

Journey with Mary

from The Ascension to Pentecost

A guide to praying with Mary for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit



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Thanks to Dr Lynn Bassett for writing the prayers on the theme of each day.

This booklet has been produced by the Department of Evangelisation and Catechesis which is part of the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales in collaboration with Thy Kingdom Come.

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JOURNEY WITH MARY FROM THE ASCENSION TO PENTECOST



INTRODUCTION

For over a century it has been a tradition within in the Catholic Church to pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the days between the Ascension and Pentecost. In the book of Acts, once the apostles see Jesus ascend into heaven, they gather in continuous prayer with Mary the mother of Jesus. Who better than Mary to accompany us as we too pray for a new Pentecost.

In recent years many Christian denominations throughout the world have also been praying for this intention through a prayer initiative called 'Thy Kingdom Come'. By joining this initiative we are therefore renewing our desire for the Kingdom of God to be made real in the lives of those we know and love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

This booklet has been written for those who have a devotion to Our Lady to pray 'Thy Kingdom Come' as we journey with Mary through the decade of the rosary from the Ascension to Pentecost. It is merely a guide, like signs along the road, to provide you with themes, intentions and a structure of prayer for each day.

Whether you use only part of the booklet or extend your prayers to a decade or rosary each day, it is our hope that the power of the Holy Spirit moves in the lives of those for whom you make these prayers.

If you have particular people you would like to pray for during this time, please feel free to write their names below:				

ASCENSION

The call to share our faith



We pray for all Christians to have the confidence to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations'. Matthew 28:18–19a

LET US PRAY

Lord Jesus, as you ascended to the Father you called us to 'make disciples of all nations'. Help me to share my faith in all that I say and do, so that others may come to know your Good News.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

FRIDAY

To Know God better



For all those who have lost sight of God, that they would see His love revealed in their lives.

My dear people, let us love one another, since love comes from God, and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. 1 John 4:7

LET US PRAY

Lord Jesus, I love you and I praise you. Help me to love as you love. May my love help to reveal your presence to others this day. I pray especially for those who most need to find the light of your love in their lives.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

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SATURDAY

Trust





For those who feel isolated and alone, that they will develop meaningful relationships through a childlike trust in God

If you trust in the Lord and do good, then you will live in the land and be secure. If you find your delight in the Lord, he will grant your heart's desire. Psalm 36: 3–4

LET US PRAY

Lord Jesus, I thank you and I place all my trust in you. I offer those times when my own trust fails for those who feel isolated and alone. Help us all to remember your promise that you are with us always.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

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SUNDAY

Forgiveness



For those in need of God's mercy, that they will know the joy of his forgiveness.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost, but may have eternal life. John 3:16

LET US PRAY

Father I am sorry for the times I have offended you. I thank you for your forgiveness and love. Help us all, who are in need of your mercy, to find forgiveness through the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

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MONDAY

Openness



For the hearts of those we know and love to be more open to Christ who waits to be invited in.

Look, I am standing at the door, knocking. If one of you hears me calling and opens the door, I will come in. Revelation 3: 20a

LET US PRAY

Lord, today I offer my whole life to you, anew. I thank you for the patience with which you stand and wait for my invitation. Help me, and all who long to know you more, to open our hearts wide and welcome you in.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

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TUESDAY

Curiosity



For all those who are beginning to show an interest in matters of faith, that their curiosity will grow into a desire for the living God.

Ask, and it will be given to you. Matthew 7:7a

LET US PRAY

Lord, I ask you for the gift of prayer. Help me never to be afraid to ask for what you will for me. I pray for all those who kindle a flame of faith that they too may ask and pray for their faith to grow.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

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WEDNESDAY

Seek

For those who seek God, that their search may lead them to find their heart's desire.

Search, and you will find. Matthew 7:7b

LET US PRAY

Lord, help me never to become distracted from my search for you. May all who seek you, with a sincere heart, find their heart's desire.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

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THURSDAY

Encounter



For us all to encounter the person of Jesus Christ and experience life lived to the full.

*Knock, and the door will be opened to you.*Matthew 7:7c

LET US PRAY

Lord Jesus, I adore you. I give thanks for every opportunity to encounter you each day. Help us all to understand that we too must knock at the door of your Kingdom where you wait to welcome us in.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

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FRIDAY

Freedom



For those who are held down by past experiences, hurt or pain, that they may know the freedom that Christ brings when we follow him.

When Christ freed us, he meant for us to remain free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery. Galatians 5:1

LET US PRAY

Father today we celebrate the freedom we received through the gift of Christ your Son. Help us to follow him more nearly so that we may shrug off the burdensome yoke of past hurts and pain.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

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Faith



For those who want to grow in faith, that we may all be filled with the hope of what is to come.

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. Hebrews 11:1

LET US PRAY

Lord, today I come to you in the silence of faith. No words can express the wonder of your being. Help me and all who seek to grow in faith, to have the gift of silent prayer in your presence so that we may hear more clearly your word of hope.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

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PENTECOST SUNDAY

Thy Kingdom Come



For the whole Church to be filled with the Holy Spirit 'as by a new Pentecost'.

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:4a

LET US PRAY

Lord, on this Pentecost Sunday we celebrate the gift of your Holy Spirit. We pray that the whole Church will be filled with the fire of your love. Come Holy Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

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Pope John XXIII in preparation for the Second Vatican Council

