

Litany of Our Lady, Mother of the Passion



A Meditation of 70 Invocations on the Life of Mary *(for private devotion)*

G♦E♦M

Introduction to the Litany

Mary lived a continual journey of Jesus' Passion. The Fathers of the Church describe the 'prophecy of Simeon to Mary' as more than simply the pronouncement of the sword piercing her heart; they tell us that Simeon revealed to Mary and Joseph the details of Jesus' Passion and death. This revelation through Simeon is central to what Mary carries and treasures in her heart as she and Joseph raise Jesus. They have been told God's Plan for His, and their, Son. In faith and obedience, they fulfill their duty to raise Jesus to fulfill His mission.

Jesus is the king who will bring about eternal victory. Joseph, who truly is Jesus' father, has a right of kingship above Jesus in their earthly, human life. Thus, it is right and just that Joseph die before Jesus carries out His mission of victory as the King of Glory. So, too, it is that Jesus will journey with Mary who is, at the same time, 'His mother' and 'The Mother' – both in His mission and in His Passion. Consequently, Simeon's prophecy is of the sword that will pierce Mary's heart, not Joseph's.

In God's Plan, Mary will journey her entire life according to the mystery of Jesus' Passion and death, and all this in accord with the Victory of Salvation of all the living. In God's mind and heart, she is Mother of All the Living, even from the moment of her Immaculate Conception.

Her journey as Mother of the Passion will take different forms and expressions throughout her own life. At the first, it is a passion of separation from her birth family in sacrifice to God's Temple and the fulfillment of the Old Covenant. Next, it will be a passion amidst the beauty and joy of her betrothal and marriage to Joseph and their life as family with Jesus. This will end with Joseph's death, soon followed by her journey in passion as Jesus 'goes forth from her' to His earthly mission of teaching, preaching, miracles, and being 'a sign of contradiction.' Next will be the deepest reality of the sword that pierces her heart as she journeys in unique cooperation with Jesus through His Passion and death; this will include the 'three days' of Jesus in the tomb. Following this is her passion of the great joy of Jesus' brief 40 days prior to the Ascension, followed by the journey of prayer for the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church – which is both Christ's Body and the Eternal Spouse, Daughter, and Mother – Who will re-live the Passion of Christ until the end of time.

Mary is God's greatest type of His Church; as such, she will journey the Church's Passion with the most profound merit and faithfulness – the fruit of her perfect Fiat which she will make anew every day of her life – until her own return to God.

This is the Mother of the Passion who is acclaimed in this litany.

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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,	Creator of the most perfect Daughter	Have mercy on us
God the Son,	Rightful First-born of the Woman	*
God the Holy Spirit,	Enduring Spouse of the Mother of all the living	*
Holy Trinity	the One true God	*
Immaculate Conception,	preeminent testimony to Jesus' victory of the Cross	Pray for us
Daughter of Grace.	separated from her parents	Pray for us
Daughter of Grace,	gift of thanksgiving to God	*
Daughter of Grace,	raised in the Temple of sacrifice	*
Daughter of Grace,	receiving her formation under the widow Anna	*
Daughter of Grace,	most beautiful flower of the Temple	*
Daughter of Grace,	betrothed to Joseph	*
Daughter of the Annunciation,	faithful to her virginal vow	Pray for us
Daughter of the Annunciation,	understanding of the Angel's message	*
Daughter of the Annunciation,	of singular devotion to God's Will	*
Daughter of the Annunciation,	of the most perfect and ever renewing Fiat	*
Virgin Wife,	confident throughout the dangers of her pregnancy	Pray for us
Sister of the Visitation,	pilgrim of the works of mercy	Pray for us
Sister of the Visitation,	with a blessed faith of perfect trust	*
Sister of the Visitation,	who magnifies the Lord with praise in God's works	*

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Mother of the Nativity, journeying in hope of God's Providence
Mother of the Nativity, resting and at peace under Joseph's care
Mother of the Nativity, with trust in her husband's fidelity to provide
for her and the new-born Child

Pray for us
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Young Mother of Sorrows, at Simeon's prophecy of the sword
Young Mother of Sorrows, of the pierced Immaculate Heart
Young Mother of Sorrows, hearing the proclamation of Anna
Young Mother of Sorrows, fleeing with her Child to Egypt
Young Mother of Sorrows, migrant in a hostile country of pagan gods
Young Mother of Sorrows, returning to a dangerous homeland
Young Mother of Sorrows, searching three days for their separated Child

Pray for us
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Treasuring Heart, bearer of the mystery of the Passion
Treasuring Heart, throughout Jesus' hidden life
Treasuring Heart, consolation of the Child of Perpetual Help
Treasuring Heart, safeguard of the formation of Jesus for
His Passion
Treasuring Heart, releasing Joseph to the Father so as
to fulfill her mission with her Son
Treasuring Heart, surrendering her Son to His mission
Treasuring Heart, quiet support of her Son during His mission

Pray for us
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The Woman at Cana, preserving the married and
families in joy and hope
The Woman at Cana, journeying with her children in the burdens
of mishap and trial
The Woman at Cana, continually interceding for her children
under their crosses

Pray for us
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Quiet Mother, humbly attending to her Son's mission
Quiet Mother, most faithful disciple
Quiet Mother, most virtuous disciple

Pray for us
*
*

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Rent Heart of Mary,	surrendering her Son to His Passion	Pray for us
Unique Co-operator in Redemption,	of prayer for the Last Supper and New Passover	Pray for us
Unique Co-operator in Redemption,	in vigil while her Son prayed in Gethsemane	*
Unique Co-operator in Redemption,	disgraced in Jesus' arrest and condemnation	*
Unique Co-operator in Redemption,	pierced with innumerable swords of sorrow in the Passion	*
Unique Co-operator in Redemption,	on the Pilgrimage of death with her Son	*
Unique Co-operator in Redemption,	dying a thousand motherly deaths	*
Unique Co-operator in Redemption,	uniting her cross in reparation with her Son	*
Pierced Heart,	who encounters her Child as the sins of the world on His <i>Via</i>	Pray for us
Pierced Heart,	encouraging her Son to complete His Passion	*
Pierced Heart,	encouragement for all her children who carry their crosses	*
Pierced Heart,	full of sorrow on the <i>Via</i>	*
Pierced Heart,	of perfect faith on the <i>Via</i>	*
Most Perfect Disciple,	reverencing the Blood of Christ	Pray for us
The Woman,	of perfect adoration at the Cross	Pray for us
The Woman,	receiving all God's children from the Cross	*
The Woman,	most intimate witness to Jesus' sacrifice	*
Mother of Sorrow and Joy,	receiving and embracing her Son's body	Pray for us
Mother of Sorrow and Joy,	with untold tenderness for the slain Lamb of God	*
Mother of Sorrow and Joy,	releasing her Son to the tomb	*
Mother of Sorrow and Joy,	in vigil during Jesus' Sabbath in Sheol	*
Mother of Sorrow and Joy,	with perfect patience awaiting the Resurrection	*

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Mother of the Faithful, in the promise of the Ascension	Pray for us
Mother of the Faithful, support of the Apostles in Cenacle awaiting the Holy Spirit	*
Mother of the Faithful, walking the Way of the Cross	*
Mother of the Faithful, renewing her Son's <i>Via</i>	*
Mother of the Faithful, daily magnifying the merits of Jesus' Passion	*
Mother of the Faithful, gifting her Way of Sorrows to the Church	*
Mother of the Faithful, journeying three days in the tomb prior to her Assumption	*

Intimate Mother,	of all who take up the cross	Be ever with us
O Clement Mother,	of all who take up the cross	*
Ever-interceding Mother,	of all who take up the cross	*
Ever-consoling Mother,	of all who take up the cross	*

Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the World,	entrust us to our Mother of the Passion
Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the World	graciously hear us through our Mother of the Passion
Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the World	have mercy on us

Pray for us, most holy Mother of the Passion,	that we may be washed clean in the Blood of your Son
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Let us pray:

**O Mary, who journeyed the Passion of your Son throughout your life,
especially taking care to preserve it whole and complete
in your mind and in your heart,
and who gave witness to Christ's salvation work
through the gift of your Way of Sorrows;
obtain for us, in our crosses,
so to unite ourselves to the suffering Christ's journey of the Cross
that we may rise resplendent in virtue and holiness
in the joy of the Eternal Resurrection.**

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

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Personal Reflections

*The Shadow of the Cross Falls
Where the Light of Victory Shines[©]*

Meditation

Mary carries the greatest of all crosses of all people, except for that of her Son. Her cross and that of Jesus are each singularly unique; at the same time, they are uniquely tied to each other in God's Plan such that one does not exist without the other.

As regards Mary's cross, it is fully God's work, and it, too, is at the heart of redemption and salvation. Her cross is so complete, and she carries it with such perfect fidelity to Grace and Providence, that, were it superimposed in front of Christ's, it would reflect His Cross with clear distinction while giving witness to an analogous perfection of glory.

Through her intimate and mystical cooperation with the redemption wrought by her Son, Mary merits to be the Mediatrix of all Grace and our Advocate, and it is thus that we can begin to know the degree of her participation in the Passion of Christ. At the same time, we recognise and honour that, while Jesus accomplished His Passion over one historical day, her journey as Mother of the Passion was a journey of an entire lifetime.

Our Lady, Mother of the Passion.

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