

The LITANY of LORETTO

Lord, have mercy, *Christ, have mercy.*

Lord, have mercy, 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, *pray for us.*

Holy Mother of God, *pray for us.*

Holy Virgin of virgins, *pray for us.*

Mother of Christ, *pray for us.*

Mother of divine grace, *pray for us.*

Mother most pure, *pray for us.*

Mother most chaste, *pray for us.*

Mother inviolate, *pray for us.*

Mother undefiled, *pray for us.*

Mother most amiable, *pray for us.*

Mother most admirable, *pray for us.*

Mother of good counsel, *pray for us.*

Mother of our Creator, *pray for us.*

Mother of our Savior, *pray for us.*

Virgin most prudent, *pray for us.*

Virgin most venerable, *pray for us.*

Virgin most renowned, *pray for us.*

Virgin most powerful, *pray for us.*

Virgin most merciful, *pray for us.*

Virgin most faithful, *pray for us.*

Mirror of justice, *pray for us.*

Seat of wisdom, *pray for us.*

Cause of our joy, *pray for us.*

Spiritual vessel, *pray for us.*

Vessel of honor, *pray for us.*

Singular vessel of devotion, *pray for us.*

Mystical rose, *pray for us.*

Tower of David, *pray for us.*

Tower of ivory, *pray for us.*

House of gold, *pray for us.*

Ark of the covenant, *pray for us.*

Gate of heaven, *pray for us.*

Morning star, *pray for us.*

Health of the sick, *pray for us.*

Refuge of sinners, *pray for us.*

Comforter of the afflicted, *pray for us.*

Help of Christians, *pray for us.*

Queen of angels, *pray for us.*

Queen of patriarchs, *pray for us.*

Queen of prophets, *pray for us.*

Queen of apostles, *pray for us.*

Queen of martyrs, *pray for us.*

Queen of confessors, *pray for us.*

Queen of virgins, *pray for us.*

Queen of all saints, *pray for us.*

Queen conceived without original sin, *pray for us.*

Queen assumed into heaven, *pray for us.*

Queen of the most holy rosary, *pray for us.*

Queen of peace, *pray for us.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, *spare us, O Lord.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, *graciously hear us, O Lord.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, *have mercy on us.*

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. *That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

Let us pray.

Grant, we beseech you, O Lord God, that we, your servants, may enjoy perpetual health of mind and body; and by the intercession of the Blessed Mary, ever Virgin, may be delivered from present sorrow, and obtain eternal happiness. Through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The LITANY of LORETTO (The Catechism Explained) by Rev. Fr. Francis Spirago.

The Litany of Loretto is a form of prayer in which the most glorious titles are given to the Mother of God, and her intercession is unceasingly implored.

The litany of Loretto takes its origin and its name from the place of pilgrimage in Italy, Loretto, where the holy house of Nazareth now stands. In this litany first of all God is called upon for mercy, as in the Kyrie Eleison of the Mass. This is followed by the invocation of the most Holy Trinity. Then the Blessed Mother of God is invoked, and her intercession is besought. These invocations may be divided into six groups:

- (1), The first three invocations express her special prerogatives: her sanctity, her divine maternity, her immaculate virginity;
- (2), Then her perfections as a Mother are enumerated: Mother of Christ;
- (3), She is next extolled in virtue of her virginity: Virgin most prudent, etc.;
- (4), Her glories are then depicted under a number of figures and types: Mirror of justice, etc.;
- (5), Mary is next shown in her relation to the Church Militant: Health of the sick, etc.;
- (6), And finally in her relation to the Church triumphant: Queen of angels, etc.

At the conclusion of the litany, confiding in the mediation of our Advocate, we appeal to her divine Son, beseeching Him to spare, to hear, to have mercy upon us.

Several of the invocations have been added by the Holy See in the course of centuries; for instance, "Help of Christians" after the victory over the Turks;

"Queen conceived without original sin," after the proclamation of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception; and recently, "Queen of the most holy Rosary," on the introduction of the custom of reciting the Rosary in public during the month of October.

An indulgence of three hundred days may be gained for each recital of this litany.

The Salve Regina or "Hail, holy Queen," as it is also called, was composed in 1009 by Blessed Herman, and in 1146 the illustrious St. Bernard added to it the sweet words: "O clement, O pious, O sweet Virgin Mary."