THE MIRACULOUS 54-DAY ROSARY NOVENA



Our 54-Day Miracle Rosary Novena starts on August 15, on the Solemnity of the Assumption of our Blessed Virgin Mary, and we will conclude on October 7, on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary.

We strongly encourage everyone to join in this powerful 54-Day Rosary Miracle Novena. This novena is a commitment to pray one rosary per day for 54 days for this year's parish intention:

We ask our Lord to renew and abundantly bless our parish, especially in this sacred time of our Triple Jubilee. May His merciful blessing overflow into the lives of all people—throughout the Church and across the world.

(There will also be a pause for personal intentions.)

Join our St Antoninus Rosary group!
Our Rosary prayer time every day is at 7 pm on Zoom.
See website (SaintAntoninusChurch.org) for the zoom link and actual prayers.

How to pray this Novena



This Novena simply consists in praying one Rosary every day for 54 days, technically 6 sets of 9-day novenas.

The first 27 days are prayed "in petition"; then the next 27 days are prayed in "thanksgiving."

This Novena originally consisted of 3 mysteries-
Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious, as it was create following an apparition in 1884, before the Luminous Mysteries came into existence. The Luminous Mystery was eventually added as an option to the novena.

Are there special Rosary prayers attached to the Novena? Yes!

The Rosary prayers recommended for this novena are very simple but powerful. Each Hail Mary is a rare and beautiful rose which we lay at Mary's feet.
We offer spiritual snow-white roses for the Joyful Mysteries, blood-red roses for the Sorrowful Mysteries, royal-purple roses for the Glorious Mysteries, and bright yellow roses for the Luminous Mysteries.
These spiritual roses, bound in a wreath of Spiritual Communion, are presented with brief prayers in between the decades.

For example, in the 3rd Glorious Mystery, we pray: "I bind these royal-purple roses with a petition for the grace of receiving the Holy Spirit and lay this bouquet at your feet."

There are brief meditations before each decade, directed to our Blessed Mother as we reflect on the life, death and resurrection of her Son.

Origin of this 54-Day Rosary Novena

In Italy on March 3, 1884 (the same year Pope Leo XIII penned the prayer to St. Michael) young Fortuna Agrelli experienced an apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary as our Lady of Pompeii, accompanied by St . Catherine of Sienna and St. Dominic.



Fortuna was suffering from 3 incurable diseases. Doctors had classified her case as hopeless.

Upon seeing Our Lady, Fortuna exclaimed "Queen of the Holy Rosary, be gracious to me, restore me to health! I have already prayed to Thee in a novena, O Mary, but have not yet experienced Thy aid. I am so anxious to be cured!"

"Child," responded the Blessed Virgin, "you have invoked Me by various titles and have always obtained favors from Me. Now, since you have called Me by that title so pleasing to Me, 'Queen of the Most Holy Rosary', I can no longer refuse the favor you petition; for this name is most precious and dear to Me. Make three novenas, and you shall obtain all."

On another occasion, Our Lady appeared to the young girl and said, "Whoever desires to obtain favors from Me should make three novenas of the prayers of the Rosary, and three novenas in thanksgiving."

Obeying Our Lady's instructions, the young girl was healed and restored to perfect health and thus began the tradition of the Miraculous 54-Day Rosary Novena.

Our Lady of Victory, Queen of Heaven and of the Most Holy Rosary, pray for us who have recourse to Thee!

Why are we praying this Miraculous Novena at this time?

"Children, great tribulations are getting near so that you prepare spiritually; do not let go of the Holy Rosary, because it is the greatest protection that Heaven has given you." – St. Pio of Pietrelcina

"Grab your rosaries! We are going into battle!"

This cry is not likely what a unit commander would shout to soldiers hunkered down in trenches anticipating enemy confrontation. But it has been and still is the cry of the most astute warriors actively engaged in battles in the spiritual realm where all battles of every kind are actually rooted.

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places (Eph 6:12).

In the year 1221, tradition holds that the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Saint Dominic who was combating a popular heresy in France called Albigensian. As stated in this article by Edward Sri in Franciscan Spirit:

"Mary gave him the rosary, told him to teach people this devotion, and promised that his apostolic efforts would be blessed with much success if he did."

The Battle of Lepanto and our Lady of Victory

Throughout the last 800 years, history proved Our Lady true to Her promise, benefiting all devoted to the Most Holy Rosary. One of the most notable responses was in the mid-16th century Muslim Turks, who were intent on expanding their empire and inflicted ritual cruelties on the defeated populations, set fire to churches, took many of its women and young boys and girls for shipment to their harems and beheaded the elderly people who were left behind.

When it was learned that an enormous Muslim fleet was headed to the Gulf of Lepanto, the much smaller Christian fleet advanced to meet the enemy.



For months Pope Pius V had urged Catholics to say the daily rosary on behalf of the morale and good fortune of the Christian forces and, above all, for a successful outcome to a highly risky preemptive strike planned against the mighty Turkish fleets.

The night before the battle, the young 22-year old admiral of the Christian Holy League fleet, Don Juan of Austria and many of his men spent much of the night in prayer. The fate of their civilization depended on their good fortune the next day . Their defeat would have meant a Muslim invasion into all of Europe.

Heaven responded. On October 7, 1571, in what has been called the The Greatest Sea Battle in History, the Christian fleet was remarkably victorious over the Turkish Ottoman Empire. In thanksgiving, Pope Pius V declared October 7th the feast of Mary, Queen of Victory.

In an encyclical in 1883, Pope Leo XIII, who was also particularly devoted to Our Lady of the Rosary, points us today in the direction we should fly. He wrote:

“It has always been the habit of Catholics in danger and in troublous times to fly for refuge to Mary. This devotion, so great and so confident, to the august Queen of Heaven, has never shone forth with such brilliance as when the militant Church of God has seemed to be endangered by the violence of heresy … or by an intolerable moral corruption, or by the attacks of powerful enemies.”

Did Pope Leo say, “intolerable moral corruption?”, “heresy?”, “powerful enemies?” Are these not what what we are facing today?

O august Queen of Heaven shine forth!

(Based on https://divinemercyforamerica.org/54-day-novena/)

We need your help and protection, O sweet Mother, our great intercessor before the throne of God!

The Miraculous 54-Day Novena will end precisely on October 7th - the Feast of Mary, Queen of Victory, also called Our Lady of the Holy Rosary.

We come before the Lord, and we proclaim God’s sovereign victory as we take hold of the mantle of Our Lady!