

The 54 Day Rosary Novena

History of this devotion

“In an apparition of Our Lady of Pompeii, which occurred in 1884 at Naples, in the house of Commander Agrelli, the heavenly Mother deigned to make known the manner in which she desires to be invoked. For thirteen months Fortuna Agrelli, the daughter of the Commander, had endured dreadful sufferings and torturous cramps. The most celebrated physicians had given up.

“On February 16, 1884, the afflicted girl and her relatives commenced a novena of Rosaries. The Queen of the Holy Rosary favoured her with an apparition on March 3. Mary, sitting upon a high throne, surrounded by luminous figures, held the divine Child on her lap, and in her hand a Rosary. The Virgin Mother and the Holy Infant were clad in gold embroidered garments. They were accompanied by Saint Dominic and Saint Catherine of Siena. The throne was profusely decorated with flowers; the beauty of Our Lady was marvellous.

“Mary looked upon the sufferer with maternal tenderness and the patient saluted her with the words: ‘Queen of the Holy Rosary, be gracious to me; restore me to health! I have already prayed to thee in a novena O Mary, but have not yet experienced thy aid. I am so anxious to be cured!’

“Child”, responded the Blessed Virgin, “thou hast invoked me by various titles and hast always obtained favours from me. Now, since thou hast called me by that title so pleasing to me, ‘Queen of the Holy Rosary’, I can no longer refuse the favour thou dost petition; for this name is most precious and dear to me. Make three novenas, and thou shalt obtain all”.

“Once more the Queen of the Holy Rosary appeared to her and said: ‘Whoever desires to obtain favours from me should make three novenas of the prayers of the Rosary, and three novenas in thanksgiving’.

“This miracle of the Rosary made a very deep impression on Pope Leo XIII, and greatly contributed to the fact that in so many circular letters, he urged all Christians to love the Rosary and say it fervently.

Method

“The 54 Day Rosary Novena consists of five decades of the Rosary each day for 27 days in petition; then immediately five decades each day for 27 days in thanksgiving, whether or not the request has been granted.

“The meditations vary from day to day. On the first day meditate on the Joyful Mysteries; on the second day the Sorrowful Mysteries; on the third day the Glorious Mysteries and on the fourth day the Luminous Mysteries; and so on throughout the 54 days.” It can be prayed without including the Luminous Mysteries.

“Follow the format of the prayers for each of the mysteries as outlined in the guide below.

“Should you not obtain the favour you seek, be assured that the Rosary Queen, who knows what each one stands most in need of, has heard your prayer. You will not have prayed in vain. No prayer ever went unheard and Our Blessed Lady has never been known to fail.

“Look upon each Hail Mary as a rare and beautiful rose which you lay at Mary’s feet. These spiritual roses, bound in a wreath with Spiritual Communions, will be a most pleasing and acceptable gift to her and will bring down upon you special graces. Adapted from: 54daynovena.com

Novena Record

In Petition

1 J	2 S	3 G	4 L	5 J	6 S	7 G	8 L	9 J
10 S	11 G	12 L	13 J	14 S	15 G	16 L	17 J	18 S
19 G	20 L	21 J	22 S	23 G	24 L	25 J	26 S	27 G

In Thanksgiving

1 L	2 J	3 S	4 G	5 L	6 J	7 S	8 G	9 L
10 J	11 S	12 G	13 L	14 J	15 S	16 G	17 L	18 J
19 S	20 G	21 L	22 J	23 S	24 G	25 L	26 J	27 S