

## Chaplet of Merciful Love



Meditations taken from the Exercise of  
Devotion to the Mercy of God

### *Introduction:*

In order to pray fruitfully, preparation is needed. One must recollect the spirit, the imagination and the affections at the feet of our adorable Saviour Jesus Christ, inflame our heart with love for him, and speak to him with lively faith, hoping for everything from his bounty. Let us therefore put ourselves humbly with profound reflection before him, considering the nature of the devotion we intend to practise.

### *At the beginning:*

Our Father - Hail Mary - Glory be – I believe.

### *FIRST MEDITATION.*

*God shows His mercy daily to the just and the sinners*

**\* God so loved the world, that He gave His Only Son,  
- that whoever believes in Him should not be lost,  
but have eternal life.**

To animate our confidence in the divine Mercy let us consider right from the beginning how the Lord gives proof of his goodness to all indistinctly.

The Sacred Scripture says: the whole earth is full of God's mercy. We cannot fix our gaze anywhere without experiencing the benefits of God...

Let us ponder well on these characteristics of the divine goodness, and while we see them renewed daily for our advantage, lo! we are most ungrateful; and if at all sin keeps us away from God, let us detest it with true heart and return to him as soon as possible...

O my Jesus pardon me, and from today onwards may I love no one but you, live only for you, who died for me. The grace that I ask for me, likewise I ask for all the sinners, so that all may know your great bounty in benefiting them, may they leave once and for all the unhappy state in which they find themselves and return to taste the delights of a loving Father as you are. I ask this grace by the merits of your divine son and our Saviour Jesus Christ...

*We repeat 10 times:*

***\* O Mercy of God! We call on you  
- not only for ourselves, but for all human  
creatures!***

***Glory be.***

## ***SECOND MEDITATION.***

***Particular features from the Sacred Scriptures  
used by God towards the sinners.***

***\* God so loved the world, that He gave His Only Son,  
- that whoever believes in Him should not be lost,  
but have eternal life.***

The marvellous way in which God dealt with in each age with the greatest of sinners must be a powerful reason to animate ourselves with confidence and return to God...

Therefore let us not go far away from him, let us listen to what he goes on telling us: you ungrateful ones, do not run away any more from me; tell me, why do you run away? I desire your welfare and nothing else but to make you happy: Why do you want to lose yourselves? But what are you doing, O Lord? Why so much of patience and so much love for these rebels? You, O my good God, you always answer me that you do not desire the death of a sinner, but that he repent and live.

Merciful God, I would no more merit compassion from you, but that goodness which withheld you until now from abandoning me while I was going astray, I hope that you may well want to accept me now that I return to you. Give me true

sorrow for my sins, so that I may grieve for them as long as I live, and in exchange for the insults done to you, I will make every effort to lead back to the right path those who have offended you, and when the impious will all be converted to you together, we shall sing the divine Mercies.

*We repeat 10 times:*

***\* O Mercy of God! We call on you  
- not only for ourselves, but for all human  
creatures!  
Glory be.***

### ***THIRD MEDITATION.***

***Particular features of mercy used by the Divine  
Saviour in his passion for sinners.***

***\* God so loved the world, that He gave His Only Son,  
- that whoever believes in Him should not be lost,  
but have eternal life.***

All the deeds of our loving Saviour are a continuous expression of the acts of his generous divine goodness, specially by never rejecting or treating rudely the greatest of sinners. Nevertheless,

this most luminous goodness appears in his passion, and what is more, in favour of sinners who were the cause of his death...

Courage therefore, you afflicted souls and you miserable sinners, courage and confidence in the bounty of this God. The number of your sins may be great, but know that his mercy will surpass them, if you repent. He says to you: May peace be with you, do not fear, it is I who speak to you. Can these mighty promises fall short? Ah! Full of confidence then, let all of us approach this cross on which dies the author of life itself. While he sheds his most precious blood till the last drop, while he foresees all the repeated falls and scorns, he never ceases to call us: Come to me all of you.

*We repeat 10 times:*

***\* O Mercy of God! We call on you  
- not only for ourselves, but for all human  
creatures!  
Glory be.***

***This first part is concluded with the Miserere (Ps.  
50)***

#### ***FOURTH MEDITATION.***

***The love with which God welcomes the sinner is the first motive for which we should thank him.***

**\* God so loved the world, that He gave His Only Son,  
- that whoever believes in Him should not be lost,  
but have eternal life.**

Therefore away with every fear of the rigorous divine justice, instead let us thank our good God for the many benefits that he has imparted to us in the course of our life and specially for having awaited for us to make penance. Let us promise him from our heart that we will be faithful to him always in the future and constant in serving him. And let us tell him with love that for the innumerable acts of bounty that he has used, whatever pain, affliction, suffering, life and even death would not be enough to thank him for our immense debt. In the meanwhile grateful to him for many signs of his divine bounty and animated by his loving acceptance with which he receives us, let us approach the throne of his grace with confidence, and being sure to obtain the pardon of our sins, let us promise God to use each moment of our life in thanking, blessing and praising him. Wherefore, all the days that it will please him to leave us in this life, are none other than a continual

rendering of thanks for the goodness used towards us, so that exalting his mercy here on earth, we may be able to praise and exalt him one day with all the saints and the blessed in heaven. *Misericordis Domini in aeternaum cantabo.*

*We repeat 10 times:*

**\* O Mercy of God! May you be eternally thanked  
for the benefits granted to all human creatures!  
Glory be.**

#### ***FIFTH MEDITATION.***

***The benefits of the Sacrament of Penance is the second motive for which we should thank God.***

**\* God so loved the world, that He gave His Only Son,  
- that whoever believes in Him should not be lost,  
but have eternal life.**

Our good God whose wisdom and bounty are great in all his works, never allowed us to lack anything that we needed. He founded the Church of which he himself is the head and all the faithful are its members. And foreseeing our weaknesses, in order to help us, he appointed his ministers with the

power to forgive sins in such a way that those who would be forgiven here on earth, would be likewise forgiven in heaven, so that we have in the confessional, one who stands for God on earth...

Therefore away with every fear. Courage and confidence and firm resolution. We go to a God who is a very good Father, who loves us his creatures. Why should we fear the one who loves us? Rather, let us thank the Divine Mercy for having instituted that beneficent and consoling sacrament, through which our soul is washed from every stain that renders it detestable to his sight. Let us promise, ah! yes let us promise from our heart that we want in the future to correspond to his immense goodness, by approaching the saving waters of Penitence with the due dispositions and as often as possible, to wash and beautify our souls ...

*We repeat 10 times:*

***\* O Mercy of God! May you be eternally thanked for the benefits granted to all human creatures!***

*Glory be.*

## ***SIXTH MEDITATION.***

***The means of salvation procured by God in our holy religion are a third motive to thank him.***

***\* God so loved the world, that He gave His Only Son, - that whoever believes in Him should not be lost, but have eternal life.***

And oh, what an inestimable beneficence it was that created us capable of benefiting from his grace and entering paradise!...

But to what do these features of divine mercy lead to? They tend to make those who still live in the militant church fall in love with the celestial joys, that are enjoyed in the triumphant church...

Here one suffers for a while, there he will enjoy himself forever; here we will have to suffer hunger, thirst, affliction and even death; it does not matter, this will be compensated with joy, with the bliss of perfect and fulfilled happiness and with that glory that we can imagine but never understand, nor express, if not to say that we will be always with the Lord. So be it.

*We repeat 10 times:*

***\* O Mercy of God! May you be eternally thanked***

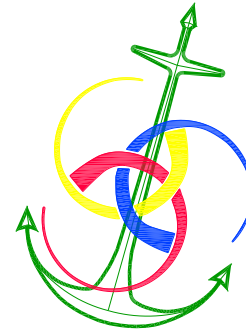
***for the benefits granted to all human creatures!  
Glory be.***

***- We conclude with the Benedictus***

***Concluding Prayer***

*Lord, you reveal your mighty power most of all by your forgiveness and compassion: fill us constantly with your grace as we hasten to share the joys you have promised us in heaven. (We make our prayer) through our Lord.*

***- Amen.***



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