

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Novena and Prayers



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of the Miraculous Medal*
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Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal



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OPENING PRAYER

*In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

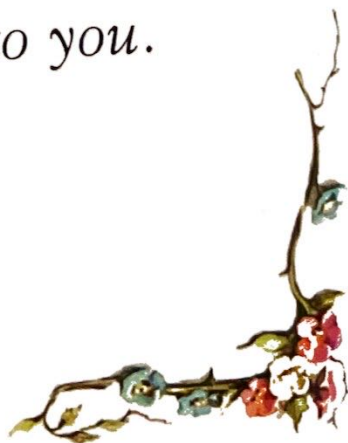
Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created. And you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray.

O God, you instructed the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit.

Grant that by the same Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in his consolation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*O Mary, conceived without sin,
pray for us who have recourse to you.
(Three times.)*



Lord Jesus Christ, by countless miracles
You have glorified the Blessed Virgin Mary,
who was immaculate from the first moment
of her conception.

Grant that all who devoutly ask her protection on earth may eternally enjoy Your presence in heaven. There with the Father and the Holy Spirit, You live and reign, God, forever and ever. Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ, for the accomplishment of Your greatest works, You have chosen the weak things of the world, that no one may glory in Your sight. For a better and more widespread belief in the Immaculate Conception of Your Mother, You wanted the Miraculous Medal to be shown to Saint Catherine Labouré.

Grant that we may be filled with a humility like hers and glorify this mystery through our words and actions. Amen.



MEMORARE

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known, that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession, was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer me. Amen.





NOVENA PRAYER

O Immaculate Virgin Mary, Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, and our Mother, we are filled with the most lively confidence in your all-powerful and never-failing intercession, shown so often through the Miraculous Medal. As your loving and trustful children, we ask you to obtain for us the graces and favors we request during this novena, if these will be to our spiritual benefit.

(Here, privately mention your petitions.)

You know, O Mary, that we want our souls always to be the temples of the Holy Spirit, who hates sin. Obtain for us, then, a deep hatred of sin and that purity of heart which will attach us to God alone, so that our every thought, word and deed may be directed to His greater glory.

Obtain for us a spirit of prayer and self-denial, that we may recover by penance what we have lost by sin and eventually enter that heavenly dwelling where you are the Queen of angels and of humanity. Amen.



AN ACT OF CONSECRATION TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

O Virgin Mother of God, Mary Immaculate, we dedicate and consecrate ourselves to you under the title of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. May this medal be for each one of us a sure sign of your motherly affection for us and a constant reminder of our duties towards you. Ever while wearing it, may we be blessed by your loving protection and preserved in the grace of your Son. O most powerful Virgin, Mother of our Savior, keep us close to you every moment of our lives. Obtain for us, your children, the grace of a happy death, so that, in union with you, we may enjoy the happiness of heaven forever. Amen.

*O Mary conceived without sin,
pray for us who have recourse to you.
(Three times.)*



THE DIVINE PRAISES

Blessed be God.

Blessed be His holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.

Blessed be the Name of Jesus.

Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.

Blessed be His Most Precious Blood.

Blessed be Jesus in the most holy Sacrament of the Altar.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.

Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.

Blessed be her glorious Assumption.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be St. Joseph, her most chaste spouse.

Blessed be God in His angels and in His saints.

May the Heart of Jesus
in the Most Blessed Sacrament
be praised, adored and loved
with grateful affection
at every moment
in all the tabernacles of the world
even to the end of time. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Sing:

O Mary, conceived without sin,
Pray for us, pray for us,
O Mary, conceived without sin,
Pray for us, who have recourse to thee.

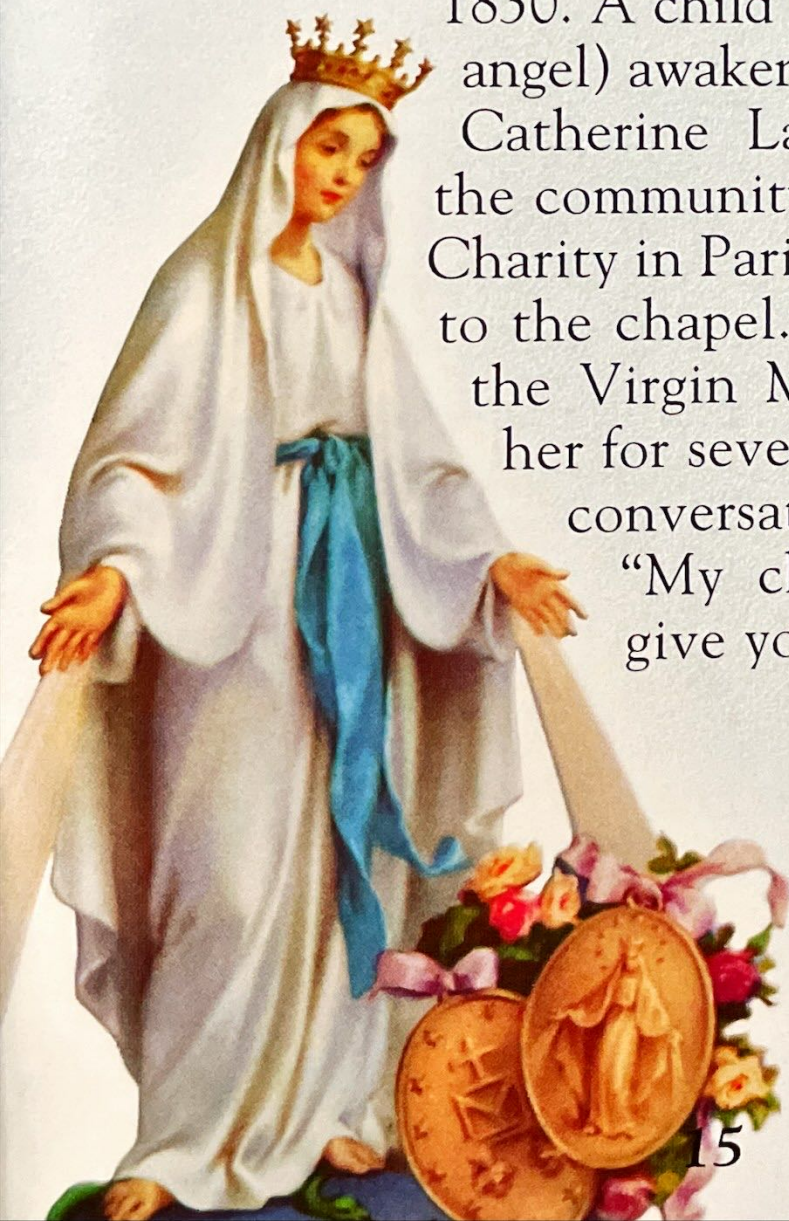


THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL STORY

The Medal of the Immaculate Conception – popularly known as the Miraculous Medal – was designed by the Blessed Virgin herself! No wonder, then that it wins such extraordinary graces for those who wear it and pray for Mary's intercession and help.

The First Apparition

The story begins on the night of July 18-19, 1830. A child (perhaps her guardian angel) awakened Sister (now Saint) Catherine Labouré, a novice in the community of the Daughters of Charity in Paris, and summoned her to the chapel. There she met with the Virgin Mary and spoke with her for several hours. During the conversation Mary said to her, "My child, I am going to give you a mission."



The Second Apparition

Mary gave her this mission in a vision during evening meditation on November 27, 1830. She saw Mary standing on what seemed to be half a globe and holding a golden globe in her hands as if offering it to heaven. On the globe was the word "France," and our Lady explained that the globe represented the whole world, but especially France. The times were difficult in France then, especially for the poor who were unemployed and often refugees from the many wars of the time. France was first to experience many of those troubles, which ultimately reached many other parts of the world and are even present today. Streaming from rings on Mary's fingers as she held the globe were many rays of light. Mary explained that the rays symbolize the graces she obtains for those who ask for them. However, some of the gems on the rings were dark, and Mary explained that the rays and graces were available but did not come because no one had asked for them.



The Third Apparition and the Miraculous Medal

The vision then changed to show our Lady standing on a globe with her arms now outstretched and with the dazzling rays of light still streaming from her fingers. Framing the figure was an inscription:

*O Mary conceived without sin
pray for us who have recourse to thee.*

The vision turned and showed the design of the reverse side of the medal. Twelve stars encircled a large "M" from which arose a cross. Below are two hearts with flames arising from them. One heart is encircled in thorns and the other is pierced by a sword.

Then Mary spoke to Catherine: "Have a medal struck upon this model. Those who wear it will receive great graces, especially if they wear it around the neck." Catherine explained the entire series of apparitions to her confessor, and she worked through him to carry out Mary's instructions. She did not reveal that she received the Medal until soon before her death 47 years later.

With approval of the Church, the first Medals were made in 1832 and were distributed in Paris. Almost immediately the blessings that Mary had promised began to shower down on those who wore her Medal. The devotion spread like wildfire. Marvels of grace and health, peace and prosperity, followed in its wake. Before long people were calling it the "Miraculous" Medal. And in 1836, a Canonical inquiry undertaken at Paris declared the apparitions to be genuine.

There is no superstition, nothing of magic, connected with the Miraculous Medal. The Miraculous Medal is not a "good-luck charm". Rather, it is a great testimony to faith and the power of trusting prayer. Its greatest miracles are those of patience, forgiveness, repentance, and faith. God uses a Medal, not as a sacrament, but as an agent, an instrument, in bringing to pass certain marvelous results. "The weak things of this earth hath God chosen to confound the strong."

When our Blessed Mother gave the design of the medal to Saint Catherine Labouré she said, "Now it must be given to the whole world and to every person."





THE MEANING OF THE FRONT SIDE OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

Mary is standing upon a globe, crushing the head of a serpent beneath her foot. She stands upon the globe, as the Queen of Heaven and Earth. Her feet crush the serpent to proclaim Satan and all his followers are helpless before her (Gn 3:15).

The year of 1830 on the Miraculous Medal is the year the Blessed Mother gave the design of the Miraculous Medal to Saint Catherine Labouré. The reference to Mary conceived without sin supports the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of Mary – not to be confused with the virgin birth of Jesus, and referring to Mary's sinlessness, "full of grace" and "blessed among women" (Luke 1:28) – that was proclaimed 24 years later in 1854.





O MARIE CONÇUE SANS PÉCHÉ PRIEZ
POUR NOUS QUI AVONS RECOURS À VOUS

THE MEANING OF THE BACK SIDE OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

The twelve stars can refer to the Apostles, who represent the entire Church as it surrounds Mary. They also recall the vision of Saint John, writer of the Book of Revelation (12:1), in which “a great sign appeared in heaven, a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of 12 stars.” The cross can symbolize Christ and our redemption, with the bar under the cross a sign of the earth. The “M” stands for Mary, and the interleaving of her initial and the cross shows Mary’s close involvement with Jesus and our world. In this we see Mary’s part in our salvation and her role as mother of the Church. The two hearts represent the love of Jesus and Mary for us. (See also Lk 2:35).







PRAYER OF SAINT CATHERINE LABOURÉ

Whenever I go to the chapel,
I put myself in the presence
of our good Lord, and I say to Him,
“Lord, I am here. Tell me what
you would have me to do.”

If He gives me some task,
I am content and I thank Him.

If He gives me nothing,
I still thank Him since I do not deserve
to receive anything more than that.

And then, I tell God everything
that is in my heart.
I tell Him about my pains and my joys,
and then I listen.

If you listen, God will also speak to you,
for with the good Lord,
you have to both speak and listen.

God always speaks to you
when you approach Him plainly and simply.