

Novena Reflections **on Our Mother of Perpetual Help**



THROUGH FACEBOOK, JOIN 5 MILLION DEVOTEES IN PRAYER & REFLECTION.



Reflections on the Icon, Scripture Meditations, & Prayer

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<http://www.MaryPrayForUs.org>

This Novena is designed to be interactive through MaryPrayForUs.org, with links that can be clicked on each page, allowing you to share your novena with others on the same journey. Links to [Light a Candle](#), [Submit Intentions](#), [Request Masses](#) and more will appear throughout this booklet.

What is a Novena?

A novena is a good way to help us form the habit of regular prayer. Traditionally, a novena is a prayer or set of prayers repeated for nine consecutive days. However, it could just as well be accomplished in nine consecutive hours of one day, or spread out to include one particular day each week over the course of nine weeks. No fixed rules need to be set down for making a novena, except to persevere in prayer. Through these prayers and devotions, we bring our Blessed Lady into our lives and share with her our needs and worries. We ask Mary to join her prayers with ours, and as we do, our friendship with her grows.

Opening Prayer (to be recited every day)

Most holy and Immaculate Virgin and our Mother Mary, you are our Perpetual Help, our refuge and our hope. We come to you today. We thank God for all the graces received through your intercession. Mother of Perpetual Help, we promise to love you always and to do all we can to lead others to you. Confident of your powerful influence with God, obtain for us these graces: the strength to overcome temptation, a perfect love for Jesus Christ, and a holy death so that we will live with you and your Son for all eternity. Amen.

Closing Prayer (to be recited every day)

All powerful and merciful Lord, you gave us the picture of the Mother of your Son to venerate under the title of Our Mother of Perpetual Help. Graciously grant that in all the difficulties of our lives we may be assisted by the continuous protection of the Virgin Mary and obtain the reward of eternal redemption. You who live and reign forever and ever.



Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

Reflection on the Icon

O Mary, Mother of Jesus and Our Mother of Perpetual Help, during these nine days I am going to look to you to discover in your [Icon](#), the outstanding symbols, the important lessons, the mysterious nuances that your inspired artist wanted to depict in your picture. I am not only going to learn about them on this site, but also try to learn, O admirable Teacher, what you want to teach me about your Son and about our God, father and mother of all love.

Help me to faithfully follow your Son, Jesus Christ. Awaken in my understanding and in my heart, the faith, hope and love with which you want me to behold you and invoke you so that I live with unlimited confidence in your perpetual help. Amen.

[View the interactive icon at MaryPrayForUs.org to learn more.](http://MaryPrayForUs.org)



Novena *to* *Our Mother* *of* *Perpetual Help*

Scripture - Hail Mary, Full of Grace!

In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail Mary, full of grace! The Lord is with you."

Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." (Luke 1:26-28, 30-33, 38)

"Full of Grace" – the word used in the gospel means specifically, beloved and favored. Other people had been loved, chosen, favored; but in this instance it becomes the very name of Mary.

From the first moment that Mary's spirit was awakened, she was aware of the presence of God inspiring her every decision, and so the divine revelation does not cause fear in her.

"I am the handmaid of the Lord." In saying this, Mary does not lower herself with false humility, instead she expresses her faith and her surrender. From her will be born the one who is going to be both the servant announced by the prophets and the only Son.

[Say a Hail Mary, and Light a Candle in celebration of Mary's divine childbearing.](#)



Novena *to* *Our Mother* *of* *Perpetual Help*

Prayer

O Holy Virgin Mary, who to inspire us with boundless confidence has been pleased to take the sweet name of Our Mother of Perpetual Help, I implore you to come to my aid always and everywhere: in my temptations, after my falls, in my difficulties, in all the miseries of life, and above all, at the hour of my death.

Give me, O loving Mother, the desire and the habit to have recourse to you trusting that you will be faithful and come to my assistance. Obtain for me then this grace of graces: the grace to pray to you without ceasing and with childlike confidence that I may ensure your perpetual Help and final perseverance. O Mother of Perpetual Help, pray for me now and at the hour of my death. Amen.

[Share your intentions with others at **MaryPrayForUs.org**.](#)



Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help Day 1

Reflection on the Icon - Contemplating the Archangel Gabriel

Mother of Perpetual Help, the Archangel Gabriel of the Annunciation, appears in your icon carrying a cross and nails. He reminds us of Nazareth; it was he who descended to one of the fifty humble homes of the village. There he met you and announced the Incarnation: that the Son of God, by act of the Holy Spirit, would make Himself our Brother by becoming in your womb one with us in our human nature.

In Nazareth you raised Jesus in an atmosphere of simplicity and work. you, Mother, used to take Jesus' hands in yours to teach Him to pray; you taught Him the Psalms and the prayers of your people.

Dearest Mother, servant of the Lord and simple housewife, teach us to love our homes and fill them with joy and understanding. Help us to build a society that is both just and fraternal, where there is bread and work for all.

[Request a Mass for loved ones whose saintly lives came from humble origins.](#)



Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help Day 1

Scripture - Most blessed are you among women!

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, 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!" (Luke 1:39b-42)

The angel's message has not left Mary alone with her problems. The angel had spoken of her elderly cousin, Elizabeth. With her Mary will share her joy and her secret. Mary, quite young (was she more than fifteen?), will learn from her many things that Joseph could not tell her. What had been foretold to Zechariah will now be fulfilled: "Your son will be filled with the Holy Spirit while in the womb of his mother." A humble girl, Mary, put God's plan in motion on that Visitation day.

[Who in your family needs your support? Request a Mass for their intentions.](#)



***Novena
to
Our Mother
of
Perpetual Help***

Day 1

Prayer Seeking Intercession

O Mother of Perpetual Help, with the greatest confidence, we come before thy sacred picture in order to invoke thine aid. Thou hast seen the wounds which Jesus has been pleased to receive for our sake; thou hast seen the Blood of thy Son flowing for our salvation; thou knowest how thy Son desires to apply to us the fruits of his redemption.

Behold, we cast ourselves at thy feet, and prayer thee to obtain for our souls the graces we stand so much in need of.

O Mary, most loving of all mothers, obtain for us from the heart of Jesus, the sources of every good, these graces (share your intentions).

[Share your intentions at MaryPrayForUs.org.](http://MaryPrayForUs.org)



***Novena
to
Our Mother
of
Perpetual Help***

Day 2

Reflection on the Icon - Contemplating the Archangel Michael

Mother of Perpetual Help, on your right, at the level of your shoulders, we see the Archangel Michael, leader of the celestial armies and zealous defender of the Lord's glory. He reminds us that only God is Lord of the Universe and that His Kingdom is a kingdom of justice, love and peace.

The Archangel holds a sponge and a lance in the folds of his green mantel. With the sponge, the lips of your dying Son were moistened as His mouth and throat burned with thirst. With the lance, His side was pierced and from it flowed water and blood. But your Son did not die a failure; on the third day His Heavenly Father raised Him up. From then on, the lance, the sponge and the cross have become the symbols of Jesus' victory over sin and death. What were signs of disgrace are now symbols of triumph.

O Mother of Perpetual Help, give us faith in the power of your Son and in the purifying and restoring power of his sacred blood. He gave his life for everyone because his strength was anchored in love.

[Light a Candle to request restoration in your life through the intercession of Mary.](#)



Novena **to** **Our Mother** **of** **Perpetual Help** **Day 2**

Scripture - The Magnificat

And Mary said:

*"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;
 my spirit rejoices in God my savior.
 For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness;
 behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed.
 The Mighty One has done great things for me,
 and holy is his name.*

*His mercy is from age to age
 to those who fear him.*

*He has shown might with his arm,
 dispersed the arrogant of mind and heart.
 He has thrown down the rulers from their thrones
 but lifted up the lowly.*

*The hungry he has filled with good things;
 the rich he has sent away empty.*

*He has helped Israel his servant,
 remembering his mercy,
 according to his promise to our fathers,
 to Abraham and to his descendants forever."
 (Luke 1:46-55)*

Although Mary is praised for being the mother of the Lord and because of her belief, she reacts as the servant in a psalm of praise, the Magnificat. Having heard Elisabeth speak, she likewise was filled with the Holy Spirit, and under his influence uttered extempore a hymn, remarkable for the beauty of its style, the sublimity of its sentiments, and the spirit of piety which runs through the whole of it. In it is manifested the deep sense Mary had of her own unworthiness, and of the goodness of God in choosing her to the high honor of being the Messiah's mother.

[All praises of God are beautiful!](#)
[Submit your own psalm to Him!](#)



Novena **to** **Our Mother** **of** **Perpetual Help** **Day 2**

Prayer in Temporal Wants

O Mother of Perpetual Help, numerous clients continually surround thy holy picture, all imploring thy mercy. All bless thee as the assured help of the miserable; all feel the benefit of thy motherly protection. With confidence, then, do we present ourselves before thee in our misery.

See, dear Mother, the many evils to which we are exposed; see how numerous are our wants. Trials and sorrows often depress us; reverses of fortune and privations, often grievous, bring misery into our lives; everywhere we meet the cross. Have pity, compassionate Mother, on us and on our dear ones, especially in this our necessity (share your intentions).

[Submit your intentions to be placed before the original icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help in Rome.](#)



Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help Day 3

Reflection on the Icon - Contemplating the Letters on the Icon

On both sides of your haloed head, Mother of Perpetual Help, we see some large letters. They are the initials that mean “Mother of God”. And next to the head of your Divine Son, there are some initials that mean “Jesus Christ”.

Because you are the Mother of the Son of God made man, Jesus Christ, you are also our Perpetual Help, our certain, tireless intercessor; you are the powerful means to obtain what we ask you. you are the Mother of God. That is your unique, incomparable title.

There are many mothers with illustrious sons, even as there are innumerable women of great influence in the areas of power, the arts and the sciences. But you are the one that we praise, we venerate and rejoice in, above all other creatures. As God continues to show us His mercy through you generation after generation, we called you “Blessed”.

[Light a candle seeking the intercession of Blessed Mary for intentions.](#)



Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help Day 3

Scripture - Mary, Mother of Jesus

While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, 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. (Luke 2:6-7)

The hill on which the village of Bethlehem was built had many natural caves used as dwellings by the not-so-rich. In his birth, as in his death, Jesus resembled the most abandoned.

The liturgy of Christmas sings: “Happy mother of God! Today you gave birth to the Savior of all times, and giving birth, you remained a Virgin.” In fact God was not too great for Mary: “From on high he sees the proud, but he becomes weak with the humble.”

[Light a Candle to give thanks for Mary’s humble acceptance of God’s plan.](#)



Novena
to
Our Mother
of
Perpetual Help
 Day 3

Prayer for Graces of Salvation

O Mother of Perpetual Help, thou art the dispenser of all the goods which God grants to us miserable sinners, and for this reason, he has made thee so powerful, so rich, and so bountiful, that thou mayest help us in our misery.

Thou art the advocate of the most wretched and abandoned sinners who have recourse to thee. In thy hands I place my eternal salvation and to thee do I entrust my soul. Count me among thy most devoted servants; take me under thy protection, and it is enough for me.

Come, then, to my aid, dearest Mother, for I recommend myself to thee, especially in these petitions (share your intentions).

[Place your intentions for the graces of salvation before Our Mother of Perpetual Help.](#)



Novena
to
Our Mother
of
Perpetual Help
 Day 4

Reflection on the Icon - Contemplating the Left Hand of Mary

The instruments of the Passion (lance, sponge, nails and cross) are in the hands of the Angels. Mother of Perpetual Help, in your left hand you hold the Child Jesus. In this icon, Nazareth and Calvary, the infancy and the redemptive death of Jesus, are united.

As you presented your Son in the Temple, Simeon told you that a sword would pierce your soul. And from that moment, Mary, not a day passed without your thinking of the meaning of those words. You cherished the baby talk of Jesus, His first faltering steps and, later on, His independence. But you always saw in Him the shadow of a sword hanging over His head, a sword that deeply saddened you.

Mother of Perpetual Help, you are holding Jesus against your heart. Sustain us in our weakness as we look to the future and perhaps see it darkened by sickness and pain. We trust in your protection, because your very title of Perpetual Help is an invitation to confidence and hope.

[What future darkness do you fear? Light a Candle for Mary's intercession to endure.](#)



Novena
to
Our Mother
of
Perpetual Help

Day 4

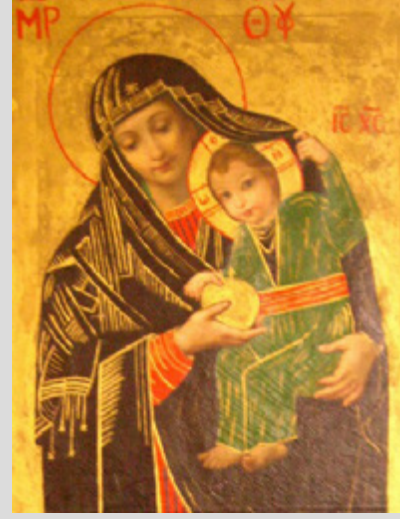
Scripture - The Feelings of a Mother

When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. (Luke 2:17-19)

Mary kept all these things - all that happened, and all that was said respecting her child. She remembered what the angel had said to her and what had happened to Elizabeth and to the shepherds - all the extraordinary circumstances which had attended the birth of her son.

Here is a delicate and beautiful expression of the feelings of a mother. A mother forgets none of those things which occur respecting her children. Everything they do or suffer - everything that is said of them, is treasured up in her mind; and often she thinks of those things, and anxiously seeks what they may indicate respecting the future character and welfare of her child.

[Read more wonderful stories of faith in Hope Magazine.](#)



Novena
to
Our Mother
of
Perpetual Help

Day 4

Prayer in Sickness

O dear Mother of Perpetual Help, behold how much I suffer from this my sickness. Together with the body, my soul is also afflicted. I have no even strength to say a prayer as I ought to do. Nothing is able to give me any relief. Even the visit and compassion of my best friends do not give me any comfort. Hence, my courage begins to fail; impatience and sadness oppress my soul.

In this my great distress I put all my trust in you, most tender of all mothers. your compassionate heart will certainly have pity on me; yes, most merciful Mother, you will not forget your poor, afflicted child (share your intentions).

[Join your prayers of healing with thousands of others on MaryPrayForUs.org.](#)



Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help Day 5

Reflection on the Icon - Contemplating 'Hand in Hand'

Mother of Perpetual Help, with your left hand, you hold the Child Jesus. With your right, you take the hands of the Child, while your long, slender fingers point to His face. One day in Cana you said: "Do what He tells you". you point to Jesus, all good and all powerful. Through your image you remind us that you are only the one that points out the road, the guide, the Virgin of the Way.

Our Heavenly Father said at the moment of the Transfiguration: "This is my beloved Son, listen to Him". Mary, you are the sign that allows us to identify the loving and comforting presence of Jesus. Where He is, you are, inseparable. you tell us, Mary, Mother and first disciple of Jesus, that to be a Christian consists of following your Son and that you will take us by the hand to Him.

Thank you Mother, for lighting our way to our Father's House. Strengthen our faith and enliven our hope when we tire on life's journey.

[Light a Candle in thanks to Mary for lighting the way to Jesus.](#)



Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help Day 5

Scripture - A Light of Revelation

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. [W]hen the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform the custom of the law in regard to him, he took him into his arms and blessed God, saying:

"Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel."

The child's father and mother were amazed at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted (and you yourself a sword will pierce) so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." (Luke 2:25a, 27a-35)

Simeon foretells Mary of the sad and painful aspect of the career of the Messiah, a veiled presage of the great sorrow that was to be hers in full measure when she stood at the foot of the Cross. The childhood in the Nazareth home, and the early manhood in the Nazareth carpentry, were no doubt her happiest days, though, in those quiet years, expectation, fears, dread, curiously interwoven, must have ever torn that mother's heart. The days of the public ministry for Mary must have been sad, and her heart full of anxious forebodings, as she watched the growing jealousies, the hatred, and the unbelief on the part of the leading men of her people. Then came the cross. We know she stood by it all the while.

[Request a Mass for someone in your life enduring jealousies and hatred.](#)



Novena
to
Our Mother
of
Perpetual Help

Day 5

Prayer for Conversion of Sinners

Mother of Perpetual Help, you know so well the value of an immortal soul. For every soul has been redeemed by the precious blood of your divine Son. Hear my prayer as I plead for the conversion of a sinner, one who is quickly heading for eternal ruin. I know that you are the refuge of sinners.

I know also that God has given you the power to bring about the conversion of even the most hardened sinner. Until now, nothing has been successful in changing this person's sinful way of life. Obtain from your Son the grace of conversion. Merciful Mother, you have brought about the conversion of many sinners through the prayers of their relatives and friends. Listen to my prayer and bring about the true conversion for this unhappy soul (share your intentions).

[Submit the names of those you're praying for to Our Mother of Perpetual Help.](#)



Novena
to
Our Mother
of
Perpetual Help

Day 6

Reflection on the Icon - Contemplating the Child in Her Arms

Mother of Perpetual Help, well do we see Him – Jesus Christ, your Son. He is no longer a baby but has already lived a few years.

We go back to think about Nazareth and its ordinary and peaceful home life. you dedicated yourself to your domestic chores: the kitchen and the oven, providing water and firewood, taking Jesus by the hand to the village well. What a nice place to meet friends, talk awhile, comment on the village news. Meanwhile the children played and, among them, Jesus. With Joseph and Jesus you formed a simple family in a humble town of Israel.

Good Mother, enlighten us to recognize the presence of Our Heavenly Father even in the fatigue of daily life. He never lets go of our hand, even when our faith seems to falter or we are overcome by difficulties. Strengthen us so that, full of confidence, we can ask Him, as Jesus taught us, for our daily bread, and not to let us fall into temptation and despair.

[Seek more knowledge of the icon by viewing the Interactive Icon.](#)



Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help Day 6

Scripture - His Mother Kept All These Things In Her Heart

When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. (Luke 2:39-40; 51-52)

As twelve years before, Mary - pondering in her heart - had treasured up the rough adoration of the shepherds and their strange story of what the angels said to them about her Child, as doubtless she had done too when the Magi laid their costly gifts before the Babe at Bethlehem, and when Simeon and Anna in the temple spoke their prophetic utterances over the Infant; so now the mother, in quiet humble faith, stored up again her Son's sayings in her heart, waiting with brave and constant patience for the hour when her God should grant her to see face to face the mysterious things she had hitherto seen only "in a glass darkly."

[Which of God's mysteries do you regularly ponder? Read Daily Reflections from Redemptorist Fathers to gain more wisdom.](#)



Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help Day 6

Prayer for Financial Aid

Mary, our Mother, we know that you are our Perpetual Help, not only in our spiritual need but in our material need as well. With humble hearts and childlike confidence we beg you to help us in our present financial stress. Due to unforeseen circumstances, I am now in dire need, since I cannot meet my debts. Dear Mother, I am not asking for wealth or prosperity, but merely for help in satisfying my pressing obligations.

You are the Queen of heaven and earth, and, as such, the dispenser of so many favors granted by your Son, Jesus. I know you are most kind and generous to all your devoted children. Loving Mother, I plead with you to obtain the financial help I so desperately need in my present situation (share your intentions).

[Share your requests for financial intercession through the private Submit a Prayer form on MaryPrayForUs.org](#)



Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help Day 7

Reflection on the Icon - Contemplating the Star

On your head, Mother of Perpetual Help, we see a star. It reminds us of the star that guided the Wise Men of the Orient to Bethlehem to worship the Infant Jesus. you are like that Star of Bethlehem: you guide us to Jesus and point out where we can find Him – in His Word, in the Eucharist, in the silence of prayer, and in our brothers and sisters, and especially, in the poor and abandoned.

After the Resurrection of your Son, you accompanied the first disciples in vigilant prayer. Thus you were among the Apostles at Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit began the preaching of the Good News to the whole world. you accompanied the new Church in its first missionary steps.

Holy Mary, Star of Evangelization, help us to fulfill our mission as followers of your Son. Bless the efforts of all who proclaim the Good News.

[Light a Candle to share the star of Mary's light with others.](#)



Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help Day 7

Scripture - Do Whatever He Tells you

When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you." (John 2:3-5)

Mary exhibits the most entire confidence in her Son and Lord. She encourages the servants to do whatever he might command. More may have passed between them than is reported. The faith of Mary was not depressed by the discovery that there were depths of character in her Son which she could not fathom. Obedience to Christ will always be our duty, even though we cannot penetrate the reasons of his command.

After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." (Matthew 17:1-2, 5b)

The Holy Trinity was revealed: the Father speaking with audible voice, the Son standing in radiant light, the Holy Spirit present with the intense brightness of the enveloping cloud. This was spoken to confirm to the disciples (and to us); to make known to them that it was their duty to hear Christ rather than any other, and to strengthen their faith in him when they should go forth to preach the gospel after he was shamefully put to death.

[Do you have that same level of confidence in Jesus? As Mary to share her confidence with you.](#)



Novena
to
Our Mother
of
Perpetual Help

Day 7

Prayer to Know One's Vocation

Mother of Perpetual Help, behold at your feet a humble and loving child. I need your help to recognize and follow the vocation in life that God has planned for me. Mother of Perpetual Help, I know I can more easily be saved in that state of life to which I have been called through the graces of your divine Son.

My only desire is to follow God's will in everything that concerns my future. For then I know I shall succeed in working out my eternal salvation. Guide and direct me in choosing the vocation in which I may best fulfill God's divine plan here on earth (share your intentions).

[Submit your intention seeks God's guidance in finding your vocation.](#)



Novena
to
Our Mother
of
Perpetual Help

Day 8

Reflection on the Icon - Contemplating the Colors of the Icon

your icon, Holy Mother, is made up of contrasts. The Child's sandal is falling while His hands are tightly clutching yours. The instruments of the Passion are carried, wrapped in a cloak, as if they were just collected after the Resurrection. The colors that the artist chose accentuate these contrasts: the blue, red and green of the clothing and the gold background.

The tunic you are wearing is red and the cloak that covers it is blue. Did the artist want to remind us that you are a created person (red), but at the same time recalling that the Holy Spirit covered you with His Presence and grace (blue)? On the other hand, the Child wears a green tunic, while His cloak and sash are shades of red. Is this a sign that He is the Divine Life (green) that has taken on our humanity (red)?

Mary, teach me to live the contrasts of life with optimism, the birthing a dying that goes on each day. Help me to understand more of the mystery of our salvation that passes through cross and pain to reach triumph and Resurrection.

[Create your own golden light - Light a Candle to seek Mary's optimism and guidance.](#)



Novena
to
Our Mother
of
Perpetual Help

Day 8

Scripture - Behold, your Mother

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his home. (John 19:25-27)

Jesus' words have a double meaning for us, first signifying Mary, as a symbol of the church, is given a role as the mother of Christians (personified by the beloved disciple). As a representative of those seeking salvation, she is supported by the disciple who interprets Jesus' revelation.

Second, it gives us an example of Christ's example to honor parents in life and death; to provide for their wants, and to promote their comfort by every means. Christ tenderly provided for his mother at his death. Sometimes, when God removes one comfort from us, he raises up another for us, where we looked not for it.

[Join Iconologist Br. Dan Korn, C.Ss.R. in Perpetual Help Devotions in the MaryPrayForUs.org video library.](#)



Novena
to
Our Mother
of
Perpetual Help

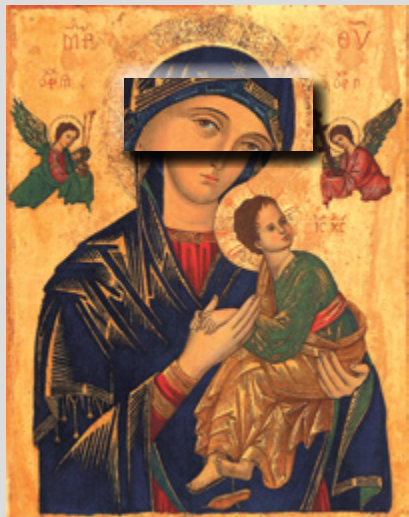
Day 8

Prayer for Salvation

Behold at thy feet, O Mother of Perpetual Help, a wretched sinner who has recourse to thee and confides in thee. O Mother of Mercy, have pity on me. I hear thee called by all the refuge and hope of sinners; be then, my refuge and my hope. Assist me for the love of Jesus Christ; stretch forth thy hand to a miserable, fallen creature who recommends themselves to thee, and who devotes themselves to thy service forever. I bless and thank almighty God, who in His mercy has given me this confidence in thee, which I hold to be a pledge of my eternal salvation.

It is true, dearest Mother, that in the past I have miserably fallen into sin because I had not recourse to thee. I know, however, that with thy help I shall conquer; I know too, that thou wilt assist me if only I recommend myself to thee. But I fear, dear Mother, that in time of danger I may neglect to call on thee and thus lose my soul. This grace, then I ask of thee (share your intentions).

[Where have you fallen short of God's perfection? Ask Mary's intercession for healing and repentance.](#)



Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help Day 9

Reflection on the Icon - Contemplating the Eyes of Mary

Mother of Perpetual Help, we end this wonderful novena of discovering in your image the reason for your name. It is all present in your eyes. you are our Perpetual Help because of your eyes, those eyes that follow us from left to right, that see us from any point from which we seek you. They watch us as eyes filled with love and a desire to protect us. They follow us perpetually, whatever our situation be, our detours, our absences, our returns.

you are our Perpetual Help because, as the icon shows us, your gesture of sustaining Jesus is eternal, since you are now forever at His side as our faithful intercessor. To be Perpetual Help is your mission, Mediatrix of God's inexhaustible grace, despite the immensity of our faults.

[Grant us the favor of responding to your Perpetual Help by always coming to you in persevering prayer.](#)



Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help Day 9

Scripture - There Appeared to Them Tongues as of Fire

When they entered the city they went to the upper room where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these devoted themselves with one accord to prayer, together with some women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. (Acts 1:13-14; 2:1-3)

Mary the mother of Jesus would naturally remain with St John, to whose care she had been confided by Jesus at the Crucifixion. This is the last mention of the Blessed Virgin, and thus Scripture leaves her on her knees. She is mentioned apart from the other women as having a more deep interest in all that concerned Jesus than the rest had.

‘That which is born of the Spirit is spirit.’ If there be life given it must be kindred with the life which is its source. Reflect upon those profound words of our Lord: ‘The wind blows where it wills, and you can hear the sound it makes, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes; so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit. (John 3:8)’

[Request a Mass on behalf of those you know who need a second birth through the Spirit.](#)



***Novena
to
Our Mother
of
Perpetual Help

Day 9***

Prayer to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

Mother of Perpetual Help, you have been blessed and favored by God. You became not only the Mother of the Redeemer, but the Mother of the redeemed as well. We come to you today as you loving children. Watch over us and take care of us. As you held the child Jesus in your loving arms, so take us in your arms. Be a mother ready at every moment to help us.

For God who is mighty has done great things for you, and his mercy is from age to age on those who love him. Our greatest fear is that in time of temptation, we may fail to call out to you, and become lost children. Intercede for us, dear Mother, in obtaining pardon for our sins, love for Jesus, final perseverance, and the grace always to call upon you, Mother of Perpetual Help.

[At the conclusion of this Novena, you are invited to grow your devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help by visiting Her Shrine via live webcam.](#)

Novena Meditations to Our Mother of Perpetual Help
Reflections, Scripture Meditations and Prayers
Compiled by the Redemptorists - Denver Province

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Scripture quotations are from the New American Bible, Revised Edition (NABRE)

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[Light a Candle, Submit a Prayer, Request a Mass](#)

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