

Devotions in Honor of
St. Teresa of Jesus

431.











Saint Teresa of Jesus

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in honor of
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Compiled for the Tercentenary
of her Canonization



CARMELITE MONASTERY
WHEELING, WEST VA.

IMPRIMATUR,

✠ P. J. Donahue,

Episcopus Wheelingensi

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Pentecost Sunday

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“Nations shall declare her wisdom,
and the Church shall show forth
her praise.”

Ant. ad Vesp. in fest. S. Ter.

To Saint Teresa of Jesus

OH! thou undaunted daughter of desires
By all thy dower of lights and fires,
By all the eagle in thee, and the dove,
By all thy lives and deaths of love,
By thy large draughts of intellectual day—
And by thy thirsts of love more large
than they—

By all thy brim-fill'd bowls of fierce desire,
By that last morning draught of liquid fire,
By the full kingdom of that final kiss
That seized thy parting soul and sealed
it His,

By all the Heaven thou hast in Him
(Fair sister of the Seraphim!)

By all of Him we have in thee
Leave nothing of myself in me—
Let me so read thy life that I
Unto all life of mine may die!

—*Richard Crashaw, 1613-1649.*

"OUR LORD PROMISED ME THERE WAS
NOTHING I SHOULD ASK THAT HE
WOULD NOT GRANT."

St. Teresa, Life, ch. XXXIX.

Devout Petitions in Honor of St. Teresa of Jesus

To obtain some special favor

St. Teresa of Jesus, beloved by Jesus, to thee do we have recourse, we beseech thee hear our prayers and obtain our petitions.

Who, inflamed with the desire of martyrdom, didst set out at the age of seven, to shed thy blood for Christ, we beseech, etc.

Who from thy tenderest years didst choose the Immaculate Virgin for thy Mother, we beseech, etc.

Who didst enkindle the world with devotion to the glorious St. Joseph, we beseech, etc.

Whose thirst for suffering was so burning, that thou didst long for nothing so ardently as "to die or to suffer", we beseech, etc.

Who didst hunger insatiably for the Bread of Angels, we beseech, etc.

St. Teresa of Jesus, who didst taste the sweetness of the Precious Blood in the Sacred Host, we beseech, etc.

Who didst bind thyself by a heroic vow to do always what appeared most perfect to thee, we beseech, etc.

Who didst give to the Church a glorious apostleship of prayer and penance for the conversion of souls, we beseech, etc.

Who wast willing to sacrifice thy life for the smallest rite of the Holy Church, we beseech, etc.

Whose heart was transpierced by the flaming dart of a Seraph, we beseech, etc.

To whom Jesus Christ manifested His glorious Humanity, we beseech, etc.

Who didst enjoy the familiar presence and conversation of thy Divine Spouse, we beseech, etc.

St. Teresa of Jesus, Whom Jesus Christ espoused with a nail, we beseech, etc.

Who didst receive from thy Divine Spouse a mystical ring in pledge of His love, we beseech, etc.

Upon whom Jesus Christ bestowed a cross of precious gems, we beseech, etc.

Whom Jesus Christ promised to grant all that thou didst ask of Him, we beseech, etc.

Who wast privileged to hear from the lips of the Son of God: "Teresa, thou art all Mine and I am all thine," we beseech, etc.

Who didst fervently long to comfort Jesus in His Agony, we beseech, etc.

Who wast covered with the mantle of the Queen of Heaven, we beseech, etc.

St. Teresa of Jesus, who wast clothed by the Immaculate Virgin and St. Joseph with a robe of brilliant whiteness, we beseech, etc.

Whom the Mother of God adorned with a necklace of jewels, we beseech, etc.

Who didst preserve thy baptismal innocence until death, we beseech, etc.

Who didst sweetly die of love, we beseech, etc.

Who didst merit to be assisted in thy last moments by Jesus Christ in company with His Immaculate Mother and St. Joseph, attended by a multitude of angels and saints, we beseech, etc.

Who didst yield thy pure soul to God under the form of a snow white dove, we beseech, etc.

Whose virginal body is miraculously preserved incorrupt, we beseech, etc.

St. Teresa of Jesus, great Saint of love,
with confidence we invoke thee,
we beseech, etc.

Ÿ. Rejoice, Teresa, in Him Who made thee,
R. For the Lord has blessed thy children.

LET US PRAY

O MY seraphic Saint, Teresa of Jesus,
in whom thy Divine Spouse enkindled
His fire and wounded with His love, by
thy prayers assist the Church and her
sacred ministers, protect for ever thy glo-
rious Order of Carmel, and graciously
intercede for all those who invoke thee
as their advocate. Amen.

“It is certain that the love of God does
not consist in experiencing sweetness or
tenderness of heart but in truly serving
God in justice, strength and humility.”

Autobiography.

Vesper Hymn

THOU partest from thy father's home,
As herald of the King most High,
Eager, Teresa, far to roam,
And give the heathen Christ, or die.

But thee a gentler death awaits,
A sweeter anguish shall be thine,
When thou shalt sink, as penetrates
The spear-wound made by Love Divine!

May He, Love's sacrifice alone,
Kindle our hearts with equal glow,
And save the nations, now His own
From all the flames of hell below.

Praise to the Father and the Son,
And to the Holy Spirit be,
Immortal Godhead, Three in One,
Now, and throughout eternity. Amen.

"My Father is pleased with thee and the
Holy Ghost loves thee."

Words of our Lord to St. Teresa.

Antiphon

(Recited every evening after Compline by the
Discalced Carmelites)

HOLY Mother Saint Teresa, look down from heaven, and see, and visit this vineyard, and perfect that which thy right hand hath planted.

Y. Pray for us, O holy Mother, St. Teresa,
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY

GRACIOUSLY hear us, O God our salvation! that as we rejoice in the commemoration of the blessed Teresa, Thy virgin and our Mother, so we may be nourished by her heavenly doctrine, and draw from thence the fervor of a tender devotion; through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

“During this life true gain consists in doing My Will.”

Words of our Lord to St. Teresa.

Prayer of the Church

O GOD! Who hast pierced, with a fiery dart, the pure heart of the blessed virgin, Teresa, Thy spouse and our mother, and hast consecrated her the victim of love; grant, through her intercession, we beseech Thee, that our hearts may glow with the fervor of the Holy Spirit, and that they may love Thee in all things and above all things, Who liveth and reignest with God the Father, in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

Office of the Transpiercing of Saint Teresa's Heart, August 27.

“During this life true gain consists in doing My Will.”

Words of our Lord to St. Teresa.

“Believe me, My daughter, his trials are heaviest whom my Father loves most — trials are the measure of His love.”

Words of our Lord to St. Teresa.



The Transpiercing
of Saint Teresa's Heart

Act of Oblation

I SEE indeed, O my Lord, that Thou art mine, nor can I deny it. For my sake didst Thou come to earth: for my sake didst Thou undergo so many trials; for me wast Thou scourged with so many stripes; for me dost Thou remain in the Blessed Sacrament. What can I be for Thee, O my God? Strengthen Thou my soul, and, my Jesus, then ordain the means whereby I may do something for Thee. Cost what it may, O Lord, let me not come before Thee with hands so empty! Behold my life, behold my good name and my will; I have given them all to Thee; I am Thine; dispose of me according to Thy will. Amen.

—*St. Teresa.*

“Christ does not force our wills, He will only take what we give Him, but He will never give Himself entirely to us until we have given ourselves entirely to Him.”

Way of Perfection.

Prayer

O HOLY SERAPH, Saint Teresa; beloved Spouse of Jesus Crucified! who wert all on fire while on earth with so burning a love for your God and mine, who now burnest still with a purer and brighter flame in Heaven, obtain for me, I entreat you, you whose desire it ever was that God might be loved by all men, a spark of this heavenly flame which may enable me to forget the world, its creatures, and even myself! and may dispose me to devote all my thoughts, all my desires, and all my affections to the accomplishment, whether it be in the midst of joy or pain, of the will of this sovereign God Who deserves to be sovereignly obeyed and loved. Do this, O my dear Saint! for it is what you are able to do; make me burn wholly and entirely, like yourself, with divine love! Amen. (100 days ind.)

—*St. Alphonsus Liguori.*

“Our love is the measure of the cross we can bear.” *Way of Perfection.*

Litany of Saint Teresa

For Private Devotion

Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ, hear us.

Christ, graciously hear us.

God the Father of heaven, have mercy
on us.

God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have
mercy on us.

God the Holy Ghost, have mercy on us.

Holy Trinity, One God, have mercy on us.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen and
Beauty of Carmel, pray for us.

St. Teresa, our mother,

Adopted by the Eternal Father,
Spouse of the Incarnate Word,

Who betrothed you with a
nail of His bitter Passion,

Sacred Temple of the Holy
Spirit,

Delight of the Adorable Trinity,

Glowing Tabernacle of the Eu-
charist,

Devoted to Mary and Joseph,

Pray for us.

St. Teresa, dead to yourself and to the
world, and crucified with
Jesus Christ,

Valiant descendant of our Fa-
ther, St. Elias, and inheri-
tor of his double spirit,

Taught by God Himself and en-
riched with treasures of
eternal Wisdom,

Seraphic Virgin, burning fur-
nace of charity,

Glorious Reformatrix of the Or-
der of Carmel,

Immovable Column of the Cath-
olic Faith,

Zealous for the salvation of
souls,

Who bound yourself by a vow
to do always what was most
perfect,

Loaded with an abundance of
celestial gifts,

Glory of Carmel,

Whose prayer ascended like in-
cense to God,

Admirable contemplative, who
like an eagle gazed upon
the Sun of Justice,

Pray for us.

St. Teresa, golden vessel of good works
 and incomparable lily of an-
 gelic purity,
 Ever laboring for God,
 Holocaust of perfect obedience,
 Splendour of evangelical pov-
 erty,
 Wonder of monastic discipline,
 Martyr in desire,
 Enclosed garden of solitude,
 Abyss of abnegation and humil-
 ity,
 Miracle of penance and of pa-
 tience,
 Dove of sweetness and simplic-
 ity,
 Model of every virtue, and mar-
 vel of divine favors,
 Whose heart was transpierced
 by the Seraph's dart,
 Triumphant over the powers of
 darkness,
 Consumed with the love of God,
 Pattern of the perfection of Car-
 mel,

Pray for us.

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins
 of the world, Spare us, O Lord!

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins
of the world, Graciously hear us,
O Lord!

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins
of the world, Have mercy on us!

Ÿ. Pray for us, St. Teresa of Jesus.

R. That we may be made worthy of the
promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY

GRACIOUSLY hear us, O God our salva-
tion! that as we rejoice in the com-
memoration of the blessed Teresa, Thy
virgin and our Mother, so we may be
nourished by her heavenly doctrine, and
draw from thence the fervor of a tender
devotion; through our Lord, etc.

—*Manuel du Tiers-Ordre.*



“Our Lord does not so much consider
the greatness of works as the love with
which we do them.”

Interior Castle.

Prayer to Saint Teresa

To obtain Our Lady's help

O MY SAINT! address yourself to that divine Mother whose power is universal: and because it is Her glory to be the refuge of sinners tell Her that I am one, and the most wretched of them all. Entreat Her to look upon me henceforth, commended to Her as I am, by you, with compassion, to succor me in my temptations, and to come to my assistance at the hour of my death. Tell Her that I hope for eternal salvation through Her hands.

Tell Her this, and She will certainly listen to what you say: for, loving you so much as She did while you were upon earth, how much greater is Her love for you now in Heaven, where you love and honor Her more!

As Mary is my sovereign Queen, and my chief advocate with Jesus Christ, do you be, in the same way, O St. Teresa! my advocate with Mary! Amen.

—*St. Alphonsus Liguori.*

Prayer for the Grace of Contrition

O MY HOLY SERAPH, St. Teresa, who by your purity and your ardent love, were upon earth the delight of your God: you whom He loved so much as one day to tell you that as Mary Magdalen was His beloved one when He was upon earth, so you were in the same degree, His beloved one, now that He is in Heaven: you, whom He treated with such tenderness, whether He admonished you as a father, or conversed with you as a spouse, so frequently giving Himself to you in Communion with such abundant overflowing of grace: O pray to God for me, who alas! am not the object of His delight, but who am the cause of His sufferings through my evil life. Pray Him to pardon me, to give me a new heart, a heart pure and full of love, like unto yours, a heart broken with contrition like unto St. Mary Magdalen's. Amen.

—Adapted from *St. Alphonsus Liguori*.

Ten Wednesdays in Honor of St. Teresa

THIS DEVOTION of the Ten Wednesdays in St. Teresa's honor is highly recommended and approved, and may be made at any time during the year but is particularly appropriate as a preparation for her feast, Oct. 15. It consists in dedicating to the Saint ten consecutive Wednesdays in memory of and thanksgiving for the mystical graces she received, especially:

1. The various Apparitions of our Lord in the states of His Passion.
2. The marvelous vision of the four precious gems in the cross of her rosary.
3. The manifestation of the Most Blessed Trinity in the interior of her soul.
4. Her contemplation of the Glorified Humanity of our Lord.
5. The sweetness of the Precious Blood which she tasted in Holy Communion.
6. The ineffable bounty of Mary who covered her with her mantle, and adorned her with a necklace of rare jewels.
7. The apparition of our Lady and St. Joseph, who clothed her in a robe of brilliant whiteness.
8. The transpiercing of her heart by the seraph's dart.
9. The assistance

she received from the holy Apostles, SS. Peter and Paul in her needs. 10. Her Espousals with Jesus Christ.

It is recommended to receive Holy Communion on each of the Wednesdays and to sanctify the day by prayer and mortification in honor of the Saint.

FIRST WEDNESDAY

○ JESUS, by the love which caused Thee to manifest Thyself to Thy seraphic Teresa, all torn and bleeding in Thy most sorrowful Passion, strengthening her to patiently endure the trial of life; I pray Thee, through her merits, to impress Thy Passion upon my heart, that contemplating Thy sorrow and Thy love, I may courageously bear all suffering for love of Thee. Amen.

SECOND WEDNESDAY

○ JESUS, by the grace Thou bestowed on Thy seraphic Teresa causing her to behold a marvelous vision of precious gems in the cross which she received from Thee; I pray Thee, through her merits to grant that I may see in every cross Thou



St. Teresa's Vision of the Scourging

sendest me, a pledge of Thy divine mercy, and that no suffering or misfortune may ever separate me from Thy love. Amen.

THIRD WEDNESDAY

○ JESUS, by the ineffable union in which the Most Adorable Trinity dwelt in the soul of Thy seraphic Teresa, communicating to her marvels of divine grace; I pray Thee, through her merits, grant that I may unceasingly thank, praise, and adore the Most Holy Trinity to the last moment of my life. Amen.

FOURTH WEDNESDAY

○ JESUS, by the inestimable grace which Thou didst bestow on Thy seraphic Teresa, in manifesting Thy glorious Humanity to her enraptured gaze, I pray Thee, through her merits, to engrave Thine image so deeply upon my soul, that I may never efface it by my sins. Amen.

FIFTH WEDNESDAY

○ JESUS, by the transcending grace which Thou didst grant to Thy seraphic Teresa, causing her to taste the sweetness

of Thy most Precious Blood in the Sacred Host, I pray Thee, through her merits, to purify my soul in Thy Precious Blood, that finding in It all my joy and hope of salvation, I may forever glorify It in Eternity. Amen.

SIXTH WEDNESDAY

○ JESUS, by the tender love which Thy most holy Mother Mary manifested toward Thy seraphic Teresa, in graciously covering her with her own mantle, I pray Thee through her merits, to grant me the grace of an ardent devotion to Thy Immaculate Mother, that I may be constantly assisted during my life, and especially at the hour of my death by her maternal protection. Amen.

SEVENTH WEDNESDAY

○ JESUS, by the grace Thou didst bestow on Thy Seraphic Teresa, when Thy Virgin Mother and the glorious St. Joseph clothed her with a robe of brilliant whiteness, I pray Thee, through her merits, to clothe my soul with Thy divine grace, that, adorned with the virtues of

Thy Immaculate Mother and St. Joseph, I may be made worthy to appear pleasing and acceptable in Thy sight. Amen.

EIGHTH WEDNESDAY

○ JESUS, by the incomparable grace with which Thou didst glorify Thy seraphic Teresa, wounding her heart by the hand of an angel with a flaming dart of love, I pray Thee, through her merits, to enkindle in my heart the fire of Thy divine love, that consumed with a burning love for Thee, I may be one day united to Thee in Heaven. Amen.

NINTH WEDNESDAY

○ JESUS, by the signal grace which Thou didst confer on Thy seraphic Teresa by succoring her in her needs, through the assistance of Thy glorious Apostles, St. Peter and St. Paul, I pray Thee, through her merits to infuse into my heart a great love for and an unfaltering loyalty to our Holy Mother the Church, and the Apostles of Thy Gospel, that at the hour of my death, I may like St. Teresa, find my consolation in dying a child of the Catholic Church. Amen.

TENTH WEDNESDAY

O JESUS, by the plenitude of grace with which Thou didst so gloriously exalt Thy seraphic Teresa, irrevocably espousing her as Thy true bride, with a nail of Thy Passion, I pray Thee through her merits, to grant me the supreme grace to love Thee perfectly, that detached from creatures, and loving Thee alone, I may be worthy to love and possess Thee forevermore in Heaven. Amen.

“O Lord of Mercy, what more do I seek in this life than a union so close that there can be nothing to divide me from Thee? With such a Companion what can be hard?”

Conceptions of Divine Love.

“Let your desire be to see God; your fear to lose Him; your grief to be separated from Him; your joy to be united to Him; thus you will live in profound peace.”

Maxims.



The Mystic Espousals of
St. Teresa of Jesus

Before Communion

AH, LORD of heaven and earth, is it then possible, during this mortal life, to enjoy such close friendship with Thee? What a favor is this, my Spouse! What a delicious banquet, and what precious wine dost Thou give me, one drop of which makes me forget all created things, and go forth from all creatures and from myself, no longer to crave for the pleasure and delights that my sensual heart has longed for until now! Great is this favor and unmerited by me. Thy mercies in the past were great, O my God, but this far surpasses them. Blessed be Thou, O Lord, for nothing is wanting on Thy part! In how many ways, by how many means and manners, dost Thou show Thy love! By Thy labors, by Thy bitter death, by the tortures and insults Thou didst bear, by the pardon Thou dost grant us, by the words Thou dost utter which so pierce the soul that loves Thee, that I know not how it could endure them unless Thou didst afford it succour, not according to its merits, but as its weakness needs. I ask, then, O Lord, no more of Thee in this life

except that Thou "kiss me with the kiss of Thy Mouth" in such a way, that, even if I wished, I could not separate myself from union and friendship with Thee. Amen. —*St. Teresa.*

After Communion

O LOVE! In how many ways do I long to say these words, and it is love alone which dares to cry with the Bride: "My Beloved to me and I to my Beloved." Thou to me, Lord? Then, if Thou comest to me, why doubt that I can do much to serve Thee? Henceforth Lord, I desire to forget self, to seek only how to serve Thee, and to have no other will but Thine. But, alas, my strength has no power! Thou art all powerful, my God! All that I can give Thee is my firm resolve, and henceforth I give it to Thee, to serve Thee by my actions. Amen.

—*St. Teresa.*

"It is not so essential to think much as to love much." *Interior Castle.*

Act of Conformity to the Will of God

O LORD, in every way and in every matter, do Thy will in me, as Thou pleasest. If Thou desirest to give me crosses, grant me strength and let them come: if Thou wouldst send me persecutions, shame, poverty, illness—I stand ready, nor will I turn away from them, O my Father! I have no right to flee from them, since Thy Son has offered Thee my will with the rest, in the name of all of us. Let Thy kingdom come to me, as Thy Son has asked of Thee, so that I may fulfill Thy will. Dispose of me as Thine own, according as Thou wilt. Amen.

—*St. Teresa.*

Prayer for the Love of God

O SERAPHIC St. Teresa! I rejoice with you now that I behold you in heaven, where you are loving your God with a love which fully contents that heart of yours, which so much desired to love Him upon earth. But since in heaven, the desire of seeing God loved has strengthened together with the love of your own heart, assist, O

holy Mother! this miserable soul of mine, which desires to burn, like yourself, with love for this Infinite Goodness, which deserves the love of an infinity of hearts. Say for me to Jesus what you once said to Him in this life for one of His servants: "Lord! let us take him to be our friend." Ask Him to inspire me with the resolution of consecrating my whole will, once and for all, to Him, and of studying in everything that only which is most pleasing in His sight and which may best promote His glory. Amen.

—*St. Alphonsus Liguori.*

Prayer for Sinners

MY GOD, have compassion on those who have none on themselves. Lazarus did not ask Thee to raise him to life; Thou wroughtest this miracle at the prayer of a sinful woman. Behold now a greater sinner at Thy feet. Show forth Thy mercy; yes, I implore it for those who refuse to pray for it. Consider not our blindness, but deign rather to look upon the Blood Thy divine Son shed for us. Amen.

—*St. Teresa.*

To the Eternal Father

HOW LITTLE do we trust Thee, Lord! far more precious riches and treasures didst Thou entrust to us—the three and thirty years of Thy Son's sufferings, His Death and Agony, and Thy Son Himself! And these Thou didst bestow on us centuries before we were born, knowing at the time that we should repay Thee nothing; yet Thou didst not hesitate to consign to us this inestimable treasure, wherewith, if we augment its value by the aid of Thy Son, we can purchase eternal happiness from Thee, O compassionate Father!

Amen.

—*St. Teresa.*

To Our Lord

O THOU SON OF GOD and Lord of mine! Why dost Thou give us so much with the very first word Thou speakest? Besides humbling Thyself to the dust by joining Thy petitions to our own, and by making Thyself the Brother of such miserable wretches as ourselves, Thou dost give us, in Thy Father's name all that can be given—Thou dost ask Him to make us His children, and Thy word cannot fail,

but must perforce accomplish its object. Thy love for us, O Lord, and Thy humility, remove all obstacles, besides, Thy having lived on earth, clothed with a mortal body, offers some reason for Thy caring for us, seeing that Thou dost share our nature. Blest mayest Thou be forever, Lord, Who dost so love to give that naught can stay Thy hand. Amen. —*St. Teresa.*

For Final Perseverance

O MY LORD, very God of mine! He who knows Thee not, loves Thee not. How true this is, but woe, ah, woe! to those who seek not to know Thee! The hour of death is an hour of terror; but alas, alas, my Creator, how terrific will be that day on which Thy justice will be executed! Often do I think, my Savior, how beautiful are Thine eyes to those who love Thee, on whom, Thou, my only Good, dost deign to gaze with affection. I think but one such tender glance, bent on those Thou holdest as Thine own, is recompense for many years of service.

Thou knowest, my Lord, that the thought of seeing Thy divine gaze turned on me

in wrath in that last terrible day of judgment has often terrified far more than all I have heard of the tortures and furies of hell, and I besought Thee of Thy mercy to save me from such misery, as I beseech Thee, now, Lord! What evil could happen to me in this world approaching this? Give me all earthly ills, my God, but spare me this misery! Let me not lose my God, nor the peaceful contemplation of thy Beauty: Thy Father gave Thee to us, Lord! let me not lose so precious a Jewel! Amen.

—*St. Teresa.*

To Our Lord Laden with His Cross

O PRINCE of all the earth, Thou art indeed my Lord! art Thou reduced to such sore straits, that Thou art willing to consort with such a miserable companion as myself? If it be Thy will to suffer thus for me, what do I suffer for Thee in return? Shame at seeing Thee in such a plight shall make me endure all the trials that may come to me: I will count them gain that I may imitate Thee in something. Let us go together Lord: whither Thou goest, I will go, and I will follow where Thou hast passed. Amen.

—*St. Teresa.*

To the Holy Spirit

O MY GOD, my Infinite Wisdom, without measure and without bounds, above the understanding of angels or of men; Love! Who dost love me more than I can love myself, or can conceive; why do I wish for more than Thou dost wish to give me? Why weary myself by praying for what I desire, to Thee Who knowest what would be the result of all my thoughts imagine, or my heart craves for, while I am ignorant of what would profit me?

Will for me as Thou art pleased to will, for this is my will, since all good consists in pleasing Thee. May Thy providence supply my need that I may serve Thee according to Thy will, not mine! Make me die to self; let Another, greater and better for me than myself, live in me; let Him live and give me life; let Him reign that I may be His slave. Amen. —*St. Teresa.*

“What does it matter if we pray for great things—we are asking it of One Who is all-powerful.” *Way of Perfection.*

Prayer of Reparation

O MY GOD! what father could be found who, having given us his son, and such a son, would after we had so ill-used Him, have allowed Him to remain among us to endure fresh wrongs? How couldst Thou see Thy Son daily in such wicked hands, after Thou hadst already permitted it once? Thou didst witness how they treated Him: how couldst Thou have the heart to see Him affronted day by day? How many insults are being offered Him this very day in the Most Holy Sacrament! What profanations are committed! O Eternal Sovereign, how canst Thou permit such a thing? Yield not to His love, which for the sake of fulfilling Thy Will and of succoring us, would lead Him to endure being hacked into a thousand pieces every day. It is for *Thee* to look to it, my God, since Thy Son is reckless what He suffers. Why must every good thing come to us only at *His* cost? How is it that He is mute, and know not how to speak for Himself, but only to plead for *us*? Shall no one intercede for this most meek and loving Lamb? Give *me* the right, Lord, to be

His advocate, since Thou hast deigned to leave Him in our power, and He submits His Will to Thee thus utterly and gives Himself so lovingly to us. Amen.

—*St. Teresa.*

Prayer in Desolation

O MY very God and Lord! Greatly does it comfort the soul wearied by the loneliness of absence from Thee, to reflect that Thou art present in all things! Yet when the ardor of its love and the impetuous vehemence of its anguish increases, what does even this avail? When Thou wilt, Lord, *Thou* dost quickly cure the wound Thou hast inflicted: until then, vain is all hope of healing or joy save that found in suffering for so good a cause. Thou, my true Lover, didst begin this war of love, which seems nothing but an inquietude and failing of all the powers and senses. O my God, Comforter of all sorrows, how tenderly, how sweetly, with what joy and caresses, with what infinite signs of love dost Thou heal these wounds, opened by Thee, with the arrows of love itself! Amen.

—*St. Teresa.*

To Obtain the Spirit of Prayer

O MY incomparable Mother, St. Teresa, Apostle, Martyr, Virgin, Doctor, crowned in a word with the merits of all the saints, grant that after your example I may edify souls and lead them to God. Obtain from God for me the pardon of my past infidelities and dissipation, and that I may have henceforth some part in your admirable spirit of prayer. Teach me to love it, and to sanctify every action of my life with it as you did, so that persevering to the end in the practice of prayer my death like yours, may be "precious in the sight of the Lord." Amen.

—*Manuel du Tiers-Ordre.*"

Act of Trust

O GOD of my heart, how evidently Thou dost show Thyself to be the true Friend! Being almighty, with Thee to will is to do. Never dost Thou cease to love, if Thou art loved. May all creatures praise Thee, O sovereign Master of the world! And who will give me a voice strong enough to cause to be heard to the ends of the earth, how Thou art faithful to Thy friends! Amen.

—*St. Teresa.*

For the Virtue of Humility

O MY holy Advocate, St. Teresa! who hast wounded the heart of thy God by thy beautiful humility, I pray thee, by the love which thou bearest towards thy dear mother Mary and thy beloved Spouse Jesus to obtain for me holy humility, in order that with you, transforming myself into the likeness of my Jesus in His state of humiliation upon earth, I may one day be able to see and love Him with you in Heaven. Amen.

—*St. Alphonsus Liguori.*

Prayer for Detachment

O MY seraphic St. Teresa of Jesus! you in whom your Spouse so affectionately kindled His fire, and whom at the same time He wounded with His love, pray for me, that wounded by my God, and henceforth loving Him, Who alone deserves to be loved, I may so forget all creatures as to love my Creator alone. Pray Him to deliver me from any attachment to the things of this world which would hinder me from one day going to join you in loving Him in Paradise. Amen.

—*St. Alphonsus Liguori.*

Prayer for Forgiveness

O MY GOD! how Thou hast suffered for those who grieve so little for Thy pains! The day will come, Lord, when Thy justice will be made manifest, and men will discover that it equals Thy mercy. Alas, what utter blindness, my God! what revolting ingratitude, my King! What hopeless madness to use Thy very gifts to serve Satan, to requite Thy tender love for us by loving one who hates Thee and will hate Thee to eternity! Thou sheddest all Thy Blood for us, for us didst suffer stripes, and agony, and torturing anguish! And we instead of avenging Thy heavenly Father for the flagrant injuries done to Thee, His Son—for Thou didst take no vengeance on Thine enemies, but didst even pardon them—yet choose as friends and companions the very ones who treated Thee so barbarously, since we follow their infernal leader. We shall be of their company and share their fall unless Thy mercy bring us to reason, and forgive the past. Amen.

—*St. Teresa.*

“Cultivate the fear of God, which makes the soul contrite and humble.” *Maxims.*

Prayer for the Forgiveness of Injuries

“FORGIVE us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us.”
Accept my wish to pardon others, O my God, for I believe that I could forgive my neighbor anything, since Thou dost pardon me. Thy Son must forgive me, for no one has done me any real injustice, therefore I have nothing to pardon in return. Amen. —*St. Teresa.*

A Prayer to Redeem Time Lost

O MY God! Source of mercy to me! I acknowledge Thy sovereign power. Almighty as Thou art, what is impossible to Thee, Who canst do all things? While recalling the wasted years that are past, I believe that Thou, Lord, canst in an instant turn this loss to gain. Do Thou but will it, O my God, do Thou but will it! Miserable as I am yet I firmly believe that Thou canst do all Thou wilt. May this one thing in which I have never offended Thee stand in my favor! Restore to me the time lost, giving me Thy grace, both now and in future, that I may appear before Thee in “wedding garments.” Amen.

—*St. Teresa.*

Prayer Against Temptations

O ETERNAL Father, what can we do save to have recourse to Thee and beg Thee not to permit our enemies to lead us into temptation? Let open assaults come, and with Thy aid we can defend ourselves; but how can we detect these subtle snares? O my God, never must we cease to beg Thy help. Give us, O our good Master, some safeguard against surprise in this most dangerous warfare, and show us how to understand ourselves and feel secure. Amen.

—*St. Teresa.*

Prayer for Generosity

O MY LORD, the fault is not Thine that those who love Thee do not do great things, but in our cowardice and littleness of mind! How we never make good resolutions without being filled with a thousand fears and considerations of human prudence! so, then, that is the reason, O my God, why Thou dost not show Thy wonders and Thy greatness. Is there any one more willing to give to anyone that will receive, or to accept services tendered at his own cost, than Thou art? May it

please Thy Majesty that I may render Thee some service, and that I may not have a heavier debt still to pay for that many things I have received! Amen.

—*St. Teresa.*

To the Saints

O BLESSED Souls dwelling in Paradise! Relieve our miseries and intercede for us with the Divine Mercy that He may give us some little share of your felicity and the certain knowledge you possess. O Souls inflamed with love—teach us how you gained such endless bliss! Help us, you who are so near to the Fountain Head! Draw water for us who perish with thirst in this world. Amen. —*St. Teresa.*

Prayer to Saint Teresa of Jesus

O GLORIOUS and most compassionate St. Teresa, who when on earth didst receive from thy Divine Spouse that wonderful promise that He would grant thee whatsoever thou didst ask, I beseech thee now that thou art with Jesus in Paradise, to intercede for me, a poor sinner, and to obtain for me the special favor which I so earnestly desire, if it be for the glory of God and the good of my soul. Amen.



Our Lord bestows upon St. Teresa
the Sufferings of His Passion

Chaplet in Honor of St. Teresa

Translated from the Italian of St. Alphonsus

O MOST amiable Lord Jesus Christ! I thank Thee for the great gift of Faith and of devotion to the Most Holy Sacrament, which Thou didst grant to Thy beloved Teresa: I pray Thee by Thy merits and by those of Thy faithful spouse, to grant me the gift of a lively Faith, and of a fervent devotion toward the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar; where Thou, O infinite Majesty! hast obliged Thyself to abide with us even to the end of the world, and wherein Thou dost so lovingly give Thy whole self to us.

Pater, Ave, Gloria.

O most merciful Lord Jesus Christ! I thank Thee for the great gift of hope which Thou didst grant to Thy beloved Teresa: I pray Thee by Thy merits and by those of Thy holy spouse, to give me a great confidence in Thy goodness, by reason of Thy Precious Blood, which Thou hast shed to Its last drop for our salvation.

Pater, Ave, Gloria.

O most loving Lord Jesus Christ! I thank Thee for the great gift of love which Thou didst grant to Thy beloved Teresa: I pray Thee by Thy merits and by those of Thy most loving spouse, to give me the great crowning gift of Thy perfect love.

Pater, Ave, Gloria.

O most sweet Lord Jesus Christ! I thank Thee for the gift of great desire and resolution which Thou didst grant to Thy beloved Teresa; that she might love Thee perfectly; I pray Thee by Thy merits and by those of Thy most generous spouse, to give me a true desire and a true resolution of pleasing Thee to the utmost of my power.

Pater, Ave, Gloria.

O most kind Lord Jesus Christ! I thank Thee for the great gift of humility which Thou didst grant to Thy beloved Teresa: I pray Thee by Thy merits and by those of Thy most humble spouse, to grant me the grace of true humility, which may make me ever find my joy in humiliations, and prefer contempt before every honor.

Pater, Ave, Gloria.

O most bountiful Lord Jesus Christ! I thank Thee for the gift of devotion toward

Thy sweet Mother Mary and her holy spouse Joseph, which Thou didst grant to Thy beloved Teresa: I pray Thee, by Thy merits and by those of Thy most dear spouse to give me the grace of a special and tender devotion toward Thy most holy Mother Mary and Thy beloved foster-father, Joseph.

Pater, Ave, Gloria.

O most tender Lord Jesus Christ! I thank Thee for the wonderful gift of the wound in the heart which Thou didst give to Thy beloved Teresa: I pray Thee by Thy merits and by those of Thy seraphic spouse to grant me also a like wound of love, that henceforth I may love Thee and give my mind to the love of nothing but Thee.

Pater, Ave, Gloria.

O most beloved Lord Jesus Christ! I thank Thee for the eminent gift of the desire for death which Thou didst grant to Thy beloved Teresa: I pray Thee by Thy merits and by those of Thy most constant spouse, to grant me the grace of desiring death, in order to go and possess Thee eternally in the country of the blessed.

Pater, Ave, Gloria.

Lastly, O dearest Lord Jesus Christ! I thank Thee for the gift of the precious death which Thou didst grant to Thy beloved Teresa, making her sweetly to die of love: I pray Thee by Thy merits and by those of Thy most affectionate spouse, to grant me a good death; and if I do not die of love, yet, that I may at least, die burning with love for Thee, that so dying, I may be able to go and love Thee with a more perfect love in Heaven.

Pater, Ave, Gloria.

O Jesus! Who Teresa's beauteous soul
With Thy love-dart didst fire,
Deep in my heart of hearts
Her own sweet love of Thee inspire!

ψ. Pray for us, St. Teresa of Jesus.

℞. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY

Graciously hear us, O God, our salvation! that as we rejoice in the commemoration of the blessed Teresa, Thy virgin and our Mother, so we may be nourished by her heavenly doctrine and draw from thence the fervor of a tender devotion; through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer of St. Teresa

O MY GOD! since Thou art charity and love itself, perfect this virtue in me, that its ardors may consume all the dregs of self-love. May I hold Thee as my sole treasure and my one glory, far dearer than all creatures. Make me love myself in Thee, for Thee, and by Thee, and my neighbor, for Thy sake, in the same manner bearing his burdens as I wish him to bear mine. Let me care for naught beside Thee, except in so far as it will lead me to Thee. May I rejoice in Thy perfect love for me, and in the eternal love borne for Thee by the angels and saints in heaven, where the veil is lifted and they see Thee face to face. Grant that I may exult because the just, who know Thee by faith in this life, count Thee as their highest good, the centre and the end of their affections. I long that sinners and the imperfect may do the same, and with the aid of Thy grace I crave to help them. Amen.

“We do not wholly receive the treasure of God’s love because we do not wholly give ourselves to Him.” —*Autobiography.*

**A Devout Exercise
in honor of the Precious Death of
St. Teresa of Jesus**

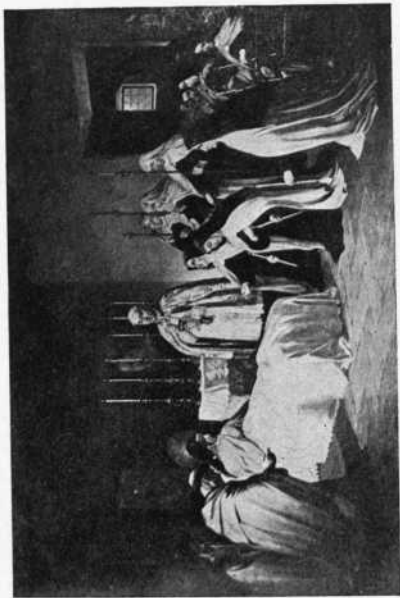
O GOD, the Father, Who from all Eternity didst destine St. Teresa to be the spouse of Thy Son, and to reform the Order of Carmel, calling her in her happy death to the endless glory of Heaven; grant we humbly beseech Thee, that we may one day sing with her Thy praises in Paradise. Amen.

Pater, Ave, Gloria.

O God, the Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, Who didst replenish the soul of Thy spouse Teresa with numberless graces, and didst bestow upon her the crowning favor of coming Thyself in the midst of Angels and Saints to take her blessed soul to Heaven; grant, we humbly beseech Thee, that like her, we also may die of love, after having first died to ourselves and to the things of this world. Amen.

Pater, Ave, Gloria.

O Mary, Queen and Beauty of Carmel, who didst ever look upon St. Teresa as thy dearest daughter and didst watch over her with a mother's love from Heaven, guiding



The Holy Death of St. Teresa of Jesus

her throughout her life ; grant, we beseech thee, that we may also be comforted by thee in our passage through this valley of tears to the country of the blessed. Amen.

Pater, Ave, Gloria.

O glorious St. Joseph, most chaste spouse of Mary, who didst so ardently desire to see with thee in Heaven, St. Teresa, who had ever zealously labored for thy honor and promoted thy glory while on earth ; obtain for us, we beseech thee, through her merits and thine, a peaceful and holy death. Amen.

Pater, Ave, Gloria.

Y. Pray for us, O seraphic St. Teresa of Jesus,

R. That we may die as you did, assisted by Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

LET US PRAY

O glorious Seraph of Carmel, St. Teresa, who like unto thy great father and protector, St. Joseph, didst die assisted in thy last moments by the adorable presence of Jesus and His most holy Mother ; we beseech thee, by the burning flames of thy transpierced heart, by the many graces lavished upon thee by God, by the numberless merits

thou didst acquire, to obtain for us the gift of final perseverance, that clad in the robe of grace we close our eyes to this valley of tears to be with thee in Paradise, where with thee we shall forever sing the mercies of the Lord. Amen.

—*From the Italian of Mgr. Antonio Franchi.*

St. Teresa's Bookmark

LET nothing trouble thee.
LET nothing frighten thee.
All things pass away.
God never changes.
Patience obtains all things.
Nothing is wanting to him
 who possesses God.
God alone suffices.

Prayer for the Church

IN THE NAME of Thy own self, O my God, have mercy I beseech Thee on so many souls who are walking in the paths of perdition, succor Thy Church, put a stop to the numberless evils that afflict Christendom, and delay no longer to make Thy light shine in the midst of our darkness. Amen.

—*St. Teresa.*

Saint Teresa of Jesus

ST. TERESA was born at Avila, Spain, March 23, 1515. Her parents, Don Alfonso Sanchez y Cepeda and Dona Beatrix de Ahumada, belonged to that ancient Castilian nobility where faith and honor were hereditary. In these Christian and chivalrous surroundings the Saint passed her childhood, and at twenty, offered the sacrifice of herself to God, entering the Order of Carmel where she lived for twenty-seven years under the mitigated observance. Inspired by God to found a Monastery in which the Primitive Rule of Carmel would be rigorously kept she courageously undertook to bring back the illustrious Order to the Primitive Observance, and established the first Monastery of her Reform in Avila, August 24, 1562. Spurred on by the noble spirit of Elias, and divinely leagued with St. John of the Cross, whose name is forever linked with hers in the annals of Carmel, the Seraphic Mother erected seventeen Monasteries for her Nuns and fifteen for the Friars.

In spite of her manifold labors and continual illnesses, St. Teresa found time at

the voice of obedience, to record her marvelous spiritual experiences. Favored with the most intimate communications with God, and raised to the highest union with Him, she spoke and wrote of the things of God with heavenly love and wisdom. She was frequently ravished in ecstasy; a Seraph transpierced her heart with a fiery dart; Our Lady clothed her in a robe of dazzling whiteness and adorned her with a necklace of rare jewels; while her heavenly Spouse wedded her with a Nail from His Cross as the pledge of the Espousals He contracted with her. From His divine lips she often heard such ineffable words as these: "My Father is pleased with thee and the Holy Ghost loves thee." "What is there, My daughter, that you could ask of Me, that I would not give thee?" "Have no fear, no one will be able to separate thee from Me." And again: "Thou knowest of the betrothal between thee and Myself, and therefore all I have is thine!"

In the various persecutions she endured, she manifested invincible courage, patience and confidence in God. Her great love for the Church and ardent longing for the spread of the Faith caused her to under-

take an apostleship of prayer and penance, and to exhort her daughters to win from God, by the austerity of their lives and persevering prayer, an abundant supply of holy priests to labor for souls.

Her death, caused by a violent impulse of divine love, occurred at Alba, October 4, 1582. When the Holy Viaticum was carried into her cell, although for days the Saint had been too weak to move unaided, she rose up in an ecstasy of joy to greet her Lord, exclaiming: "O, my Lord and my well-beloved Spouse! the long-wished-for hour is then arrived! It is time we should see each other!" After her thanksgiving, the words oftenest upon her lips were the verses of the *Miserere*: "Cor contritum et humiliatum, Deus non despicies," while she comforted herself with the oft repeated assurance: "I am a child of the Church. O my God, I die a daughter of Thy Church." The fourteen hours which immediately preceded her blessed death were passed in ecstasy: the Saint lay on her side clasping her Crucifix, while her face shone with a light so dazzling and beautiful that the Nuns were scarce able to look upon her. Toward nine o'clock

in the evening three gentle sighs escaped her, and Teresa gave up her soul to God. At the moment of her death, a dead tree outside her window burst suddenly into bloom; two of her daughters saw her soul rising to Heaven, one under the figure of a white dove, the other under the appearance of a shining globe of crystal; and a third beheld a procession of virgins clothed in white joyfully conducting the Saint to Paradise.

The fragrance which had pervaded her cell before her death only became more marked after it, and her flesh, her clothes, everything that touched her was penetrated with it. Nine months after her burial, her body was exhumed for the first time, and was found intact, her flesh soft and white, and still emitting the same delicious perfume, while a fragrant oil flowed from it.

To-day, over three hundred years since her blessed death, her virginal body is preserved incorrupt still, in a magnificent tomb of marble and jasper, at Alba de Tormes, where her heart, bearing the wound of the Seraph's dart, is also venerated. Wherever her precious relics are to

be found, God glorifies His faithful spouse by numerous and wonderful miracles.

St. Teresa was canonized March 12, 1622, and her feast is kept on October 15.

Days on which St. Teresa is Specially Honored by her Clients

March 12, Canonization of St. Teresa (1622).

March 28, Birthday of the Saint (1515).

July 13, Feast of the Translation of her Relics.

August 24, St. Teresa opened the first Monastery of her Reform (1562).

August 27, Feast of the Transpiercing of her Heart.

October 4, Death of the Saint (Alba de Tormes, 1582).

October 15, Feast of St. Teresa.

November 2, The Saint entered the Monastery of the Incarnation (1535).

November 3, St. Teresa made her Profession as a Carmelite (1536).

LAUS DEO
VIRGINIQUE MATRI

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Libros escritos exclusivamente sobre Santa Teresa de Jesús

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