

Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions

Opening Hymn (Stand)

PRIEST: Most holy and Immaculate Virgin and our Mother Mary, you are our Perpetual Help, our refuge and our hope.

ALL: 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.

PRIEST: Mother of Perpetual Help, confident of your powerful influence with God, obtain for us these graces:

ALL: 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.

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PRIEST: Let us pray to be open to God's Word.

ALL: Mother of Perpetual Help, * you continually sought the meaning of God's words and actions in your life. * As we listen to God's Word, * may the Holy Spirit enlighten our understanding * and give us the courage * to put his Word into practice in our daily lives. (If homily follows, all should be seated.)

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PRIEST: Let us kneel to pray as a community of faith. Mary, all generations have called you blessed, and the Almighty has done great things for you.

ALL: Mother of Perpetual Help, * we call upon your most powerful name. * Your very name inspires confidence and hope. * May it always be on our lips, * especially in time of temptation * and at the hour of our death. * Blessed Lady, help us whenever we call on you. * Let us not be content with merely pronouncing your name. * May our daily lives proclaim * that you are our Mother and our Perpetual Help.

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PRIEST: Let us pray for our temporal wants:

ALL: Mother of Perpetual Help, * with the greatest confidence we kneel before you. * We implore your help in the problems of our daily lives. * Trials and sorrows often depress us; * misfortunes and privations bring misery into our lives; * everywhere we meet the cross. * Comforter of the Afflicted * beg your Son, Jesus, * to strengthen us as we bear our burdens * and to free us from our sufferings. * Or if it be the will of God * that we should suffer still

longer, * help us endure all with love and patience. * May we follow the example of your Son, * and through him, * with him, * and in him, * commend ourselves to the care of our heavenly Father.

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PRIEST: Let us stand now to present our petitions and our thanks. Lord Jesus Christ, at a word from Mary your Mother, you changed water into wine at Cana of Galilee. Listen now to the People of God gathered here to honor Our Mother of Perpetual Help. Grant our petitions and accept our sincere thanks.

PRIEST: Grant wisdom and guidance to our Holy Father, Pope . . . , our Bishop . . . , our priests, and all the leaders of our nation, state, and community.

ALL: Hear us, Lord, through Mary our Mother.

PRIEST: Grant peace and unity throughout the world, especially in our homes and families.

ALL: Hear us, Lord, through Mary our Mother.

PRIEST: Grant that young people respond generously to the call of the Holy Spirit in deepening their faith and choosing their vocation in life.

ALL: Hear us, Lord, through Mary our Mother.

PRIEST: Grant us continued health of mind and body, and help the sick, especially . . . , to regain their health according to your holy will.

ALL: Hear us, Lord, through Mary our Mother.

PRIEST: Grant eternal rest to all our deceased, especially . . . , and to the souls of all the faithful departed.

ALL: Hear us, Lord, through Mary our Mother.

PRIEST: Let us pause now to silently present our own petitions to Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

PRIEST: Lord, accept our thanks for the new life of grace you gave us.

ALL: We thank you, Lord, through Mary our Mother.

PRIEST: Accept our thanks for all the graces received through the sacramental life of the Church.

ALL: We thank you, Lord, through Mary our Mother.

PRIEST: Accept our thanks for the spiritual and material blessings we have received.

ALL: We thank you, Lord, through Mary our Mother.

PRIEST: Let us pause now to silently thank Our Mother of Perpetual Help for our own favors received.

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PRIEST: Please kneel as we pray for the sick:
ALL: Lord, look upon your servants * laboring under bodily weakness. * Cherish and revive the souls * which you have created * so that, purified by their sufferings * they may soon find themselves healed by your mercy. * We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.
PRIEST: May the Lord Jesus Christ be with you that he may defend you, within you that he may sustain you, before you that he may lead you, behind you that he may protect you, above you that he may bless you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
ALL: Amen.

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PRIEST: Let us renew our confidence in Mary as a perpetual help.
ALL: 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 your 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 persever-

ance, * and the grace always to call upon you, * Mother of Perpetual Help.

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(The following Act of Consecration is to be said the first week of the month.)

PRIEST: Let us renew our Act of Consecration.
ALL: United with the members of your confraternity * here and throughout the world, * we consecrate ourselves to your service. * We promise to renew this dedication once a month * and frequently to receive the sacraments. * We beg you to obtain for us * the grace to imitate your great servant, St. Alphonsus, * in his love for you and your Son.

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PRIEST: Let us stand now and unite with the Christians of all ages in praising Mary and in committing ourselves to her powerful protection:
ALL: Hail Mary, etc.
PRIEST: Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
ALL: That we may become worthy of the promises of Christ.
PRIEST: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, who gave us your Mother Mary, whose image we venerate, as a mother ready at every moment to help us; grant, we beg you, that we who call on her help may always enjoy the fruit of your redemption. This we ask through you who live and reign forever.
ALL: Amen.

Closing Hymn

HYMNS

O Mother of Perpetual Help

- O Mother of Perpetual Help,
To thee we come imploring help.
Behold us here, from far and near,
To ask of thee our help to be.
Behold us here, from far and near,
To ask of thee our help to be.
- Perpetual Help we beg of thee;
Our souls from sin and sorrow free;
Direct our wandering feet aright,
And be thyself our own true light.
Direct our wandering feet aright,
And be thyself our own true light.

Immaculate Mary

- Immaculate Mary, your praises we sing
Who reigns now with Christ, our Redeemer
and King.
Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria! Ave, Ave, Maria!
- In heaven the blessed your glory proclaim
On earth we, your children, invoke your
fair name.
Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria! Ave, Ave, Maria!

Perpetual Help Hymn

- Come let us follow
Where God Himself led.
Unto the image of her
Who has said:
I am your own Perpetual Help.
I am your own Perpetual Help.
- Come, sick and troubled
With stories untold.
This is your mother,
Look up and behold,
She is your own Perpetual Help.
She is your own Perpetual Help.

O Mary My Mother

- O Mary my Mother, to thee do I flee
In all my afflictions I hasten to thee
Thy heart is so gentle, so loving, so mild
Thou canst not reject a poor suppliant child.
- O Mary my Mother, I'm longing to see
The glory thy Son has bestowed upon thee
That heaven of glory so purely thine own
Reward which thy virtues, thy purity won.