



BLESSED BE GOD

A COMPLETE CATHOLIC
PRAYER BOOK

*By REV. CHARLES J. CALLAN, O.P.
and REV. JOHN A. MCHUGH, O.P.*



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Nihil Obstat

V. F. O'DANIEL, O.P., S.T.M.
M. A. WALDRON, O.P., S.T.M.

Imprimi Potest

J. R. MEAGHER, O.P., S.T.L.R.
Prior Provincialis

Nihil Obstat

ARTHUR J. SCANLAN, S.T.D.
Censor Librorum

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PATRICK CARDINAL HAYES
Archbishop of New York

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LAY BAPTISM

PROVIDED an infant or adult is in danger of dying before a priest can be procured, any other person, whether man, woman, or child, may baptize in the following manner:

While pouring common water on the head or face of the person, pronounce the words:

I BAPTIZE THEE IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY GHOST.



**PRAYER FOR THE CONVERSION OF
UNBELIEVERS**

O HOLY Spirit of truth, we beseech Thee to enlighten the minds of unbelievers in the midst of us; to incline their hearts to love Thy word, and to believe the teachings of Thy Church; give them courage to accept the faith and openly profess it; that they may come into union with Thee and the Father, through Christ our Lord. Who liveth and reigneth forever and ever. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father, etc.

(Ind. of 40 days. — Pius IX. Nov. 14, 1847.)

PRAYER FOR SINNERS

ALMIGHTY and eternal God, Who seekest not the death but the life of sinners, Who wouldst save all and have none to perish, mercifully hear our prayers on behalf of those who are dead in sin and grant that they may repent and live again in Thy grace. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Prayers for the Sick and Dying

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

ALMIGHTY and eternal God, the everlasting Salvation of them that believe, hear us on behalf of Thy sick servant, N., for whom we implore the aid of Thy pitying mercy, that, with his bodily health restored, he may give thanks to Thee in Thy church. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**PRAYER FOR A SICK PERSON NEAR
DEATH**

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, preserver of souls, Who dost correct those whom Thou dost love, and for their amendment dost tenderly chastise those Whom Thou dost receive, we call upon Thee, O Lord, to bestow Thy healing, that the soul of Thy servant, at the hour of its departure from the body, may by the hands of Thy holy angels be presented without spot unto Thee. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR THE DYING

MY God, I offer Thee all the holy Masses which will be said this day throughout the whole world for poor sinners who are now in their death agony and who will die this day. May the Precious Blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ obtain for them mercy. Amen.

(Ind. of 300 days. — Pius X. Dec. 18, 1907.)

O MOST merciful Jesus, lover of souls, I pray Thee by the agony of Thy most Sacred Heart, and by the sorrows of Thy immaculate Mother, wash in Thy Blood the sinners of the whole world who are now in their agony, and are to die this day. Amen.

Heart of Jesus, once in agony, have mercy on the dying.

(*Ind. of 300 days, each time. — Pius IX. Feb. 2, 1850.*)

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH FOR THE DYING

EVERLASTING Father, for the sake of the love which Thou didst bear to St. Joseph, whom Thou didst choose above all to occupy Thy place on earth, have mercy on us and on those who are dying. *Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father, etc.*

Everlasting Son of God, for the sake of Thy love toward St. Joseph, who didst protect Thee so faithfully on earth, have mercy on us and on those who are dying. *Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father, etc.*

Everlasting Divine Spirit, for the sake of Thy love toward St. Joseph, who so carefully protected Mary, Thy most holy and beloved spouse, have mercy on us and on those who are dying. *Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father, etc.*

(*Ind. of 300 days, once a day. — LEO XIII. May 17, 1884.*)

THE LITANY FOR THE DYING

LORD, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Holy Mary, pray for him.

All ye holy Angels and Archangels,

Holy Abel,

All ye Choirs of the Just,

Holy Abraham,

St. John the Baptist,

St. Joseph,

All ye holy Patriarchs and Prophets,

St. Peter,

St. Paul,

St. Andrew,

St. John,

All ye holy Apostles and Evangelists,

All ye holy Disciples of the Lord,

All ye holy Innocents,

St. Stephen,

St. Lawrence,

All ye holy Martyrs,

St. Sylvester,

St. Gregory,

St. Augustin,

All ye holy Bishops and Confessors,

St. Benedict,

St. Francis,

St. Camillus,

St. John of God,

All ye holy Monks and Hermits,

St. Mary Magdalen,

St. Lucy,

All ye holy Virgins and Widows, *pray, etc.*
 All ye holy Saints of God,
Make intercession for him.
 Be merciful,
Spare him, O Lord.
 Be merciful,
O Lord, deliver him.
 Be merciful,
O Lord, deliver him.
 From Thy wrath,
 From the peril of death,
 From an evil death,
 From the pains of hell,
 From all evil,
 From the power of the devil,
 Through Thy birth,
 Through Thy cross and passion,
 Through Thy death and burial,
 Through Thy glorious resurrection,
 Through Thine admirable ascension,
 Through the grace of the Holy Ghost the
 Comforter,
 In the day of judgment,
 We sinners,
Beseech Thee, hear us.
 That Thou spare him,
We beseech Thee, hear us.
 Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
 Lord, have mercy.

} *O Lord, deliver him.*

A PRAYER TO OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

*To Be Said by the Dying Person, or by
 Another for Him.*

DE adore Thee, O Christ, and we bless Thee.
R. Because by Thy holy cross Thou hast
 redeemed the world.

O GOD, Who for the redemption of the world
 didst vouchsafe to be born, to be circum-
 cised, to be rejected by the Jews, to be betrayed
 with a kiss by the traitor Judas, to be bound
 with cords, to be led as an innocent lamb to the
 slaughter, and in the sight of Annas, Caiphas,
 Pilate, and Herod, to be treated with indignity,
 to be accused by false witnesses, to be afflicted
 with scourges and reproaches, to be spit upon,
 to be crowned with thorns, to be beaten with
 blows, to be struck with a reed, to have Thy face
 veiled, to be stripped of Thy garments, to be
 nailed to the cross and raised high thereon, to
 be ranked among thieves, to be offered gall and
 vinegar to drink, and to be pierced with a lance:
 Do Thou, O Lord, by these Thy most holy pains,
 which I, though unworthy, now call to mind, and
 by Thy holy cross and death, deliver me (or this
 Thy servant, N.) from the pains of hell, and
 vouchsafe to lead me (or him) whither Thou
 didst lead the good thief who was crucified with
 Thee. Who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost,
 livest and reignest forever and ever. Amen.

THREE DEVOUT PRAYERS USEFUL FOR THE DYING

To be recited with three Our Fathers, and three Hail Marys in the agony of death. First is said:

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord,
have mercy. *Our Father, Hail Mary.*

Let us Pray

O LORD Jesus Christ, by Thy most sacred agony and by the prayer which Thou didst pour forth for us on the Mount of Olives, where Thy sweat became as drops of blood running down upon the earth, I beseech Thee to offer up the many drops of Thy bloody sweat, which in Thy fearful anguish Thou didst most abundantly shed for us, and graciously to present them to Thy almighty Father, to be set against the many sins of this Thy servant, N., and mercifully deliver him in this hour of his death from all the pains and sufferings which he fears he may justly have deserved for his sins. Who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest, God, forever and ever. Amen.

A second time is said:

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord,
have mercy. *Our Father, Hail Mary.*

O LORD Jesus Christ, Who didst vouchsafe to die upon the cross for us, I beseech Thee to offer up to Thy almighty Father all the bitter pains and sufferings which Thou didst endure for us upon the cross, especially in that hour when

Thy most holy soul quitted Thy most sacred body; and present them in behalf of this Thy servant, N., and deliver him in this hour of death from all the pains and sufferings which he fears he may justly have deserved for his sins. Who with the Father and the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest God, forever and ever. Amen.

A third time is said:

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord,
have mercy. *Our Father, Hail Mary.*

O LORD Jesus Christ, Who by the mouth of Thy prophet hast said: "With everlasting love, I have loved thee: therefore have I drawn thee graciously": I beseech Thee to offer up this same love which drew Thee down from heaven to earth, there to endure all the bitterness of Thy passion, and present it to Thy almighty Father for the soul of this Thy servant, N., and deliver him from all the pains and sufferings which he fears he has deserved for his sins. And save his soul in this hour of his departure. Open unto him the gates of life, and make him to rejoice with Thy saints in glory everlasting. And do Thou, O most merciful Lord Jesus Christ, Who hast redeemed us by Thy most Precious Blood, have mercy on the soul of this Thy servant, and vouchsafe to introduce him into the ever green and pleasant places of paradise, that he may live unto Thee in undivided love, and never be separated from Thee and Thine elect. Who with the Father and the Holy Ghost livest and reignest God, forever and ever. Amen.

Prayers for the Dead

By indulgences, prayers, good works, and especially by Masses heard or offered, we can help the souls in purgatory. Let us not deny this office of charity even to those who lived most holily. Nor should the passing years make us forget those we are bound to pray for.

NINE DAYS' PRAYER FOR ONE RECENTLY DECEASED

(Ind. of 300 days, each day.—Pius IX. Jan. 5
1849.)

For the First Day

O GOD, to Whom it belongs always to have mercy and to spare, we humbly beseech Thee for the soul of Thy servant, N., which Thou hast commanded to depart out of this world; that Thou deliver it not into the hands of the enemy, nor forget it unto the end; but command it to be received by Thy holy angels, and conducted into paradise, its true country; that, as in Thee it hath hoped and believed, it may not suffer the pains of hell, but may take possession of eternal joys. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Second Day

O Thee, O Lord, do we command the soul of Thy servant, N., that being dead to the world he may live unto Thee; and whatsoever sins he has committed through the frailty of his mortal nature, do Thou, by the pardon of Thy most merciful love, wash away. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Third Day

DE beseech Thee, O Lord, that Thou wouldst vouchsafe to grant fellowship with Thy saints and elect to the soul of Thy servant, N., whose departure we commemorate, and mayest Thou pour upon it the everlasting dew of Thy mercy. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Fourth Day

INCLINE Thine ear, O Lord, unto the prayers in which we suppliantly entreat Thy mercy; and do Thou establish, in a place of peace and rest, the soul of Thy servant, N., whom Thou hast bidden to pass out of this world, and unite him to the fellowship of Thy saints. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Fifth Day

ABSOLVE, we beseech Thee, O Lord, the soul of Thy servant, N., from every bond of sin, that, being raised in the glory of the Resurrection, he may be refreshed among Thy saints and elect. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Sixth Day

DE beseech Thee, O Lord, by Thy loving kindness, to have mercy on the soul of Thy servant, N., and now, that he is released from the contagion of this mortal flesh, to give him part in Thine eternal salvation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Seventh Day

WE implore Thee, O Lord, mercifully to grant companionship with the blessed in heaven to the soul of Thy servant, N., whose death we commemorate. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Eighth Day

RECEIVE, O Lord, our prayers on behalf of the soul of Thy servant, N., that, if it is still soiled by any earthly stains, it may be purified by Thy merciful forgiveness. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Ninth Day

GRANT, O Lord, we beseech Thee, this mercy unto Thy servant deceased, that, having in desire kept Thy will, he may not suffer in requital of his deeds: and as a true faith joined him unto the company of Thy faithful here below, so may Thy tender mercy give him place above, among the angel choirs. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

(*Ind. of 300 days, each day of a novena for the souls in purgatory. — Pius IX. Nov. 26, 1876.*)

**INDULGENCED PRAYERS FOR EVERY DAY
IN THE WEEK FOR THE SOULS IN PURGATORY***For Sunday*

O LORD God almighty, I pray Thee by the Precious Blood which Thy divine Son Jesus shed in the garden, deliver the souls in purgatory, and especially that soul among them all which is most destitute of spiritual aid; and vouchsafe to bring it to Thy glory, there to praise and bless Thee forever. Amen. *Our Father, Hail Mary, De Profundis, etc.* See page 289.

For Monday

O LORD God almighty, I pray Thee by the Precious Blood which Thy divine Son Jesus shed in His cruel scourging, deliver the souls in purgatory, and that soul especially among them all which is nearest to its entrance into Thy glory: that so it may forthwith begin to praise and bless Thee forever. Amen. *Our Father, Hail Mary, De Profundis, etc.*

For Tuesday

O LORD God almighty, I pray Thee by the Precious Blood which Thy divine Son Jesus shed in His bitter crowning with thorns, deliver the souls in purgatory, and in particular that one

among them all which would be the last to depart out of those pains, that it may not tarry so long a time before it comes to praise Thee in Thy glory and bless Thee forever. Amen. *Our Father, Hail Mary, De Profundis, etc.*

For Wednesday

O LORD God almighty, I pray Thee by the Precious Blood which Thy divine Son Jesus shed in the streets of Jerusalem, when He carried the cross upon His sacred shoulders, deliver the souls in purgatory, and especially that soul which is richest in merit before Thee: that so in that throne of glory which awaits it, it may magnify Thee and bless Thee forever. Amen. *Our Father, Hail Mary, De Profundis, etc.*

For Thursday

O LORD God almighty, I pray Thee by the Precious Body and Blood of Thy divine Son Jesus, which He gave with His own hands upon the eve of His passion to His beloved apostles to be their meat and drink, and which He left to His whole Church to be a perpetual sacrifice and the life giving food of His own faithful people, deliver the souls in purgatory, and especially that one which was most devoted to this mystery of infinite love, that it may with

Thy divine Son, and with Thy Holy Spirit, ever praise Thee for Thy love therein in eternal glory. Amen. *Our Father, Hail Mary, De Profundis, etc.*

For Friday

O LORD God almighty, I pray Thee by the Precious Blood which Thy divine Son shed on this day upon the wood of the cross, especially from His most sacred hands and feet, deliver the souls in purgatory, and in particular that soul for which I am most bound to pray: that no neglect of mine may hinder it from praising Thee in Thy glory and blessing Thee forever. Amen. *Our Father, Hail Mary, De Profundis, etc.*

For Saturday

O LORD God almighty, I beseech Thee by the Precious Blood which gushed forth from the side of Thy divine Son Jesus in the sight of, and to the extreme pain of His most holy Mother, deliver the souls in purgatory, and especially that one among them all which was the most devout to her: that it may soon attain unto Thy glory, there to praise Thee in her and her in Thee, world without end. Amen. *Our Father, Hail Mary, De Profundis, etc.*

(*Ind. of 100 days, once a day.—LEO XII. Nov. 18, 1826.*)
 (*For a seven days exercise of prayer for the souls in Purgatory an indulgence of 300 days each day has been granted.—PIUS IX. Nov. 26, 1876.*)

Prayers for Various Deceased Persons

PRAYER FOR A DECEASED POPE

O GOD, Who by Thine unspeakable providence was pleased to number Thy servant, Pope N., among the Sovereign Pontiffs, grant, we beseech Thee, that he who reigned as the vicar of Thy Son on earth, may be joined in fellowship with Thy holy Pontiffs forevermore. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR A DECEASED BISHOP

GRANT, we beseech Thee, O Lord, that the soul of Thy servant Bishop N., which Thou hast taken from the toilsome conflict of this world, may have fellowship among Thy saints. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR A DECEASED PRIEST

O LORD, we pray Thee that the soul of Thy priest, Thy servant N., which, while he abode in this world, Thou didst adorn with sacred gifts, may ever rejoice in a glorious place in heaven. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR DECEASED PARENTS

O GOD, Who hast commanded us to honor our father and mother, look in the tenderness of Thy mercy upon the souls of my father

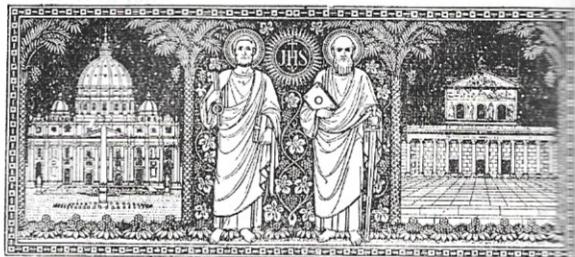
and mother and forgive them their sins, and grant unto me the joy of seeing them again in the glorious light of everlasting life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR DECEASED BRETHREN, RELATIVES AND BENEFACTORS

O GOD, the bestower of forgiveness and the lover of human salvation, we beseech Thee, of Thy tender love, to grant that the brethren of our congregation, with their relatives and benefactors, who have passed out of this life, may, by the intercession of Blessed Mary, ever Virgin, and all Thy saints, come to the fellowship of eternal bliss. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THOSE FOR WHOM WE ARE BOUND TO PRAY

GRANT, we beseech Thee, O Lord our God, that the souls of Thy servants and handmaids, the memory of whom we keep with special reverence, and for whom we are bidden and are bound to pray, and the souls of all our benefactors, relatives and connections, and all the faithful, may rest in the bosom of Thy saints; and hereafter, in the resurrection from the dead, may please Thee in the land of the living. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Prayers for Various Occasions

PRAYERS FOR CHURCH UNITY

The following prayers have been approved for the Church Unity Octave, Jan. 18 to 25.

ANT. That they all may be one, as Thou, Father, in Me and I in Thee; that they also may be one in Us; that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me. (*John xiii: 21.*)

V. I say unto thee, that thou art Peter;

R. And upon this Rock I will build My Church.

Prayer

O LORD Jesus Christ, Who saidst unto Thine apostles; Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you; regard not our sins, but the faith of Thy Church, and grant unto her that peace and unity which are agreeable to Thy will. Who livest and reignest God forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER IN ANY TRIBULATION

O ALMIGHTY God, despise not Thy people who cry unto Thee in their affliction; but for the glory of Thy Name, turn away Thine anger, and help us in our tribulations. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER IN TIME OF CALAMITY

O LORD Jesus Christ, holy, immortal God! have mercy upon us and upon all men; purify us by Thy holy Blood, forgive us by Thy holy Blood, save us by Thy holy Blood, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER IN TIME OF FAMINE OR PESTILENCE

GRANT, we beseech Thee, O Lord, an answer to our hearty supplications; and, Thy wrath being appeased, turn away from us this famine (or pestilence), that the hearts of men may know that these scourges proceed from Thine anger, and cease by Thy mercy. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER IN TIME OF GREAT MORTALITY

O GOD, Who desirest not the death but the penance of sinners, mercifully look upon Thy people returning to Thee; and grant that they, being devoted unto Thee, may, by Thy clemency, be delivered from the scourges of Thine anger. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER IN TIME OF WAR

O GOD, Who bringest wars to naught and shieldest by Thy power all who hope in Thee, overthrowing those that assail them, help Thy servants who implore Thy mercy, so that the fierce might of their enemies may be brought low and we may never cease to praise and thank Thee. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR RAIN

O GOD, in Whom we live, move, and have our being, bestow upon us seasonable rain, that receiving at Thy hands a sufficiency of temporal goods, we may, with the greater trustfulness, look to Thee for those blessings which are eternal. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR FAIR WEATHER

GRACIOUSLY hear us, O Lord, we beseech Thee, and grant fair weather unto us Thy supplicants, that we who are justly afflicted for our sins may experience Thy mercy and clemency. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ANY NECESSITY

O GOD, our refuge and our strength, hearken to the pious prayers of Thy Church, Thou Who art Thyself the author of piety, and grant that what we faithfully ask for we may efficaciously obtain. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers for Private Necessities

PRAYER FOR LIGHT

MAY the Comforter Who proceedeth from Thee, O Lord, enlighten our minds, and even as Thy Son hath promised, may He lead us into all truth. Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the same Holy Ghost forever and ever. Amen.

LEAD, kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom
Lead Thou me on!
The night is dark, and I am far from home.
Lead Thou me on!
Keep Thou my feet; I do not ask to see
The distant scene, — one step enough for me.

I was not ever thus, nor pray'd that Thou
Shouldst lead me on.

I loved to choose and see my path, but now
Lead Thou me on!

I loved the garish day, and, spite of fears,
Pride ruled my will: remember not past years.

So long Thy power hath blest me, sure it still
Will lead me on.

O'er moor and fen, o'er crag and torrent, till
The night is gone;
And with the morn those angel faces smile
Which I have loved long since, and lost awhile.

— CARDINAL NEWMAN

PRAYER FOR CHARITY

O MY Jesus, Thou knowest well that I love Thee; but I do not love Thee enough; **O** grant that I may love Thee more. O love that burnest ever and never failest, my God, Thou Who art charity itself, enkindle in my heart that divine fire which consumes the saints and transforms them unto Thee. Amen.

PRAYER FOR CHASTITY

MY Queen! my Mother! I give myself entirely to thee; and to show my devotion to thee, I consecrate to thee this day my eyes, my ears, my mouth, my heart, my whole being, without reserve. Wherefore, good Mother, as I am thine own, keep me, guard me, as thy property and possession. Amen.

PRAYER FOR HUMILITY

O GOD, Who withstandest the proud and giveth Thy grace to the humble, clothe us with that true virtue of humility, the pattern of which Thine only-begotten Son did show in Himself to the faithful, so that we may never by our pride provoke Thee to anger, but rather in our lowliness accept from Thy hands the gifts of Thy grace. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR PATIENCE

O GOD, Who by the patience of Thine only-begotten Son hast crushed the pride of the old enemy, give unto us, we beseech Thee, ever devoutly to have in mind what He with love

endured for us, and thus, after His example, to bear with long suffering the troubles which come upon us. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF ST. THOMAS AQUINAS FOR VIRTUE

GRANT me, O merciful God, that what is pleasing to Thee I may ardently desire, prudently acquire, truthfully acknowledge, and perfectly accomplish for the praise and glory of Thy Name. Ordain, O my God, my whole life; and what Thou requirest that I should do, grant me to know and to fulfil as meet and profitable to my soul. Give me Thy grace, O Lord my God, that I may not fail in prosperity or in adversity, avoiding pride in the former, and discouragement in the latter. May I rejoice in nothing but what leads to Thee, grieve for nothing but what turns away from Thee. May I wish to please, and fear to displease, no one but Thee.

May I despise, O Lord, all transitory things, and prize only that which is eternal. May I shun any joy that is without Thee, nor wish for anything except Thee. May I delight in any work taken up for Thee, and tire of any rest that is without Thee. Give me, O my God, to direct my heart toward Thee, and in my failings constantly grieve, with a purpose of amendment.

Make me, O Lord my God, obedient without contradiction, poor without depression, chaste without corruption, patient without murmuring, humble without pretence, cheerful without dissipation, mature without dullness, prompt with-

out levity, fearing Thee without despair, truthful without duplicity, doing good without presumption, correcting my neighbor without haughtiness, and edifying him by word and example without hypocrisy.

Give me, O Lord God, a watchful heart, which no curious thought will turn away from Thee; a noble heart, which no unworthy affection can draw downwards; a righteous heart, which no irregular intention will twist aside; a firm heart, which no tribulation will break; a free heart, which no violent affection will claim for itself.

Grant me finally, O Lord my God, science in knowing Thee, diligence in seeking Thee, wisdom in finding Thee, a conduct pleasing to Thee, a perseverance trustfully awaiting Thee, and a confidence finally embracing Thee. May I endure Thy punishments by penitence; profit by Thy benefits by grace in this world, and enjoy Thy blessedness by glory in the next. Who livest and reignest, true God, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH OF BODY AND SOUL

MOST holy Virgin, Mother of the Incarnate Word, treasure-house of grace, and refuge of us wretched sinners, with lively faith we have recourse to thy motherly love, and ask of thee the grace of ever doing God's will and thine. In thy most holy hands we place our hearts, and of thee we ask health of body and soul, and as we have the same hope that thou, our most loving Mother, wilt hear us, we say to thee with lively faith:

Hail Mary, etc., three times.

Let us Pray

DEFEND, we beseech Thee, O Lord! through the intercession of the blessed Mary ever Virgin, Thy servants from all infirmity, and mercifully deign to guard them, prostrate in the sincerity of their hearts before Thee, against the snares of the enemy. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR A HAPPY DEATH

O GOD, Who, while condemning all men once to die, hast yet concealed from them the moment and the hour of their death, grant that, spending all the days of my life in justice and in holiness, I may be made worthy to depart out of this world in Thy holy love. Through the merits of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost.

(*Ind. of 100 days, once a day. A plenary indulgence once a month.* — LEO XII. Aug. 11, 1824.)

DIVINE Jesus, incarnate Son of God, Who for our salvation didst vouchsafe to be born in a stable, to pass Thy life in poverty, trials, and misery, and to die amid the sufferings of the cross, I entreat Thee, say to Thy divine Father at the hour of my death, "Father, forgive him"; say to Thy beloved Mother, "Behold thy Son"; say to my soul, "This day thou shalt

be with Me in paradise." My God, my God, forsake me not in that hour. "I thirst"; yes, my God, my soul thirsts after Thee, Who art the fountain of living waters. My life passes like a shadow; yet a little while, and all will be consummated. Wherefore, O my adorable Saviour, from this moment, for all eternity, "into Thy hands I commend my spirit." Lord Jesus, receive my soul. Amen.

(Ind. of 300 days, each time.—PIUS IX. June 10, 1856.)

O LORD, support us all the day long of this troublous life, until the shadows lengthen and evening comes and the busy world is hushed and the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then of Thy great mercy grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

—CARDINAL NEWMAN

O MY Lord and Saviour, support me in my last hour by the strong arms of Thy Sacraments, and the fragrance of Thy consolations. Let Thy absolving words be said over me, and the holy oil sign and seal me; and let Thine own Body be my food, and Thy Blood my sprinkling; and let Thy Mother Mary come to me, and my angel whisper peace to me, and Thy glorious saints and my own dear patrons smile on me, that in and through them all I may die as I desire to live, in Thy Church, in Thy faith, and in Thy love. Amen.

—CARDINAL NEWMAN

O MARY, conceived without stain, pray for us who fly to thee. Refuge of sinners, Mother of those who are in their agony, leave us not in the hour of our death, but obtain for us perfect sorrow, sincere contrition, remission of our sins, a worthy reception of the most holy Viaticum, the strengthening of the Sacrament of Extreme Unction, so that we may be able to stand with safety before the throne of the just but merciful Judge, our God and our Redeemer. Amen.

(Ind. of 200 days, once a day.—PIUS IX. March 11, 1856.)

JESUS, Mary, and good Joseph, bless us, now and in the agony of death.

(Ind. of 50 days.—PIUS X. June 9, 1906.)

PRAYERS FOR A JOURNEY

IN the way of peace and prosperity may the Lord, the almighty and merciful, direct our steps. And may the archangel Raphael accompany us on the way, that we may return to our home in peace, safety, and joy.

O God, Who madest the sons of Israel to walk with dry feet through the midst of the sea, and Who didst open to the three Magi, by the guiding of a star, the way that led to Thee; grant to us, we beseech Thee, a prosperous journey, and a time of tranquillity, that, attended by Thy holy angel, we may happily arrive at that place whither we are journeying, and finally at the haven of eternal salvation.

Give ear, O Lord, we beseech Thee, to our supplications, and dispose the way of Thy ser-