

**PRAYERS FOR A NOVENA FROM THE 16TH TO THE 24TH DAY OF ANY MONTH
(RACCOLTA 125)**

I. Eternal Father, I offer to Thine honor and glory, for my eternal salvation and for the salvation of the whole world, the mystery of the birth of our Divine Redeemer.

Glory be to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

II. Eternal Father, I offer to Thine honor and glory, for my eternal salvation and for the salvation of the whole world, the sufferings of the most holy Virgin and Saint Joseph on that long and weary journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem, and the anguish of their hearts at not finding a place of shelter when the Saviour of the world was about to be born.

(Glory be to the Father)



III. Eternal Father, I offer to Thine honor and glory, for my eternal salvation and for the salvation of the whole world, the sufferings of Jesus in the manger where He was born, the cold He suffered, the tears He shed and His tender infant cries.

(Glory be to the Father)

IV. Eternal Father, I offer to Thine honor and glory, for my eternal salvation and for the salvation of the whole world, the pain which the Divine Child Jesus felt in His tender Body, when He submitted to the rite of circumcision: I offer Thee that Precious Blood which He then first shed for the salvation of all mankind.

(Glory be to the Father)

V. Eternal Father, I offer to Thine honor and glory, for my eternal salvation and for the salvation of the whole world, the humility, mortification, patience, charity and all the virtues of the Child Jesus; I thank Thee, I love Thee, and I bless Thee infinitely for this ineffable mystery of the Incarnation of the Word of God.

(Glory be to the Father)

V. The Word was made flesh; R. And dwelt amongst us.

Let us pray. O God, whose only-begotten Son, hath appeared in the substance of our flesh; grant, we beseech Thee, that through Him, whom we acknowledge to have been outwardly like unto us, we may deserve to be renewed in our inward selves. Who liveth and reigneth with Thee for ever and ever. Amen.

(An indulgence of 7 years once on any day. A plenary indulgence on the usual conditions at the close of the Novena (S. C. Ind., Sept. 23, 1846; S P. Ap., Oct. 14, 1934).

Raccolta 127

Most dear Lord Jesus Christ, who being made a Child for us, didst will to be born in a cave to free us from the darkness of sin, to draw us unto Thee, and to set us on fire with Thy holy love; we adore Thee as our Creator and Redeemer, we acknowledge Thee and choose Thee for our King and Lord, and for tribute we offer Thee all the affection of our poor hearts. Dear Jesus, our Lord and God, graciously accept this offering, and that it may be worthy of Thine acceptance, forgive us our sins, enlighten us, and inflame us with that sacred fire which Thou camest to bring upon the earth and to enkindle in our hearts. May our souls thus become an altar, on which we may offer Thee the sacrifice of our mortifications; grant that we may ever seek Thy greater glory here on earth, so that one day we may come to enjoy Thine infinite loveliness in heaven. Amen.

(An indulgence of 3 years. A plenary indulgence once a month on the usual conditions for the daily recitation of this prayer (S. C. Ind., Jan 18, 1894; S. P. Ap., Feb. 21, 1933).

Raccolta 128

O Divine Infant, who after the wonders of Thy birth in Bethlehem, wishing to extend to the whole world Thine infinite mercy, didst call the Wise Men by heavenly inspiration to Thy crib, which was thus converted into a throne of royal grandeur, and didst graciously receive those holy men, who were obedient to the divine call and hastened to Thy feet, acknowledging Thee and worshiping Thee as the Prince of Peace, the Redeemer of mankind, and the very Son of God; ah, renew in us the proofs of Thy goodness and almighty power; enlighten our minds, strengthen our wills, and inflame our hearts to know Thee, to serve Thee, and to love Thee in this life, meriting thus to enjoy Thee eternally in the life to come.

(An indulgence of 500 days [S. P. Ap., July 14, 1924 and Jan. 15, 1935]).

Raccolta 130

At Thy birth, O Jesus, a star of wondrous splendor shone forth in the Eastern skies, and led to Bethlehem the Magi, those envoys of far-distant pagan peoples, even as the Angel, bathed in heavenly light, was summoning to Thy manger the shepherds, as representatives of the chosen people. For the Gentiles as well as the Jews, must needs recognize in Thee, a poor and helpless Infant, the Almighty King of Ages, the Saviour of mankind. Neither scepter nor diadem disclosed Thy kingly state; no sweet harmonies, no hosts of Angels mustering round Thy crib revealed Thy divine nature; but the star, shining above Thy wretched stable, pointed to the heavens, the earth, and the entire universe as Thine absolute possessions; even as the Magi, who at the inspiration of Thy grace, coming promptly from afar, caring naught for dangers, overcoming every difficulty, and embracing every sacrifice, reached Thy feet and kneeling down in reverence offered Thee their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Thirsting for God, they had gone eagerly in search of Thee, and Thou didst reveal Thyself to them in a wonderful manner, while still in Thy crib, filling them with ineffable joys and transforming them into the first messengers of Thy glories to the peoples of the Orient.

After the appearance of the star, which sufficed to render the Magi Thy ardent followers, with what marvels, O Jesus, didst Thou demonstrate Thy divinity! Yet what darkness still overshadows our poor minds! How reluctantly our wills give way to the loving impulses of Thy grace, even when they do not openly resist Thee! Give us, therefore, O Jesus, the strength to reply ever promptly and generously to Thy call, and grant that the divine light of faith, which was enkindled by Thee within us while still in our cradles, may ever accompany us on the road of life, until, blessed at last in Heaven, we shall be able to fix our eyes upon Thee in the light of glory.

(The faithful, who devoutly recite this prayer on the solemn feast of the Epiphany of our Lord, are granted: An indulgence of 3 years: A plenary indulgence on the usual conditions (S. P. Ap., May 4, 1941).

**NOVENA PRAYERS DURING DECEMBER
(RACCOLTA 126)**

- V. O God, come unto my assistance! **R. O Lord, make haste to help me!**
- V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; **R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Our Father Prayer.**
- I. Jesu, sweetest Child, who didst come down from the bosom of the Father for our salvation, who wast conceived by the Holy Ghost, who didst not abhor the Virgin's womb, and who, being the Word made flesh, didst take upon Thee the form of a servant, have mercy on us.
**Response: Have mercy on us, Child Jesus, have mercy on us.
Hail Mary full of grace, 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.**
- II. Jesu, sweetest child, who by means of Thy Virgin Mother didst visit Saint Elisabeth, who didst fill Thy forerunner, John the Baptist, with Thy Holy Spirit and didst sanctify him in his mother's womb, have mercy on us.
Have mercy on us, Child Jesus, have mercy on us. Hail Mary.
- III. Jesu, sweetest Child, who, enclosed for nine months in Thy Mother's womb, wast looked for with eager expectation by the Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph, and wast offered by God the Father for the salvation of the world, have mercy on us.
Have mercy on us, Child Jesus, have mercy on us. Hail Mary.
- IV. Jesu, sweetest Child, born in Bethlehem of the Virgin Mary, wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger, announced by Angels and visited by shepherds, have mercy on us.
Have mercy on us, Child Jesus, have mercy on us. Hail Mary.
- All honor, laud, and glory be, O Jesu, Virgin-born, to Thee;
All glory, as is ever meet, to Father and to Paraclete. Amen.**
- V. Christ is near to us. **R. Come, let us adore Him. Recite: Our Father.**
- V. Jesu, sweetest Child, wounded after eight days in Thy circumcision, called by the glorious Name of Jesus, and at once by Thy Name and by Thy Blood foreshown as the Saviour of the world, have mercy on us.
Have mercy on us, Child Jesus, have mercy on us. Hail Mary.
- VI. Jesu, sweetest Child, manifested by the leading of a star to the three Wise Men, worshiped in the arms of Thy Mother, presented with the mystic gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, have mercy on us.
Have mercy on us, Child Jesus, have mercy on us. Hail Mary.
- VII. Jesu, sweetest Child, presented in the temple by Thy Virgin Mother, taken up in Simeon's arms, and revealed to Israel by Anna, a prophetess, have mercy on us.
Have mercy on us, Child Jesus, have mercy on us. Hail Mary.

**NOVENA PRAYERS DURING DECEMBER
(RACCOLTA 126—CONTINUED)**

VIII. Jesu, sweetest Child, sought by wicked Herod to be slain, carried with Thy Mother into Egypt by Saint Joseph, rescued from the cruel slaughter, and glorified by the praises of the martyred Innocents, have mercy on us.

Have mercy on us, Child Jesus, have mercy on us. Hail Mary.

**All honor, laud, and glory be, O Jesu, Virgin-born, to Thee;
All glory, as is ever meet, to Father and to Paraclete. Amen.**

V. Christ is near to us. R. **O come and let us worship. Our Father.**

IX. Jesu, sweetest Child, who didst dwell in Egypt with most holy Mary and the Patriarch, Saint Joseph until the death of Herod, have mercy on us.

Have mercy on us, Child Jesus, have mercy on us. Hail Mary.

X. Jesu, sweetest Child, who didst return from Egypt to the land of Israel with Thy parents, suffering many hardships in the way, and didst enter into the city of Nazareth, have mercy on us.

Have mercy on us, Child Jesus, have mercy on us. Hail Mary.

XI. Jesu, sweetest Child, who didst dwell most holily in the holy house at Nazareth, in subjection to Thy parents, wearied by poverty and toil, and didst increase in wisdom, age and grace, have mercy of us.

Have mercy on us, Child Jesus, have mercy on us. Hail Mary.

XII. Jesu, sweetest Child, brought to Jerusalem at twelve years of age, sought by Thy parents sorrowing and found with joy after three days in the midst of the Doctors, have mercy on us.

Have mercy on us, Child Jesus, have mercy on us. Hail Mary.

**All honor, laud, and glory be, O Jesu, Virgin-born, to Thee;
All glory, as is ever meet, to Father and to Paraclete. Amen.**

V. The Word was made flesh, alleluia.

R. **And dwelt amongst us, alleluia.**

V. Christ hath manifested Himself to us, alleluia.

R. **O come and let us worship, alleluia.**

V. The Word was made flesh,

R. **And dwelt amongst us.**

Let us pray: Almighty and everlasting God, Lord of heaven and earth, who dost reveal Thyself to little ones; grant, we beseech Thee, that we venerating with due honor the sacred mysteries of Thy Son, the Child Jesus, and copying them with due imitation, may be enabled to enter the Kingdom of Heaven which Thou hast promised to little children. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

(An indulgence of 5 years once a day. A Plenary Indulgence on the usual conditions when these prayers are said devoutly on the 25th day of any month. [S. C. Ind., Nov. 23, 1819; S. P. Ap., June 8, 1935]).