

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF HOPE OF PALO

The way of praying for nine days:

1. Rosary
2. Opening Prayer
3. Prayer and Reflection of the Day
4. Litany of Petitions
5. Closing Prayer (Prayer to Our Lady of Hope of Palo)

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father,
 You have shown us your mercy in your beloved Son
 who, through the obedience of the blessed Virgin Mary,
 became one with us and offered himself for us.
 We ask you to enkindle and strengthen our faith and trust
 which also emboldened the Blessed Virgin
 to accept your will in the midst of doubts, sorrows and uncertainties.
 Because of the trials and tribulations we face,
 pour into us the Spirit of strength
 which you give through our only hope,
 Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord
 Who lives and reigns forever and ever.
 Amen.

PRAYER AND REFLECTION FOR EACH DAY

FIRST DAY: FAITH IN TIMES OF ADVERSITIES

From the first letter of Peter (1 Pt 4:12-13)

Beloved, do not be surprised that a trial by fire is occurring among you, as if something strange were happening to you. But rejoice to the extent that you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that when his glory is revealed you may also rejoice exultantly. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

The word of the Lord.

(or Is 41;13 or Phil 4:6-8)

Silent Reflection

Prayer:

Heavenly Father,
 You do not abandon us during times of adversities.
 Grant us the grace of perseverance
 so that like our beloved Lady of Hope

we may ponder and accept in our hearts
 that the anxieties, doubts and difficulties
 we currently face and burden us
 will only have clarity and meaning in relation to your will
 and will later bring us our welfare.
 Through Christ our Lord.
 Amen.

SECOND DAY: FAITH AS A GIFT WHICH BRINGS HOPE

From the letter of Paul to the Romans (Rom 12:3-8)

For by the grace given to me I tell everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than one ought to think, but to think soberly, each according to the measure of faith that God has apportioned. For as in one body we have many parts, and all the parts do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ and individually parts of one another. Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us exercise them: if prophecy, in proportion to the faith; if ministry, in ministering; if one is a teacher, in teaching; if one exhorts, in exhortation; if one contributes, in generosity; if one is over others, with diligence; if one does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

The word of the Lord.

(or Mt 16:17 or Mt 11:25)

Silent Reflection

Prayer:

Almighty Father,
 without cost you give us the gift of faith
 in the baptism we receive.
 Increase our faith always
 so that, like the beloved Mother of Hope
 we may be hopeful in you
 as we face the challenges ahead of us
 in our journey of faith.
 Through Christ our Lord.
 Amen.

THIRD DAY: FAITH AS A RESPONSE

From the Letter of Paul to the Romans (Rom 4:18-20)

Abraham believed, hoping against hope, that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "Thus shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body as (already) dead (for he was almost a hundred years old) and the dead womb of Sarah. He did not doubt God's promise in unbelief; rather, he was empowered by faith and gave glory to God.

The Word of the Lord.

(or Acts 16:25-28 or Heb 11:6)

Silent Reflection

Prayer:

Merciful Father, you called us
to proclaim your name and your will
for the salvation of all.
Open our ears and eyes, our minds and hearts,
so that like the beloved Virgin of Hope
we may listen, see, feel and understand
what you want us to do.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

FOURTH DAY: FAITH AS TRUST IN THE FULFILLMENT OF A PROMISE

From the letter of Paul to the Romans (Rom 4:13-14, 16-17)

It was not through the law that the promise was made to Abraham and his descendants that he would inherit the world, but through the righteousness that comes from faith. For if those who adhere to the law are the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For this reason, it depends on faith, so that it may be a gift, and the promise may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not to those who only adhere to the law but to those who follow the faith of Abraham, who is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you father of many nations." He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into being what does not exist.

The word of the Lord.

(or Gen 12:1-4 or Heb 4:8-10 or Lk 1:38)

Silent Reflection

Prayer:

Heavenly Father,
You have chosen us
as you have chosen Abraham, our Father in faith,
as well as the Blessed Virgin, our Mother of hope,
in order to fulfill your promise of salvation.
Give us the humility and trust
to seek your will and to follow your commands
all the days of our lives.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

FIFTH DAY: FAITH AS A PERSONAL ACT

From the second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians (2 Cor 5:7, 9-10)

We walk by faith, not by sight. Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

The word of the Lord.

(or Gen 18:14 or Lk 1:37-38)

Silent Reflection

Prayer:

Almighty and ever-living God,
Your loving care has sustained us.
In the midst of the trials of this world
teach us to recognize your word and listen to your voice
so that like the Beloved Virgin of Hope
each of us will respond
to the invitation to obey and heed your call
for the salvation and welfare of all.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

SIXTH DAY: FAITH AS A COMMUNAL ACT

From the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians (Eph 4:3-6)

Strive to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace: one body and one Spirit, as you were also called to the one hope of your call; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

The word of the Lord.

(or Lk 4:16-22 or Jn 13:34-35 or 1 Jn 4:20)

Silent Reflection

Prayer:

God of peoples and nations,
You established a people to make you known
and to give witness to you.
Strengthen our oneness in you
so that like the beloved Virgin of Hope
our society, your people,
will ever take care and encourage each brother and sister
to follow your command to love and help one another
especially in times of adversities.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

SEVENTH DAY: FAITH AS STRENGTH

From the Letter of Paul to the Philippians (Phil 4:12-13)

I know indeed how to live in humble circumstances; I know also how to live with abundance. In every circumstance and in all things I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry, of living in abundance and of being in need. I have the strength for everything through him who empowers me.

The word of the Lord.

(or Is 40:29 or Lk 22:31-32)

Silent Reflection

Prayer:

All-powerful God
without you, we cannot do anything.
In times of weakness, doubts and failures,
give us the strength so that like our beloved Lady of Hope
we will never abandon but rather remain in you
for only in you is our success.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

EIGHTH DAY: FAITH AS FOUNT OF CHRISTIAN LIFE

From the First Letter of Peter (1 Pt 1:3-5)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you who by the power of God are safeguarded through faith, to a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the final time.

The word of the Lord.

(or Jn 17:3 or Heb 11:6)

Silent Reflection

Prayer:

God of heaven and earth,
to You belong the world and all of us who live here;
In you our lives have meaning and value.
Inspire us always
so that like our beloved Lady of Hope
we may give witness to you
and at all times and seasons
be docile to you without fail.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

NINTH DAY: FAITH AS HOPE FOR FUTURE GLORY

From the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians (Eph 1:11-14)

In him we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the one who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will, so that we might exist for the praise of his glory, we who first hoped in Christ. In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed with the promised holy Spirit, which is the first instalment of our inheritance toward redemption as God's possession, to the praise of his glory.

The word of the Lord.

(or Rom 4:16-21 or Rom 8:18-25)

Silent Reflection

Prayer:

Eternal God,
 You willed that all creation will attain fullness
 Fill us with the grace of faith, love and hope
 so that like our Lady of Hope
 we will remain prayerful and faithful
 amidst the difficulties we face.
 Bring us all who are gathered now
 and all those who have gone ahead of us
 to our everlasting home.
 Through Christ our Lord.
 Amen.

LITANY OF PETITIONS

Let us ask the help of our Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Hope of Palo, Mother of Jesus Christ, our salvation and home in life

Blessed are you, O Mary, for you have pleased God
 And through you we have been blessed with the fullness of divine grace.

*Response after each petition, **MOTHER OF HOPE, HELP US.***

- for your example of faith and humility
- for your prayers for us, your children
- for your heavenly intercession for our salvation
- for your motherly mantle of protection
- for bringing us to Jesus Christ

- that we may always follow you in obedience to God
- that we may become faithful children of God
- that we may be freed from sin and all those leading us to sin

- that we may serve our brothers and sisters for the good of all
- that we may never forget to call God all the days of our lives

- in times of calamities, bad weather and all threats to our environment and the world
- in times of worries and uncertainties in the midst of difficulties
- in times when we are in darkness
- in times of disappointments and failures
- in times when we are lost on our way to God

- when we are on the verge of losing trust in God
- when our family lacks understanding and unity
- when the church is persecuted through mockery and harassment
- when our leaders lead us to discouragement
- when we are confronted with death

CLOSING PRAYER
(PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF HOPE OF PALO)

We cry unto you, O holy Mother of God,
our Lady of hope
full of confidence, both in times of joy and triumph
and of desolation and fear.

Show unto us the fruit of your womb, Jesus:
 our light in the midst of darkness,
 our strength in times of weakness,
 our cure in times of sickness,
 our hope in times of defeat,

Teach us to gaze upon the eyes of your Son
to embrace him and to bear his cross.

O Mary, our mother, mercifully listen to our prayers
and lead us always to the one Hope,
Jesus, your beloved Son, Our Lord.

Amen.