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PLEASE PRAY FOR PRIESTS

Dear Lord,

we pray that the Blessed Mother wrap her mantle around your priests, and through her intercession strengthen them for their ministry.

We pray that Mary will guide your priests to follow her own words, "Do whatever He tells you" (Jn 2:5).

May your priests have the heart of St. Joseph, Mary's most chaste spouse. May the Blessed Mother's own pierced heart inspire them to embrace all who suffer at the foot of the cross.

May your priests be holy, filled with the fire of your love, seeking nothing but your greater glory and the salvation of souls. Amen.

Saint John Vianney, pray for us.



YEAR FOR PRIESTS

June 19, 2009 - June 19, 2010



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THE ROSARY

FOR THE YEAR FOR PRIESTS



"It is first of all necessary to let the Blessed Virgin take one by the hand to contemplate the Face of Christ: a joyful, luminous, sorrowful and glorious Face."

-Pope Benedict XVI

HOW TO PRAY THE ROSARY

Choose which set of mysteries (Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious, or Luminous) you will be praying. Bless yourself by making the Sign of the Cross, then begin with the Apostles' Creed.

Next, pray an Our Father followed by three Hail Mary's (one for each theological virtue: Faith, Hope, Love).

Move into your first decade, announcing and reflecting on the first mystery and beginning with an Our Father, followed by ten Hail Mary's, a Glory Be, and the Fatima Prayer (requested by Mary of the children to whom she appeared). Moving around the rosary beads, continue onto the second, third, fourth, and fifth mysteries in the same fashion.



Our Lady of China mosaic, West Nave, Upper Church, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C. Dedicated August 3, 2002. Gift of the Chinese Americans.

Notre-Dame, Esplanade des Invalides, Paris. Saturday, 13 September 2008.

4. Homily of his holiness Benedict XVI. Eucharistic celebration during the Apostolic Visitation to the United States of America. Yankee Stadium, Bronx, New York. Fifth Sunday of Easter, 20 April 2008.

5. Homily of his holiness Benedict XVI. Eucharistic celebration during the pastoral visit to Santa Maria di Leuca and Brindisi. St Apollinaris Wharf, Port of Brindisi. Sunday, 15 June 2008.

6. Responses of his holiness Benedict XVI to the questions posed by the bishops. Meeting with the bishops of the United States of America during Apostolic Journey to the United States. National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. Wednesday, 16 April 2008.

"Meditation at the Recitation of the Holy Rosary at the Pontifical Shrine of Pompeii," 19 October 2008; "Homily in Rosary Square at Lourdes," 13 September 2008; "Homily at the Penitential Celebration with the Youth of the Diocese of Rome in preparation for the 23rd World Youth Day," 13 March 2008; "Homily at Esplanade des Invalides, Paris," 13 September 2008; "Homily at Yankee Stadium," 20 April 2008; "Homily at St. Apollinaris Wharf, Port of Brindisi," 15 June 2008; "Response to Questions Posed by U.S. Bishops," 16 April 2008; Address of His Holiness Benedict XVI to the Members of the Congregation for the Clergy on the Occasion of their Plenary Assembly at Consistory Hall," 16 March 2009; © Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.



CITATIONS

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Front Cover Image: The Chapel of Our Lady of Pompei, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C. Dedicated October 4, 2008. Gift of the Italian Americans.

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Quotes from Pope Benedict XVI:

Front Cover: Meditation at the Recitation of the Holy Rosary. Pontifical Shrine of Pompeii. Sunday, 19 October 2008.

1: Homily of his holiness Benedict XVI. Torchlight Procession. Lourdes, Rosary Square. Saturday, 13 September 2008.

2: Homily of his holiness Benedict XVI. Celebration of the Penitential Celebration with the Youth of the Diocese of Rome in preparation for the 23rd World Youth Day. St Peter's Basilica. Thursday, 13 March 2008.

3. Homily of his holiness Benedict XVI. Eucharistic celebration on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Lourdes.

THE PRAYERS OF THE ROSARY

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. *Amen.*

"...we are invited to discover the simplicity of our vocation: it is enough to love."¹

The Our Father

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. *Amen.*

The Hail Mary

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. *Amen.*



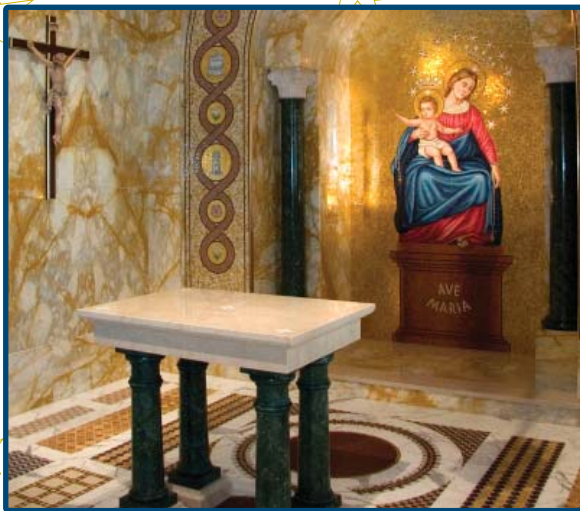
The Glory Be

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. *Amen.*

*"Seek in particular to sincerely open your heart to the Lord Jesus, to offer Him your unconditional 'yes.'"*²

The Fatima Prayer

Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins. Save us from the fires of Hell. Lead all souls to Heaven, especially those in most need of thy mercy. *Amen.*



The Chapel of Our Lady of Pompei, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C. Dedicated October 4, 2008. Gift of the Italian Americans.

A Priest's Prayer

Loving Father,
I praise you, I love you, I adore you.

Send your Holy Spirit to enlighten my mind
to the truth of your Son, Jesus,
Priest and Victim.

Through the same Spirit guide my heart to his Sacred Heart,
to renew in me a priestly passion
that I, too, might lay down my life upon the altar.
May your Spirit wash away my impurities
and free me from all my transgressions
in the Cup of Salvation,
Let only your will be done in me.

May the Blessed Mother of your dearly beloved Son,
wrap her mantle around me and protect me from all evil.
May she guide me to do whatever He tells me.
May she teach me to have the heart of St. Joseph, her
spouse,

to protect and care for my bride.
And may her pierced heart inspire me
to embrace as my own your children
who suffer at the foot of the cross.

I humbly cry to her:
please be my consoling mother,
and help me to be a better son.

Lord, make me a holy priest,
inflamed with the fire of your love, seeking nothing
but your greater glory and the salvation of souls.
I humbly bless and thank you, my Father,
through the Spirit, in Christ Jesus,
your Son and my brother.

Amen.

**O Mary, Queen of priests, pray for us.
Saint John Vianney, pray for us.**

YEAR FOR PRIESTS

*June 19, 2009 through June 19, 2010
declared by Pope Benedict XVI*

"I have decided to establish a special "Year for Priests" that will begin on 19 June and last until 19 June 2010. In fact, it is the 150th anniversary of the death of the Holy Curé d'Ars, John Mary Vianney, a true example of a pastor at the service of Christ's flock ... As Church and as priests, we proclaim Jesus of Nazareth Lord and Christ, Crucified and Risen, Sovereign of time and of history, in the glad certainty that this truth coincides with the deepest expectations of the human heart." ~Pope Benedict XVI; March 16, 2009



Our Lady of Korea at Cana, marble relief tympana, East Narthex, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C. Dedicated September 22, 2007. Gift of the Korean Americans.

THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES

Said on Mon & Sat, and Sundays Advent until Lent



The Holy Family at Rest - The Flight into Egypt by Anna Hyatt Huntington. East Entrance, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C.

The Annunciation

"And coming to her, he said, 'Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you... Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.'" (Lk 1:28, 30)

The Visitation

"And Elizabeth, filled with the holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, 'Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.'" (Lk 1:41-42)

The Nativity

"And she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn." (Lk 2:7)

The Presentation

"When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, they took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord." (Lk 2:22)

The Finding of Jesus in the Temple

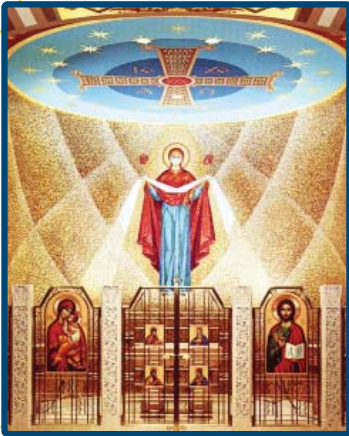
"After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking questions." (Lk 2:46)

THE LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

Said on Thursdays

The Baptism in the Jordan

"[Jesus] came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened ... and he saw the Spirit of God descending



The Byzantine Ruthenian Chapel, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C. Dedicated October 6, 1974, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Byzantine Ruthenian Exarchate in the USA.

like a dove ... coming upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'" (Mt 3:16-17)

The Wedding at Cana

"Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs in Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him." (Jn 2:11)

THE MEMORARE

REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me.

AMEN.

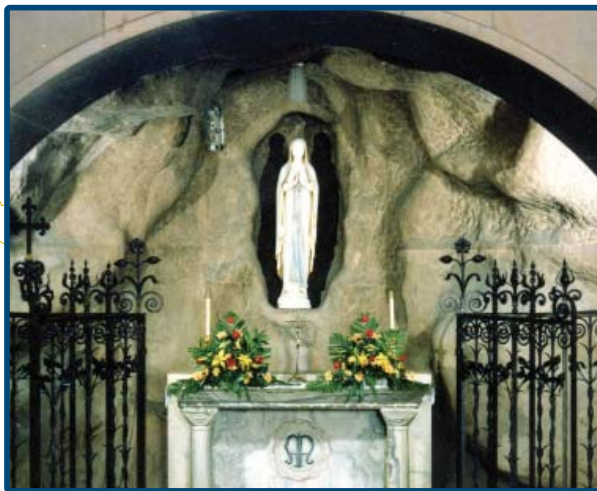
Oh Most Gracious Mother, intercede for us to the Master of the Harvest to send laborers; priests to minister the Sacraments of the Church and consecrated women and men to give profound witness to the Paschal Mystery of your Son for the whole world.



Our Lady of Vailankanni, Crypt Church, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C.

The Assumption

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; / my spirit rejoices in God my savior... / all ages [will] call me blessed. / The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name." (Lk 1:46-49)



Our Lady of Lourdes, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C.

The Coronation

"A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars." (Rev 12:1)

*"the discernment of a vocation is above all the fruit of an intimate dialogue between the Lord and his disciples."*⁶

The Proclamation of the Kingdom

"After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: 'This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.'" (Mk 1:14-15)

The Transfiguration

"And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him." (Mt 17:2-3)

"Do not be afraid to give your life to Christ!"³

The Institution of the Eucharist

"While they were eating, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and giving it to his disciples said, 'Take and eat; this is my body.'" (Mt 26:26)

THE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

Said on Tue & Fri, and Sundays during Lent

The Agony in the Garden

"His sweat became like drops of blood falling on the ground. When he rose from prayer and returned to his disciples, he found them sleeping from grief." (Lk 22:44-45)

The Scouring at the Pillar

"So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas to them and, after he had Jesus scourged, handed him over to be crucified." (Mk 15:15)



Chapel of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C. Dedicated April 22, 1967, the gift of the Archdiocese of Boston under Cardinal Cushing.

The Crowning with Thorns

"And the soldiers wove a crown out of thorns and placed it on his head, and clothed him in a purple cloak, and they came to him and said, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' And they struck him repeatedly." (Jn 19:2-3)

The Carrying of the Cross

"So they took Jesus, and carrying the cross himself he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha." (Jn 19:16-17)

The Crucifixion

"Jesus cried out in a loud voice, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit;' and when he had said this he breathed his last." (Lk 23:46)

"Can there be any greater mark of love than this: to follow in the footsteps of Christ, who was willing to lay down his life for his friends?"⁴

THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

Said on Wed, and Sundays Easter until Advent

The Resurrection

"Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay." (Mt 28:5b-6)

"We are all, with the variety of our charisms and ministries, called to work in the Lord's vineyard."⁵



The Chapel of Our Lady of La Vang (Vietnam), Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C. Dedicated October 21, 2006. Gift of the Vietnamese Americans.

The Ascension

"So then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven and took his seat at the right hand of God." (Mk 16:19)

The Descent of the Holy Spirit

"There came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind. ... There appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the holy Spirit." (Acts 2:2, 4)