen.

Recite the **Litany of the Blessed Virgin** followed by:

Sweet Heart of Jesus, be my Love!

Sweet Heart of Mary, be my Salvation!

Recite the **Prayer to Saint Mary Goretti** above, followed by

Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be to the Father,

Saint Mary Goretti, Pray for us!

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

DAY FIVE

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen

Dear Little Saint, I depend a great deal upon the help of my friends in time of trouble or sorrow. I look for their approval in many things I do. I am disconsolate and lonely when they desert me. Through your powerful intercession in Heaven, obtain for me the grace to place all my confidence in God. Only by walking constantly in His presence and depending upon His help, will I have the courage to stand up for His laws, even though it may mean loss of friends, criticism and complete removal of worldly comfort. Help me to look for all of my strength in Him. Amen.

Recite the **Litany of the Blessed Virgin** followed by

Sweet Heart of Jesus, be my Love!

Sweet Heart of Mary, be my Salvation!

Recite the **Prayer to Saint Mary Goretti** above, followed by:

Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be to the Father,

Saint Mary Goretti, Pray for us!

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

DAY SIX

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen

Dear Little Saint! Help me to greater love of my Faith. I have many God-given opportunities to study it but, sad to say, I neglect them. I am even critical of the Priests, Brothers and Sisters who offer their lives that I may better know and love my holy religion. Dear Saint Mary Goretti, teach me to be thankful for these grace which you did not have. Make me proud of my Faith and ready to die for it, if God should require that of me Amen.

Recite the **Litany of the Blessed Virgin** followed by

Sweet Heart of Jesus, be my Love!

Sweet Heart of Mary, be my Salvation!

Recite the **Prayer to Saint Mary Goretti** above, followed by

Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be to the Father,

Saint Mary Goretti, Pray for us!

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

DAY SEVEN

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen

Dear Little Saint, never was Jesus more welcome in a human heart than in yours. The Great Day of First Communion could not come quickly enough. In borrowed clothes and head crowned with flowers of the field, you knelt to receive Him into your soul, so rich with Innocence and Love, and this after months of keen anticipation!

O Powerful Intercessor with the Lamb of God, inflame my soul with your "ardent longing to receive Jesus in the Eucharist." Obtain for me the grace to put aside laziness and indifference, so that I may often, even daily, allow myself to be consumed in the "burning Furnace of Charity." Teach me what true Love really is! Amen.

Recite the **Litany of the Blessed Virgin** followed by:

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Sweet Heart of Mary, be my Salvation!

Recite the **Prayer to Saint Mary Goretti** above, followed by

Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be to the Father,

Saint Mary Goretti, Pray for us!

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

DAY EIGHT

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen

Dear Little Martyr! To the last you followed your beloved Jesus! He, while hanging upon His Cross of Suffering, uttered through parched lips, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do!" And you upon your bed of pain, burning with fever, forgave your murderer with the words, "I too, pardon him... I too, wish him to join me in Paradise!

Grant me the grace, O Heroic Saint, to be charitable to others! Much of my time is spent on vengeful thoughts, seeking how I may pay back to others the harm they have done to me. Teach me to forgive, so that I may not only gain Heaven, but also lead others there who might otherwise be doomed to Hell. If I am to follow Christ, help me to imitate His Charity, even as you have done. Amen.

Recite the **Litany of the Blessed Virgin** followed by

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Sweet Heart of Mary, be my Salvation!

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Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be to the Father,

Saint Mary Goretti, Pray for us!

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

DAY NINE

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen

Dear Saint Mary Goretti! Once again I turn to you, and beg of you in the words of Our Holy Father, that "serenity of spirit and deep joy which is the heritage of those who are pure of heart." Help me to turn to Our Blessed Lady, confident in the hope that she will take my hand as she did yours, and lead me on to Paradise, my heavenly country, there to enjoy with you and Her, the company of God the Father, Son and Holy Ghost for all Eternity. Amen.

Recite the **Litany of the Blessed Virgin** followed by

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Sweet Heart of Mary, be my Salvation!

Recite the **Prayer to Saint Mary Goretti** above, followed by

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Saint Mary Goretti, Pray for us!

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary

V. Lord, have mercy on us.

R. Christ, have mercy on us.

V. Lord, have mercy on us. Christ hear us.

R. Christ, graciously hear us.

God, the Father of Heaven: -- **Have mercy on us.** (repeat at end of each phrase.)

God, the Son, Redeemer of the world:

God, the Holy Spirit,

Holy Trinity, One God,

Holy Mary, -- **Pray for us.** (repeat at end of each phrase.)

Holy Mother of God,

Holy Virgin of virgins,

Mother of Christ,

Mother of divine grace,

Mother most pure,

Mother most chaste,

Mother inviolate,

Mother undefiled,

Mother most amiable,

Mother most admirable,

Mother of good counsel,

Mother of our Creator,

Mother of our Savior,

Virgin most prudent,

Virgin most venerable,

Virgin most renowned,

Virgin most powerful,

Virgin most merciful,

Virgin most faithful,

Mirror of justice,

Seat of wisdom,

Cause of our joy,

Spiritual vessel,

Vessel of honor,

Singular vessel of devotion,

Mystical rose,

Tower of David,

Tower of ivory,

House of gold,

Ark of the covenant,

Gate of Heaven,
Morning star,
Health of the sick,
Refuge of sinners,
Comforter of the afflicted,
Help of Christians,
Queen of Angels,
Queen of Patriarchs,
Queen of Prophets,
Queen of Apostles,
Queen of Martyrs,
Queen of Confessors,
Queen of Virgins,
Queen of all Saints,
Queen conceived without Original Sin,
Queen assumed into Heaven,
Queen of the most holy rosary,
Queen of Peace.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Graciously hear us O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

v. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

r. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: Grant, we beseech Thee, O Lord God, unto us Thy servants, that we may rejoice in continual health of mind and body; and, by the glorious intercession of blessed Mary ever Virgin, may be delivered from present sadness, and enter into the joy of Thine eternal gladness. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**