

Nine Week Novena For Mercy

Week One God's mercy for me

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through 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. In this you rejoice, although now for a little while you may have to suffer through various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith, more precious than gold that is perishable even though tested by fire, may prove to be for praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Although you have not seen him you love him; even though you do not see him now yet believe in him, you rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, as you attain the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.” 1 Peter 1:3-9

During this Jubilee Year of Mercy we are not only coming to a greater understanding of how we are to be merciful to others, but also to how we are to be aware of God's mercy toward us. We cannot begin to fully understand what it means to be merciful like the Father, unless we experience the mercy of the Father for ourselves. God's mercy is never ending, it is not confined to this world, it is not bound by time or space and it is beyond that of human limitations. God does not withhold His mercy from anyone, He gives it freely to all...and that includes you! **“Let us allow God to surprise us. He never tires of throwing open the doors of his heart and repeats that he loves us and wants to share his love with us.”**
Pope Francis

Let us open our hearts to receive the mercy of God, so that He may pour His healing Spirit into the depths of our hearts, soothing all the hurt, repairing all the injustice. Let us allow His gentle mercy to tend to our wounds and turn our hardness of heart into a soft vessel in which we can hold the endlessness of His mercy. Let go of all that is in our minds, of all the demands of this world, all our judgments and all of our fears. Surrender all that you are and hope to become to God. Allow Him to surprise you with the vast wonder of His merciful peace.

Gentle Creator, calm the restlessness of my soul, infuse my heart with Your soothing and healing peace, so that I may know the fullness of Your mercy. Speak words of quiet into the chaos of my life. Teach me to recognize the presence of Your mercy, when it comes from within and when it comes from others. Invade my heart and mind with the grace of Your gentle compassion so that I may be open in all ways to the rhythm of the Spirit. Melt away my fears, leave me refreshed and aware of Your ever present and limitless mercy.

Father, Son & Spirit, You give to me the gift of mercy, not to be held captive, but to flow forth through my being into the lives of all who I encounter. Like rivers that cut deep and wide, like waterfalls whose force is unmatched; may Your mercy flow forth in unending abundance, for others and for myself.