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In times of need we can follow the example of Our Lord, and flee to the protection of His, and our, Blessed Mother.

Pray the following prayers each day for nine days:

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Mother of Perpetual Help, behold at your feet a sinner who has recourse to you and has confidence in you. Mother of mercy, have pity on me. I hear all calling you the refuge and hope of sinners. Be, then, my refuge and my hope. For the love of Jesus Christ, your Son, help me.

Give your hand to a poor sinner who commends himself to you and dedicates himself to your lasting service. I praise and thank God Who in His mercy has given to me this confidence in you, a sure pledge of my eternal salvation.

It is true that in the past, miserable and wretched, I have fallen into sin because I did not have recourse to you. But I know that with your help I shall be able to overcome myself. I know, too, that you will help me, if I commend myself to you. But I fear that in the occasions of sin, I may neglect to call upon you and thus run the risk of being lost.

This grace, then, I seek of you; for this I implore you as much as I can: that in all the attacks of hell I may ever have recourse to you and say to you: "O Mary, help me. O Mother of Perpetual Help, do not let me lose my God."

Pray three Hail Marys.

Prayer Entrusting the Church to Mary, Mother of God

– Pope John Paul II

O Mother of men and peoples, you know all their sufferings and their hopes. You maternally feel all their struggles between good and evil, between the light and the darkness which shake the world.

Receive our cry, directed in the Holy Spirit straight to your heart and, with the love of the Mother and the Handmaid to the Lord, embrace the individuals and peoples which most look for this embrace, together with the individuals and peoples to whose trust You attend in a particular way.

Take the entire human family under your maternal protection. With outflows of affection, O Mother, we entrust it to You. May the time of peace and liberty approach for all, the time of truth, justice, and hope. Amen.



Prayer to Mary for Holy Vocations

– Pope John Paul II

On this occasion, too, we turn our gaze to Mary, Mother of the Church and Star of the new evangelization. Let us call upon her with trust, so that in the Church there will be no lack of men and women who are ready to respond generously to the invitation of the Lord, who calls to a more direct service of the Gospel:

“Mary, humble servant of God Most High, the Son to whom you gave birth has made you the servant of humanity.

Your life was a humble and generous service. You were servant of the Word when the angel announced to you the divine plan of salvation. You were servant of the Son, giving Him life and remaining open to His mystery.

You were servant of Redemption, standing courageously at the foot of the Cross, close to the Suffering Servant and Lamb, who was sacrificing Himself for love of us.

You were servant of the Church on the day of Pentecost and with your intercession you continue to generate her in every believer, even in these our difficult and troubled times.

Let the young people of the third millennium look to you, young daughter of Israel,

who have known the agitation of a young heart when faced with the plan of the Eternal God.

Make them able to accept the invitation of your Son to give their lives wholly for the glory of God.

Make them understand that to serve God satisfies the heart, and that only in the service of God and of His kingdom do we realize ourselves in accordance with the divine plan, and life becomes a hymn of glory to the Most Holy Trinity. Amen.”