

Fifth Day
October 17th

Apostle of Mary

Preparatory Reading:

“Today, as never before, the Church has the opportunity of bringing the Gospel, by witness and word, to all people and nations. [...] Like the apostles after Christ’s Ascension, the Church must gather in the Upper Room *together with Mary, the Mother of Jesus* (Acts 1:14), in order to pray for the Spirit and to gain strength and courage to carry out the missionary mandate. [...] To ‘Mary’s mediation, wholly oriented toward Christ and tending to the revelation of his salvific power,’ I entrust the Church and, in particular, those who commit themselves to carrying out the missionary mandate in today’s world (*Redemptoris Mater*, n. 22).”¹

“In the Virgin’s triumph, the Church contemplates her whom the Father chose as the true Mother of his Only-begotten Son, closely associating her with the salvific plan of the Redemption... Mary... is a consoling sign of our hope... In Mary the promise is fulfilled: the Mother is blessed and we her children will be blessed if, like her, we listen to and put into practice the Lord's words.

To you, Mary, I entrust the success of this new stage in my service to the Church and to the world. I ask you to help believers to be watchmen of the hope that does not disappoint and never to stop proclaiming that Christ is victorious over evil and death. Faithful Woman, enlighten the humanity of our time so that it may understand that every human life is not extinguished in a handful of dust, but is called to a destiny of eternal happiness. Mary, *who are the joy of heaven and of earth*, may you watch over and pray for us and for the whole world, now and for ever. Amen!”²

¹ *Redemptoris Missio*, 92.

² SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Homily on the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary* (08/15/2001).
http://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/homilies/2001/documents/hf_jp-ii_hom_20010815_assunzione-maria.html

Prayer:

Eternal God, who in your divine providence have given us Saint John Paul II as example and guide, grant that we may be grateful for this gift by being faithful to his magisterium, by living his teachings and by entrusting our prayers to his intercession.

May he, who in union with the bishops of the whole world consecrated the Church and the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, obtain for us the grace to be faithful to this kind Mother. And may we repeat each day as he taught us:

“Virgin Mother of my God, make me all yours!
Yours in life, yours in death;
yours in suffering, yours in fears and in misery;
yours on the cross and in painful discouragement;
yours in time and in eternity.
Virgin Mother of my God, make me all yours!”
Totus tuus Maria.
Amen.

Request the particular grace desired through this novena.

Pray an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be. Then pray the litany.

LITANY IN HONOR OF ST. JOHN PAUL II

Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

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

Christ, hear us
Christ, graciously hear us

*Christ, hear us
Christ, graciously hear us*

God the Father of Heaven
God the Son, Redeemer of the World
God the Holy Spirit
Holy Trinity, One God
Living Miracle
Sun without Setting
Man of Profound Prayer

*Have mercy on us
Have mercy on us
Have mercy on us
Have mercy on us
Pray for us
Pray for us
Pray for us*

Titan that Bent the Course of History
Singer of Mercy
Cultivator of Things Eternal
Great Missionary of the 20th Century

Pray for us
Pray for us
Pray for us
Pray for us

Lamb of God, Who take away the sins of the world

Spare us, O Lord

Lamb of God, Who take away the sins of the world

Graciously hear us, O Lord

Lamb of God, Who take away the sins of the world

Have mercy on us

