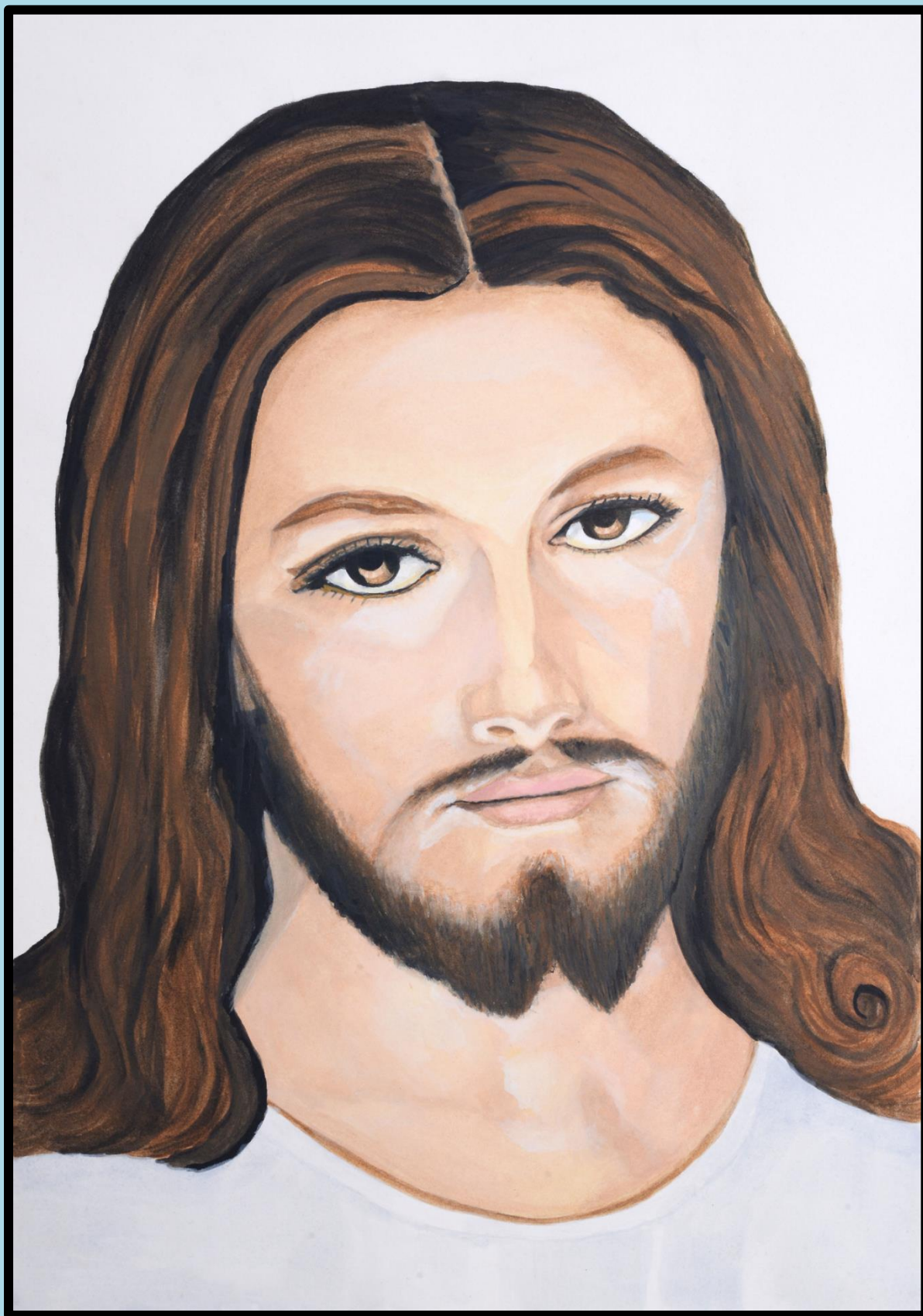


MERCY DIVINE



A Collection of Prayers and Devotions

Copyright © December 2019
May be downloaded for personal use only.
Rev. Fr. Dr. Michael van Heerden
June Assheton-Smith

TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE CHAPLET OF MERCY.....	1
OUR FATHER PRAYER	1
HAIL MARY	2
THE APOSTLE’S CREED.....	2
NOVENA TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS.....	4
HAIL, HOLY QUEEN (SALVE REGINA).....	4
HAIL MARY OF GOLD	5
A SHORT WAY OF THE CROSS.....	5
FIRST STATION.....	5
SECOND STATION.....	5
THIRD STATION.....	5
FOURTH STATION.....	5
FIFTH STATION	5
SIXTH STATION.....	6
SEVENTH STATION.....	6
EIGHTH STATION.....	6
NINTH STATION.....	6
TENTH STATION.....	6
ELEVENTH STATION	6
TWELFTH STATION	6
THIRTEENTH STATION	6
FOURTEENTH STATION	6
PRAYER FOR PRIESTS.....	7
PRAYER FOR PARENTS.....	7
PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS.....	8
FAMILY	8
PETS.....	9
THE SICK.....	9
WORLD PEACE.....	9
NATIONAL UNITY	10
YOURSELF.....	10

THE CHAPLET OF MERCY

Saint Faustina received this chaplet from Jesus in 1931. The chaplet is said using a rosary. You begin with the OUR FATHER PRAYER, followed by one HAIL MARY, next you say THE APOSTLE'S CREED, followed by one:

*Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood of Your dearly beloved Son,
Our Lord Jesus Christ,
In atonement for our sins
And those of the whole world.*

Then you begin the decades. On the HAIL MARY BEADS you say:

For the sake of His Sorrowful Passion have mercy on us and on the whole world.

On the OUR FATHER BEADS you will say:

Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

After completion of the five decades you say three times:

*Holy God, Holy Mighty One,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy on us and on the world.*

Amen.

In preparation for the Feast of Mercy, this Chaplet is used as a Novena beginning on Good Friday (9 days).

OUR FATHER PRAYER

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.

HAIL MARY

The Lord is with Thee.
Blessed art Thou amongst 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 APOSTLE'S 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 and 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.

FOR
GOD
SO
LOVED THE WORLD
HE
GAVE
HIS
ONLY
SON



NOVENA TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

O my Jesus, You said, "Verily I say to You, ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened to you", behold I knock, I seek and I ask for the grace of

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

Sacred Heart of Jesus I put all my trust in Thee.

O my Jesus, You said, "Verily I say to You, whatsoever you shall ask the Father in My name, He will give it to you", behold in Your name I ask the Father for the grace of

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

Sacred Heart of Jesus, I put all my trust in Thee.

O my Jesus, You said, "Verily I say to You, heaven and earth shall pass away but My words shall not pass away", behold I encouraged by Your infallible words, now ask for the grace of

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

Sacred Heart of Jesus, I put all my trust in Thee.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, to whom one thing alone is impossible, namely, not to have compassion on the afflicted, have pity on us miserable sinners and grant us the grace which we ask of Thee through the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, Your and our tender Mother.

Say the Salve Regina and add, St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus, pray for us.

SALVE REGINA.

HAIL, HOLY QUEEN (SALVE REGINA)

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, Hail our life, our sweetness and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus, O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary, Pray for us O Holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of the promises of Christ. Amen.

HAIL MARY OF GOLD



Hail Mary, White Lily of the Glorious and always serene Trinity,

Hail brilliant Rose of the Garden of heavenly delights.

O you, by whom God wanted to be born and by whose milk the King of Heaven wanted to be nourished! Nourish our souls with effusions of divine grace. Amen!

A SHORT WAY OF THE CROSS

USED BY THE FRANCISCAN FATHERS ON THEIR MISSIONS.

FIRST STATION

Jesus Condemned to Death.

O Jesus! So meek and uncomplaining, teach me resignation in trials.

SECOND STATION

Jesus carries His Cross.

My Jesus, this Cross should be mine, not Thine; my sins crucified Thee.

THIRD STATION

Our Lord Falls the First Time.

O Jesus! By this first fall, never let me fall into mortal sin.

FOURTH STATION

Jesus Meets His Mother.

O Jesus! May no human tie, however dear, keep me from following the road of the Cross.

FIFTH STATION

Simon the Cyrenian Helps Jesus carry His Cross. Simon unwillingly assisted Thee; may I with patience suffer all for Thee.

SIXTH STATION

Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus.

O Jesus! Thou didst imprint Thy sacred features upon Veronica's veil,
stamp them also indelibly upon my heart.

SEVENTH STATION

The Second Fall of Jesus.

By Thy second fall, preserve me, dear Lord, from relapse into sin.

EIGHTH STATION

Jesus Consoles the Women of Jerusalem.

My greatest consolation would be to hear Thee say: "Many sins are forgiven thee, because
thou hast loved much".

NINTH STATION

Third Fall of Jesus.

O Jesus! When weary upon life's long journey be Thou my strength and my perseverance.

TENTH STATION

Jesus Stripped of His Garments.

My soul has been robbed of its robe of innocence; clothe me, dear Jesus, with the garb of
penance and contrition.

ELEVENTH STATION

Jesus nailed to the Cross.

Thou didst forgive Thy enemies; my God, teach me to forgive injuries and FORGET them.

TWELFTH STATION

Jesus Dies on the Cross.

Thou art dying, my Jesus, but Thy Sacred Heart throbs with love
for Thy sinful children.

THIRTEENTH STATION

Jesus Taken Down from the Cross.

Receive me into thy arms, O Sorrowful Mother;
and obtain for me perfect contrition for my sins,

FOURTEENTH STATION

Jesus Laid in the Sepulchre.

When I receive Thee into my heart in Holy Communion, O Jesus,
make it a fit abiding place for Thy adorable Body. Amen.

"Jesus, Mary, I love You, Save Souls".

PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

Heavenly Father, from whom all fathers get their name, we pray for our spiritual fathers. We pray for our priests here in our parishes – and for all who are working on the missions.

Writing to the Church in Corinth, St. Paul said (1 Cor 5:15): “For in Christ Jesus, I became your father through the gospel” - and our priests have become our fathers through the gospel.

Strengthen them in faith, hope and love – help them to be joyous and tireless ministers of Word and Sacrament.

Help them in their chastity to be a sign of Your Son’s dedication to His mission: many times they feel the pain of loneliness – at these times fill them with the assurance of Your presence and the warmth of Your Love.

Help them in their obedience to be a sign of Your Son’s loving obedience to You: many times they feel powerless and frustrated in their attempts to be effective in their work – at these times help them to experience the freedom that comes from humility, the freedom that is ours when we are no longer enslaved by the ego’s pride.

Help them in their poverty to be a sign of Your Son’s poverty – He who left the glory of Heaven to assume the poverty of our human condition: many times they feel unappreciated and unrewarded for their labours, help them at these times to know that they are, appreciated by many and are loved by You for their efforts.

We are all called to be a priestly people – to develop the heart of Jesus in our lives – help our spiritual fathers to lead us in this consecration – help them to be assured everyday that it was You who called them as you said to Your disciples (John 15: 16), “You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit – fruit that will last.”

PRAYER FOR PARENTS

Dear Lord Jesus, You often spoke of Yourself as the Bridegroom and heaven as the wedding banquet. The Church is your bride called to enter into a lifelong commitment to You – a commitment which is a covenant of the loving exchange of life. Married people are the great sign of this covenant to the world - help them in their commitment to each other – help them to be gentle and kind – forgiving and understanding.

Help them to grow in knowledge and love for each other – help them to have the courage to communicate even when it hurts and to have the strength to change and grow in Your likeness – even when there is little in common help them to find that middle path that leads to You.

Fill them with wisdom and counsel to be good parents.

In a world that has grown complex and indifferent to the Spirit – help them to be living examples to their children of the life of grace – leading by example in what they say and do, in the type of people they are and most of all in what they love. Help them to balance love with discipline – for love without discipline leads to indulgence and discipline without love leads to resentment.

PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS

Creator of all things – all seasons and cycles of life,

We pray for our grandparents who have entered the final cycle in their earthly journey.

We understand the challenges of old age – when their physical strength is weak and failing, give them patience and endurance – when they experience the pain of various ailments, help them to unite that suffering with Christ on the cross for the salvation of others, when they are challenged in their hearing or their memory, help them to remember the good experiences in their lives - as fond memories cushion the restrictions of old age.

Heavenly Lord, help our grandparents to feel cherished and appreciated by their children and grandchildren – give us the patience and love to reach out to them and to nourish the wisdom that they have - help us to embrace our own cycle of life and let our grandparents be the reminder that all physical cycles will cease and that we are destined for spiritual life in the glory of Your Kingdom.

FAMILY

Father in Heaven – source and origin of all life,

We see in creation at all levels of life different forms of community, but the most important community of life that You have created is the human family.

In this modern world the family is under attack in so many ways – so we pray in a special way for all the families of our parish and local community.

We pray for unity in families - that they can be truly communities of life and love.

We pray for a spirit of prayer in families – may they be united in faith and strengthened in Your Holy Spirit.

We pray for understanding in families – that they will always put love above worldly possession and above those achievements that fade so quickly – help them to strive for their heavenly reward in the support and understanding shared among them.

Let them see in the Holy Family of Nazareth a true example of family life – united in the poverty of the stable, enlightened in their worship at the temple, strengthened in the threat of death from Herod, creative in their labour in the home of Nazareth and in the carpenter’s shop and bonded in their self-offering to the will of God at the cross of Golgotha.

PETS

Holy Spirit – Spirit of unity and diversity – Your work of ongoing creation is seen in the harmonies and unities that make existence possible, but also in the great diversity of life which speaks to us of the greatness of your wisdom and love.

We pray for our pets – manifestations of your conscious power at work in every level of life – they remind us of the dignity of human life and the importance of fidelity and trust – they remind us of the importance of community and the sharing of our life gifts.

Bless these our pets – in our lives they find a voice to praise Your greatness and goodness.

THE SICK

Holy Spirit – the Comforter – the Paraclete,

So often we are confronted with the mystery of suffering in our own lives and in the lives of those we love – this mystery is not like a problem that can be solved – but being a mystery challenges us to see the deeper meaning and depths of life.

Christ our Lord was never old, never suffered cancer, never knew the loss of a child in war or through disease, never suffered the humiliation of defeat or the loss of meaning – and so we know, as St. Paul says (Col 1: 24), we are sometimes called to fill up in our, “Flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ afflictions – for the sake of His Body, which is the Church.”

Help those who are sick to embrace their cross – comfort them in their affliction, strengthen them with patience in their suffering and assure them of our loving support.

If it be Your will, Holy Spirit, bring them healing and health and guide all those dedicated to their care – so that they will know what is Your will and that they will always preserve the dignity and uniqueness of each person that they serve.

WORLD PEACE

Lord Jesus Christ, You have taught us that Your Kingdom is not of this world, but that Your Kingdom is within us who strive to live the life of the beatitudes.

You have called us to be the light of the nations – help us to reflect in our lives the principles of justice and peace, of truth and reconciliation – help us to be beacons of hope and unity – help our leaders to be good servants of the common good, help them to strive after peace between nations and the recognition of the values within all cultures.

In the world of the global village we pray that people will be put before profit and that capital will serve and not enslave the human race – we pray that understanding and acceptance will thrive so that the benefits of dialogue and co-operation might flourish.

NATIONAL UNITY

Unity is strength is our national motto – Father of Love,

Help us the people of South Africa to be a true unity in diversity – diversity is divine, division is diabolical – help each and everyone in our nation to realise that we need each other to build a nation of peace.

Father remove the divisions of our past – help us to recognise the dignity of each and every person made in Your image and likeness.

Father give us the courage to stand up for those who have no voice – the quality of each democracy is judged by the way in which it treats its minorities – help us to be just people.

Father give us wise and holy leaders that will show in the way in which they serve the example of Christ who came not to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom.

YOURSELF

Lord God, you have taught us through the prophet Micah (Micah 6:8) that what You require from our lives is: “To act justly and to love tenderly and to walk humbly with our God”.

So often I am unjust – give me the hope to see the kingdom of Your light all around and help me to strive after that light so that my deeds might reflect Your justice.

So often I do not love tenderly – help me to see the power of Your love that transforms and gives life – give me the compassion to see the sufferings of others so that I can become a vehicle of Your love.

So often I do not walk humbly with You my Lord – help me to see that who I am is who I am before you – give me the wisdom to walk in the truth of who I am: with my strong points as well as my weaknesses – help my honest humility to be the core of my conversion and to be the medium of Your transforming grace in my life.

All glory and honour be to You: Father, Son and Spirit – now and always – Amen.

