



Aid to the  
Church in Need

ACN INTERNATIONAL



## PRAYER FOR TIMES OF DISTRESS

### Prayer to the Heavenly Father

**Heavenly Father**, send down through Thy beloved Son Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Saviour, Thine holy and fatherly love upon all darkness, that it may thereby be converted or remain within the bounds of its own dominion.

**Father**, send forth Thy fatherly love, that all who persecute us, betray us, or desire to harm us may be restrained by Thine holy presence. Father, send Thine holy fire of love upon all liars, slanderers, and hypocrites, that we may rightly discern them and guard ourselves against them.

**Father**, pour forth Thy love upon all criminals and upon all instruments of violence, of murder, and of blind lust for power, that they may not harm us nor the whole of mankind.

**Father**, let the power of Thine holy love descend upon the earth like lightning when murderers roam the earth and seek to bring ruin upon the nations. Father, then be with us; be Thou our protection, our strength, and our defence.

**Father**, let Thine holy and fatherly love flow over all peoples; fill them with Thine holy fire that they may recognise the peril of these times brought about by the cunning of the ancient serpent.

**Father**, be Thou everywhere the true Sovereign: command the powers of darkness to withdraw to the place of their wickedness and spare mankind. Father, most loving Father, accomplish all that Thy Fatherly love deems good, true, and salutary.

**Eternal Father**, through the sorrowful Immaculate Heart of Mary and through her tears, I offer unto Thee the Precious Blood and the Holy Wounds of Jesus Christ, that the Mother may destroy the power of Satan and, with Saint Michael the Archangel and all the holy angels, drive out the evil spirits and destroy all their works and designs, especially now and in this hour, in our homelands and throughout the whole world. Amen.

### **Mary Queen of Heaven Sovereign of the Angels**

**Supreme Lady of the Angels**, from the beginning thou hast received from God the power and the mission to crush the head of the infernal serpent. We humbly beseech thee: send forth thy heavenly legions, that under thy command and by thy might so they may pursue the evil spirits, combat them everywhere, confound their audacity, and cast them back into the abyss.

**Exalted Mother of God**, dispatch thine invincible host likewise into the battle against the emissaries of hell among men; overthrow the designs of the wicked and bring to shame all who will evil. Obtain for them the grace of enlightenment and conversion, that they may render glory to the Triune God and to thee. Grant that truth and justice may triumph everywhere.

**Mighty Protectress**, by thy burning spirit also guard throughout the whole world thy sanctuaries and places of grace. Through them watch over the houses of God, all holy places, persons, and sacred things, especially the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar. Avert every profanation and destruction. Thou, our refuge, our dear Lady—we beseech thee with confident trust, for thou canst

accomplish it with ease. The angels, thy servants, stand ever attentive to thy slightest sign and burn with longing to fulfil it.

**Heavenly Mother**, protect at last also our possessions and our homes from every snare of visible and invisible foes. Let thy holy angels dwell therein and cause resignation, peace, and the joy of the Holy Spirit to reign within them.

**Who is like unto God?** Who is like unto thee, O Mary? Thou Queen of the Angels and Vanquisher of Satan! O good and tender Mother Mary, immaculate Bride of the King of the pure spirits, upon whose countenance they long to gaze—thou shalt ever remain our love and our hope, our safeguard and our glory.

**Holy Archangel Michael, holy angels and archangels, defend us, protect us. Amen.**

### **Prayer to Saint Joseph**

**To thee, O blessed Joseph**, we have recourse in our affliction and having implored the help of thy thrice holy spouse, we now, with hearts filled with confidence, earnestly beg thee also to take us under thy protection. By that charity wherewith thou wert united to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God, and by the fatherly love with which thou didst cherish the Child Jesus, we beseech thee and we humbly pray that thou wilt look down with gracious eye upon that inheritance which Jesus Christ purchased by His blood, and will succour us in our need by thy power and strength.

**Defend, O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family**, the chosen off spring of Jesus Christ. Keep from us, O most loving father, all blight of error and corruption. Aid us from on high, most valiant defender, in this conflict with the powers of darkness. And even as of old, thou didst rescue the Child Jesus from the peril of His life, so now defend God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity. Shield us ever under thy patronage, that, following thine example and strengthened by thy help, we may live a holy life, die a happy death, and attain to everlasting bliss in Heaven. Amen.

*(LEO XIII)*

## **Storm Prayer in the Hour of Extreme Distress**

**Eternal Father!** Look with mercy upon the need and distress of Thy children. If Thou dost not help us, O God of mercies and of all consolation, we shall perish. Therefore, in Thine unfathomable mercy, let the nine choirs of the blessed angels, all the saints and blessed of heaven, and all the poor souls in purgatory, under the leadership of Saint Michael the Archangel and Saint Joseph, patron of the Holy Church, go forth throughout the whole world, that in the name and by the authority of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of the Universe, victorious in all the battles of God, and by the power of the Precious Blood of Jesus, Thy most beloved Son, they may cast all evil spirits down into hell.

Let them go forth throughout the whole world, that they may render powerless and helpless all wicked men, all enemies of God, of the Holy Church, of human souls, of mankind, of the tabernacles and of the sanctuaries, and bring all their evil designs and works to nothing.

This we ask of Thee through Jesus Christ our Lord and through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Thy most holy Daughter. Amen.

**Ye Saints and holy Angels,** help us to know and adore God, to love Him and to serve Him. Help us in the struggle against the powers of darkness which secretly surround and oppress us.

Help us that none of us may be lost, and that one day we may rejoice together in everlasting blessedness. Amen.