

CONSECRATION AND FEAST DAY FOR THE FATHER OF ALL MANKIND

God is Our Father



Abba, The Eternal Father

“Clouds and darkness are round about Him: justice and judgment are the establishment of His throne.” (Psalm 96:2)

[As He appeared to Mother Eugenia Elisabetta Ravasio on July 1, 1932]

ON JULY 1, 1932, The Feast of the Precious Blood of Jesus, The Eternal Father appeared to Mother Eugenia Ravasio.

This apparition had been approved by His Excellency, Alexandre Caillot, Bishop of Grenoble, in 1946.

*Seeing Mother Eugenia’s amazement at His youthful appearance, Abba told her, “Man gets old but I do not. I am eternal.” Abba, Our Father looks like Jesus! This confirms what Jesus said to Philip, when Philip asks Jesus if he could see God the Father. Jesus said, “He who has seen Me, **has seen the Father**; how can you say “Show us the Father”? Do you not believe that I Am in the Father and the Father is in Me?” (John 14:9)*

*A SON honors his father, and a servant his master. If then I am a father, **where is My honor**? (Malachy 1:6)*

BUT THE hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth. (Jn 4:23-24)

AND FOR their sake I consecrate Myself, that they also may be consecrated in truth. (Jn 17:19)

IMPRIMATUR: Bishop Nicholas D’Antonio, Retired Vicar for Latin America Apostolate, Archbishop of New Orleans



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HISTORY OF THIS DEVOTION

ON JULY 1, 1932, THE FEAST OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS, The Eternal Father appeared to Mother Eugenia Ravasio (1907-1990) in Bergamo, Italy. This apparition was approved by His Excellency, Alexandre Caillot, Bishop of Grenoble, in 1946, after a decade of investigation.

MOTHER EUGENIA ELISABETTA RAVASIO was born in San Gervasio d'Adda (now Capriato San Gervasio), a small town in the province of Bergamo, Italy, on 4 September 1907, in a family of peasant background, she received only an elementary education. After a few years working in a factory, she entered the Congregation of Our Lady of the Apostles at the age of 20 years. It was here that her great charismatic personality developed, leading to her election as Mother General of the Congregation at the age of only 25. Quite apart from her spiritual qualities, her work in the social field alone would suffice to ensure her a place in history. In twelve years of missionary activity she opened over 70 centers - each with infirmary, school and church - in the remotest spots of Africa, Asia and Europe. It was she who discovered the first medicine for the cure of leprosy, extracting it from the seed of a tropical plant. This medicine was later studied and developed further at the Pasteur Institute in Paris. She encouraged the apostolate of Raoul Follereau, who, following in her footsteps and building on the foundations laid by her, is regarded as the apostle of the lepers. During the period 1939-41 she planned and brought to fruition the project for a "Lepers' City" at Azopte (Ivory Coast). This was a vast center, covering an area of 200,000 square meters for the care of leprosy sufferers. It remains even today one of Africa's and the world's leading centers of its kind. In recognition of this achievement, France conferred the highest national honour for social work, on the Congregation of Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of the Apostles, of which Mother Eugenia was Superior General from 1935 to 1947. Her most important legacy to us is the Message of the Father, 'The Father Speaks to His Children,' the only revelation made personally by God the Father, and recognized as authentic by the Church after ten years of the most rigorous examination. The internet has the text of the full testimony issued by Msgr. Alexandre Caillot, Bishop of Grenoble, following the investigation. It is noteworthy that the Eternal Father (in 1932) dictated the Message to Mother Eugenia in Latin, a language totally unknown to her.

MOTHER EUGENIA returned to the Father on 10 August 1990.

Partial Indulgence: † GIRARD, Vicar Apostolic of Cairo, October 9th, 1935; † JEAN, Cardinal VERDIER, Archbishop of Paris, May 8th, 1936

DEDICATION TO GOD OUR FATHER

We pray that through The Holy Octave of Consecration and its solemn eighth day, *The Feast of the Father of All Mankind*, He may be known, loved, served, and honored by all His children.

Dearest God Our Father, we love Thee, we adore Thee, we worship Thee!

Foreword

GOD THE FATHER

By Fr. Michael O'Carroll C.S.SP.

THE HOLY TRINITY is the center of our faith: Three Persons in One God. How do we express our belief in public worship and in private prayer? How do we initiate and continue a spiritual attitude towards each divine Person? In the western, that is the Latin Church there has been a very great emphasis on Christo-centric spirituality. If that is designed to eliminate devotions which put others too heavily in focus, one saint or another, it is laudable. If it has the effect of minimizing our attention to the other two divine Persons it needs radical correction.

THIS LEADS LOGICALLY to the question: What of God the Father? Hereto, we have lived to witness an awakening of consciousness, and of conscience, in regard to His Person. For the first time in history churches have been built in His honour and a special feast is envisaged to God the Father.

WILL THIS SERVE to diminish attention to God the Son incarnate? On the contrary it

will enable us to come closer to the mystery of His Sonship. Anyone who doubts this will gain reassurance from the words of Jesus Himself: his first words recorded were **“Did you not know that I must be in My Father's House?”** (Lk 2:49); the last from His lips were **“Father, into Thy hands I commit My Spirit”** (Lk 23:46). All Jesus' prayers were directed to the Father; His words when near death, **“My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?”** were from a **psalm (22:1)**, intended, some scholars think, as an invitation to His faithful friends to recite the psalm, which ends on a note of triumph.

THE READER MUST especially ponder **St. John's gospel, Chapters 14 to 17**, delaying on the sensational assertion **“He who has seen Me, has seen the Father; how can you say “Show us the Father”?** **Do you not believe that I Am in the Father and the Father is in Me?”** (John 14:9,10). Such reflection will enable us to appreciate why the only formal prayer given to us by Jesus is the **“Our Father”**.

THUS JESUS, “the mediator and sum-total of all revelation” fulfilled the promise inherent in certain inspired intuitions of the Old Testament. As with the Spirit of God we have not therein an explicit theology of a divine Person and of relationship with the others. **The Father is mentioned fourteen times, spoken of as creator, as a merciful One.** As to relationship with humanity it is to Israel that His fatherhood shows itself: **“I am a Father to Israel and Ephraim is My first born”** (Jer.31:9;cp. Deut. 14:2; Ex 4:22).

THIS IS one more reason why a spirituality oriented to the Father enhances, amplifies, deepens intimacy with Jesus. We lose nothing by reflecting on the great ‘find’ of recent times: His Jewishness, with all that this connotes, for example in regard to the theology of the Heart.

THERE WERE three great civilizations around the ancient Mediterranean, Roman, based on law, Greek, based on the intellect, and the greatest, Jewish, based on the heart, as the statement of the living person: the word occurs 850 times in the sacred writings of these people, our spiritual ancestors. Their greatest gift to us was Jesus, the supreme Jew, Son of the Eternal Father, whom He disclosed to us and to whom He interceded with His very life for our salvation.

ONCE CONVINCED of this consoling reality we may ask what means may we best employ to strengthen our faith and satisfy our need for meaningful prayer? The answer, an enlightened, highly acceptable one to this question is given in this book which I am recommending, **The Holy Consecration to God the Father and its Feast day**. I SHALL not enter into the details of this solidly constructed work. ***The Holy Octave of Consecration to God our Father*** is convincingly expounded; biblical reference is abundant. Note for interest how often the **"eight"** is significant in crucial saving events, modeled on the great revelation in the Bible. Here there is much that is profoundly theological and yet totally accessible. To those interested I say: Read, ponder, pray and benefit.

Michael O'Carroll, C.S.Sp.

8 May, 1998

Feast of the Apparition of St. Michael

[Editor's note: Fr. Michael O'Carroll, C.S.Sp. is an Irish theologian and author of over 35 books. He lectures at Blackrock College in Dublin.]

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Introduction
- Time Line
- THE HOLY OCTAVE OF CONSECRATION TO GOD OUR FATHER Overview
- The Eight Days of *The Holy Octave of Consecration to God our Father*
- The Daily Chaplet
- Advancing *The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father And Its Solemn Eighth Day – The Feast of the Father of All Mankind*
- Petition for *The Feast of the Father of All Mankind*

INTRODUCTION

RETURNING TO THE HOUSE OF GOD OUR FATHER

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH teaches us that God Our Father sent His Son Jesus to bring us back home to Him and that the Holy Spirit was sent to lead us on that journey. This is reflected in preparation for the Jubilee 2000-1997, the Year of Jesus; 1998, the Year of the Holy Spirit; and 1999, the Year of the Father.

Our spiritual journey, then, is intended to move us always in the direction of God Our Father. As Jesus tells us: **“Because I came down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him that sent me. Now this is the will of the Father who sent me: that of all that he hath given me, I should lose nothing; but should raise it up again in the last day.”** (*Jn 6:38-39*) **“In my Father's house there are many mansions. If not, I would have told you: because I go to prepare a place for you. And if I shall go, and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and will take you to Myself; that where I am, you also may be. I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No man cometh to the Father, but by Me.”** (*Jn 14:2-3,6*) The Holy Father writes in *Tertio Millenio Adveniente [As the Third Millennium Draws Near]* that “the whole of the Christian life is like a great pilgrimage to the house of the Father, whose unconditional love for every human creature, and in particular for the ‘prodigal son’ (**Lk 15: 11-32**), we discover anew each day.” In this same apostolic letter he also reminds us that during this time, Mary, our Mother, will be lovingly and urgently inviting “all the children of God so that they will return to the house of the Father when they hear her maternal voice: **“Do whatever Christ tells you”** (*Jn 2:5*).

Our return to the house of our Father, then, is ordained by God as a “process.” It is a process that begins with our Mother Mary, who lovingly guides us to her Son. Jesus, then, mercifully lifts us up on His Cross to our Father. While comforting us on this journey home, the Holy Spirit purifies and refines us so that God Our Father can come and dwell in us as living temples, and we, in turn, can dwell in Him. To do this, we must, unlike our first parents, Adam and Eve, offer **our unconditional “Yes”** to our Father's Will. For it was in saying “No” that mankind was exiled from Paradise and the intimate presence of God Our Father.

As children of God, we have been provided with a beautiful means to return to God Our

Father, a progressive process that is described by St. Louis De Montfort in *The Secret of Mary*: "If the falsely enlightened, whom the devil has so miserably illusioned, even in prayer, had known how to find Mary, and through her to find Jesus, and through Jesus, God the Father, they would not have had such terrible falls. The saints tell us that when we have once found Mary, and through Mary, Jesus, and through Jesus, God the Father, **we have found all good**. He who says all, excepts nothing: all grace and all friendship with God, all safety from God's enemies, all truth to crush falsehoods, all facility to overcome difficulties in the way of salvation, all comfort and all joy amidst the bitterness of life". Our spiritual journey, then, is a dynamic process which takes us through Mary to Jesus in union with the Holy Spirit back home to God Our Father. That is the reason for our existence.

If we could climb to the top of a mountain and look down on the panorama of Man's Salvation History, we would see that **mankind was created solely for the purpose of returning to its Creator-God Our Father**.

THE TRIUMPH OF OUR MOTHER'S IMMACULATE HEART

IN THESE TIMES, as the Millennium draws near, Mary's greatest triumph will be her cooperative role in leading us back home and restoring us to God Our Father.

THE FIRST CHILD of God to offer her "Yes" to our Father, Mary brought Jesus, our Savior, into the world. In this, and by guiding all her children to offer their "Yes," she truly "crushes the head" of the serpent-the serpent who seduced mankind into disobedience and exile (**Gen 3:15 DV**). Because of this "woman," the children of God Our Father will once again - as it was in the beginning - dwell with Him in the Paradise of His Divine Will. She is, indeed, the Mother of All Mankind: cooperating with God's Plan for our redemption, reconciling and uniting us with our Father, and acting as an intercessory helper for the children of God.

Like His mother, Jesus also offered His "**fiat**." In saying "**Yes**" to the Will of His Father, Jesus offered Himself for each and every one of us. His Passion, Death, and Resurrection defeated the sin and death which resulted from Adam and Eve's free-will choice to say "No" to our Father's Will. Through the "**Yes**" of Jesus and His mother Mary, **we are no longer exiled**. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Both He and His mother wait patiently to lead us back home to God Our Father. **They wait for our "Yes!"**

After the "fiats" of Mary and Jesus, the Holy Spirit was sent by our Father, at the request of Jesus, so that we would not be left as orphans. He comforts, guides, and purifies us on our journey back home to the Father. With our "Yes," He prepares us so that we can become consecrated temples of the Living God.

With God truly living "in" us, we, the exiled, prodigal children, will finally be restored to God Our Father. Our Mother Mary's Immaculate Heart will have triumphed - our Father's Kingdom will have truly come!

KNOWING, LOVING, AND HONORING GOD OUR FATHER

THE ROMAN Catholic Church defines God as the Three Persons of the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. However, since the earliest beginnings of the Church, there has been a tendency to focus primarily on the Second Person of the Holy Trinity - Jesus, the Son of God. And to a lesser extent, there has been renewed interest in the Holy Spirit in the latter half of the 20th century. But what of the Father?

True, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is offered up to God Our Father and the "Our Father Prayer" is directed to Him. But do we "know" the Father? Do we believe that when Jesus came to earth as the Incarnation of God, that we no longer needed to know, love, serve, or honor the Father? Do we think that Jesus replaced the Father? Do we feel that God Our Father belongs to the Old Testament era and Jesus belongs to New Testament times? Do we

perceive God Our Father as an ancient, mythic figure that is stern, aged, and unapproachable? Do we truly know Him? Love Him? Serve Him? Honor Him? The response to these questions by most Catholics would indicate that, indeed, something is seriously lacking in our perception and relationship with God Our Father.

Think for a moment. Do we typically see statues or paintings of the Father in our Catholic churches? Are any of our churches named in honor of Him? **Does the Catholic Church have any special feasts that specifically honor Him?** The answer, unfortunately, is "No!"

THE HOLY OCTAVE OF CONSECRATION TO GOD OUR FATHER – AND THE FEAST OF THE FATHER OF ALL MANKIND

WHY DON'T we honor our Creator, our Father – especially with a feast? This is an unsettling question and a disturbing revelation, but it is also something we can easily remedy. As children of God Our Father, we can work towards establishing a feast for Him. The time has come to know, love, serve, and honor God Our Father through a special feast of consecration – a feast that would provide us with an opportunity to offer our fiat. Holy Scripture provides us with a blueprint for such a feast as was foreshadowed in the Feasts of Tabernacles [Booths] and Dedication (**Lev 23:33-43; 2 Chron 7:1-9; 1 Mac 4:59; 2 Mac 2:1-18**). Both eight-day feasts involved **seven days of preparation** and **a solemn eighth day of prayer and assembly**.

This proposed feast would involve honoring and consecrating ourselves to God Our Father over an **eight-day period**, or 'octave'. It would be, then, a Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father with its solemn eighth day celebrated as *The Feast Day of the Father of All Mankind*.

The Octave of Consecration to God Our Father and its feast, *Feast of the Father of All Mankind* would integrate the purpose and meaning of both the previous Old Testament feasts in its focus on knowing, loving, serving, and honoring God our Father. Because of this, it would involve a commemoration of what God has done for His children and what we need to do for our Father. With this feast, God would not only be present as He was in the Ark of the Covenant, in a stone temple, or in the tabernacle of a church: He would be housed and present in those souls who were purified and dedicated to Him through consecration.

WHAT EXACTLY IS THE HOLY OCTAVE OF CONSECRATION TO GOD OUR FATHER AND ITS FEAST OF THE FATHER OF ALL MANKIND?

ITS GREATEST significance in these times is that it provides us with an opportunity to:

- (1) Honor God Our Father,
- (2) Offer Him our "fiat", and
- (3) Consecrate ourselves to Him.

In this way, we are truly cooperating with our Mother Mary in the Triumph of Her Immaculate Heart. We are returning to our Father; we are offering Him our unconditional "fiat" as Mary and Jesus did; and we are consecrating ourselves to Him, totally. As He so richly deserves, we are finally knowing, loving, serving, and honoring Him as *God Our Father – The Father of All Mankind*.

CONSECRATING OURSELVES TO GOD OUR FATHER

THE MOST compelling precedent for consecrating ourselves to God Our Father over an **eight-day feast**, or **octave**¹, is found in **John 10:22-39**. This passage describes how Jesus, during the **eight-day Feast of Dedication**, revealed that He was consecrated to God Our Father. Jesus further explains that He consecrated Himself to our Father so we, too, could

¹ In Hebrew numerology, the number 8 is the perfect number representing God, The Father.

be consecrated in truth (**John 17: 19-21**). The concept of "Consecration to God Our Father" is crucial because, as Jesus tells us, "the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. God is a spirit, and those who worship Him must worship **"in spirit and truth"** (**John 4:23- 24**). If we follow Jesus, if we model ourselves after Him, shouldn't we also consecrate ourselves to God Our Father during an eight-day feast, so that we, too, can adore Him "in spirit and in truth?"

If we choose to consecrate ourselves to God Our Father, how should this be done? The concept of an **'octave,'** or **8-day feast**, has been significant in our relationship with God since the beginning of our Salvation History. It is not by coincidence that Jesus chose to reveal His consecration to God Our Father on the eight-day Feast of Dedication. Clearly, the octave symbolizes a designated period of time when God's children grow and God's relationship with them changes or is transformed.

Unlike other feasts and consecration methods, *The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father* views the **'big picture'** of our Salvation History. It involves the entire process of our spiritual journey which includes Mary, our Mother; Jesus, our God and our Savior; and the Holy Spirit, our God and our Sanctifier: with progression always toward God Our Father.

God's word in both the Old and New Testaments provides us with extensive Scriptural Support for an **eight-day**, or **'octave'** format. From the Book of Genesis to the Gospels and Epistles, the number **'eight'** is used to signify salvation, covenant, purification, and dedication. Perhaps, more importantly, it is used to indicate the end of one era and the beginning of another in which God is revealed, manifested, and present to His children in a new way.

The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father, in its most powerful form, is intended as a formal eight-day feast for God Our Father culminating on **the first Sunday of the "eighth" month, God Our Father's month, August**. The solemn eighth day of *The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father* would be celebrated under the title of *The Feast of the Father of All Mankind*. However, consecration to God our Father using the eight-day formula of *The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father* can be done informally **at any time** during the year.

A PERIOD OF TRANSFORMATION

AS WE approach the Jubilee year 2000, wouldn't it be appropriate to consecrate ourselves and the world to the One we were created to return to God Our Father? Wouldn't it be equally appropriate to recite this consecration publicly and to renew it annually on a feast specifically celebrated for God Our Father – *The Father of All Mankind*? Isn't it time to cleanse, purify, and re-dedicate the Temple of God Our Father - individually and as the Body of Christ?

Are we entering a new period of transformation? Do the chaos, confusion, and darkness of our culture signal the need for change in our relationship with God Our Father? Does it signal the Mercy of God's Justice, so that in these times we are truly feeling the consequences and effects of our sins, our turning away from God, our refusal to do God's Will?

Instead of punishment, is the misery of our times really God Our Father's Mercy? Is He allowing us to feel the full brunt of our bad choices, our sin, so that we might clearly see what it is like to live outside His Will? Is He allowing this so that we can better make the choice to return to Him-where we belong?

If so, Holy Scripture illustrates that in the past, these periods of transformation always

involved a time of our turning away from God, a time of purification and cleansing, a time of re-dedication, and a time of re-gathering and renewal.

The **octave or eight-day period** is significant, then, in representing a divinely ordained process that involves a shifting from one period to the next. Often the process that propels us from one period into the next has involved seven days of praise, thanksgiving, offering, and repentance, followed by an eighth day of solemnity and assembly of God's children. This process can work on two levels to purify and dedicate us: individually and as a body. Therefore, *The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father*, culminating in *The Feast of the Father of All Mankind* is necessary and much needed in these times- for each of us individually and for the Church as a whole.

To place the need for a consecration feast to God Our Father in proper perspective for the times we live in, we should remember that at the turn of the last century, Pope Leo XIII dedicated the world to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Again in 1925, Pope Pius XI ordered a formal consecration of mankind to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, to be publicly recited and renewed annually on the Feast of Christ the King.

As we enter the next millennium, isn't it time that we know, love, and honor God Our Father through a formal feast day of consecration especially for Him?

If we say "yes" to God Our Father, cleanse and purify ourselves, consecrate and re-dedicate ourselves to Him, individually and collectively, what could possibly keep Him from coming to us--in a more powerful and glorious way than we could ever imagine!

“THY KINGDOM COME”

LIKE EIGHT footlights guiding us home, like runway lights beckoning our Father to descend among us, *The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father* would prepare us for His indwelling. And this indwelling represents one of the greatest gifts ever given to us – that God Our Father is with us always, actively and intimately.

With this in mind, we need to say “Yes, Father”, and become lights to the world, signaling the change to come. For, surely, a new time is coming, a time of renewal and transformation, when Mary's Immaculate Heart will finally Triumph – the era when our Father's Kingdom comes and His Will is done "on earth as it is in heaven."

May we approach God Our Father through *The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father* and its eighth solemn day – *The Feast of the Father of All Mankind* – with anticipation, love, and confidence. For He is **not** the old, stern, and distant man we imagined. Rather, **He is Divine**, and as such, **cannot age**, for age is a sign of corruption and decay of "life." No, He is a healthy, vital God. He is the Creator – Life itself! He "is" Love and Mercy. And He is close, even now, tracing the smiles and tears upon our faces with His divine finger, sharing our every joy, our every sorrow. **He is our Father and we are His children. We belong to Him and to Him we were created to return – each and every one of us!**



TIME LINE

Old Testament

Eight people saved by God	Noe's Ark (Gen 7:13)
Covenant sign eight days after birth	Circumcision (Gen 17:12)
Eight-day period of Consecration and offering Preceding the manifestation of God to His people	Manifestation of God to Moses and His People (Lev 8:33-36; 9: 1-24)
Eight-day feast requested by God	Feast of Tabernacles [Booths] (Lev 23:33-43)
Offerings accepted by God for purification on the final eighth day	Purification Rituals (Lev 14:10-11;15:14-15,29-30)
David, the eighth son of Jesse, brought the Ark of the Covenant into the City of David amidst praises sung for the octave upon harps.	The Ark of the Covenant is returned to the Hebrews (1 Sam 17:12-14) (1 Para 15:21 DV)
David's repentant cry played on an eight string harp (Ps 6 DV)	
Solomon finishes building the House of the Lord in the eighth month of the year.	Solomon Completes the Temple (1 Kings 6:38)
Eight-day feast dedicating and preparing the Temple for God's presence	Solomon's Feast of Dedication (2 Chron 7: 1-9)
Dimensions for the New Temple based on the number eight	The New Temple as envisioned by Ezechiel (Ezek 40:8,30,34,37,41 [40:49 DV])
Eight-day feast for cleansing and re-dedicating the Temple	Maccabee's Feast of Dedication (1 Mac 4:59; 2 Mac 2:1-18)

New Testament

Covenant sign on the eighth day	John the Baptist's Circumcision (Lk 1 :59)
Covenant sign on the eighth day	Jesus' Circumcision (Lk 2:21)
Jesus reveals His union with God Our Father and His consecration on this eight-day feast	Jesus walks on Solomon's Porch at the Temple on the Feast of Dedication (Jn 10:22-38)
Jesus prophesies His Transfiguration to the Apostles eight days before the actual event. Him." (Lk 9:35)	The Transfiguration of Jesus - The Apostles Peter, James and John hear the voice of God Our Father say, "This is my beloved Son; hear
Jesus rose from the dead on the eighth day of His Week of Redemptive Passion.	The Resurrection of Jesus (Mt 28:1-8; Mk 16:9; Lk 24:1-5; Jn 20:1-17)
Jesus shows His wounds to unbelieving Thomas eight days after His Resurrection.	Jesus appears to Thomas (Jn 20:26-29)



THE HOLY OCTAVE OF CONSECRATION TO GOD OUR FATHER

OVERVIEW

The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father involves eight days of prayer, scripture readings, and meditation, as well as participation in the Holy Mass, the Eucharist, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The first seven days serve as preparatory steps leading to the final day of assembly and solemn consecration – *The Feast of the Father of All Mankind*.

A chaplet, medal, and litany have been specially designed for the octave approach of this consecration and feast day. All God's children are invited to use the following spiritual practices and format to consecrate themselves to God Our Father. Although the consecration can be done at any time by setting aside an eight-day period (preferably Sunday to Sunday), it is suggested that

(1) it be renewed formally each year on the proposed date (*an octave ending on the first Sunday of August*) and that

(2) it be renewed informally each day by praying the chaplet. In addition, the short prayer, "I love Thee, Father, and I give myself to Thee" can be prayed throughout the day to help us live our consecration more fully.

Two publications are available for *The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father*:

(1) *God Our Father - Consecration and Feast Day for the Father of All Mankind* (a full-length book) and

(2) *God Our Father - Consecration and Feast Day for the Father of All Mankind* (the booklet).

Both publications contain an introduction to the formal and daily chaplet, and litany. However, the full-length book contains sections that provide additional information and support for *The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father*: "The Journey of God Our Father's Children" and "Scriptural Meditations on The Octave of God Our Father."

DAILY FORMAT

A relevant theme taken from Holy Scripture has been selected for each of the eight days of the consecration: praise, thanksgiving, offering, repentance, inheritance (acknowledging that God is truly our Father and we are truly His children), fiat (saying "Yes" unconditionally to God Our Father's Will), fidelity, and consecration. Therefore, general daily practice during this eight-day period involves meditation on the selected daily theme, scripture reading, and prayer. In addition, the chaplet and litany of *The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father* are to be recited daily. Daily Mass and reception of the Holy Eucharist are recommended, as is the Sacrament of Penance during this eight-day period.

THE CHAPLET



The chaplet is made up of the Medal of *The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father* and 75 beads – 11 gold and 64 red. The **gold beads** signify our precious goal, the Divine Treasure – **God Our Father**. The **red beads** signify the **Blood of Jesus Christ** which allows us to return to God Our Father.

To begin, A *Prayer Invoking the Presence of God Our Father* is recited. Then the Sign of the Cross and a preparatory prayer are said on the Holy Octave of Consecration Medal. Introductory prayers to Mary, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are prayed on the three introductory gold beads that lead into the larger circle of beads.

The circle of beads is designed with major octaves (**eight gold beads**), each with its own

minor octave (**eight red beads**). The eight main themes of our journey as prodigal children of God Our Father are meditated on the eight gold Major Octave beads. The eight daily themes of the consecration are recited on the eight red Minor Octave beads.

To finish the chaplet, *The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father* is then recited on the medal. Both an extended version of the chaplet for formal consecration (with meditations) and a concise version for daily use (without meditations) are provided in this booklet.

THE MEDAL

A SPECIAL MEDAL was designed to illustrate the process of this consecration. Depicted **on the front** of the medal is **the actual consecration process**. God Our Father is seen in heaven reaching down to us on earth; man is seen on earth reaching up to God Our Father in heaven. The force of God's Love for us is shown in the rays that proceed down from His hand; the force of our love for Him is pictured in our "fiat" radiating up to Him. These rays intersect through the Cross of Jesus. This Cross is the bridge or link between God Our Father and His children. At one end, it is grounded in the earth through Mary, our Mother. It then proceeds up through the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit into Heaven at the other end. Eight lights, signifying the Scripturally supported octave, are shown on the horizontal beam of the Cross. These eight lights serve to guide us on our journey back home to God Our Father.



The back of the medal displays **the eight-stringed harp of David**, as mentioned in **Psalm 6**. St. Augustine understood this mystically, as symbolizing **the octave** – seven days of this mortal life followed by the last resurrection and the world to come. And that during our mortal life, like David, we must also feel sorrow for our sins and repent of them while here on earth. On this eight-stringed harp we have placed **the eight themes** or steps of the Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father – **praise, thanksgiving, offering, repentance, inheritance, fiat, fidelity, and consecration**. Inside the bow of the harp are printed the words: "The rhythm and harmony of God's Will." This reminds us that when we pluck the eight strings or themes of this consecration to God Our Father, a beautiful music ascends to heaven – we are choosing **to live our lives in rhythm and in harmony with His Will**.

THE SCAPULAR OF GOD OUR FATHER – 'THE OFFERING CLOTH'

Whereas the medal shows God Our Father's love for us (a roadmap back home to Him), the Offering Cloth shows our love for God Our Father (the total offering of ourselves). It is a small, white piece of linen embroidered around the edges for durability and worn by a cloth rope or pinned through two eyelets in the upper corners. Worn close to the heart (as a scapular), it is held in our open hand during our daily prayers of offering. This may occur during recitation of the chaplet or at any time when we pray, "I love Thee, Father, and I give myself to Thee." Blessing of the Offering Cloth takes place during our formal consecration to God Our Father on the "Feast of the Father of All Mankind." However, it may be done by a priest at any time.

The Offering Cloth is a visual aid to remind us of what our souls should be like before God – clean and pure. Because of this, the Offering Cloth should be kept clean and may be laundered. It serves a concrete symbol of our souls given in offering to our Father. Not only does it remind us of the need to be purified, but it also helps us understand that purification is not a punishment, but rather a preparation for the indwelling presence of God. When we offer ourselves to God Our Father, He purifies us so that He may come to dwell in us personally.

THE LITANY

This Litany for God Our Father was composed specifically for the Holy Octave of Consecration. It lists all the major passages in Holy Scripture that cite the octave or number "eight." Each citation is followed by the phrase, "Have mercy on us, O Loving Father."

THE FEAST OF THE FATHER OF ALL MANKIND

This crowning feast day of *The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father* serves to solemnly assemble the children of God, the ultimate purpose of which is to **honor God Our Father**:

- (1) by recognizing that He is truly our Father and we are truly His children,
- (2) by offering Him our unconditional "fiat," and
- (3) by consecrating ourselves to Him totally.

Having prepared for this solemn day and our consecration by exercising and offering the Holy Octave themes of praise, thanksgiving, offering, repentance, inheritance, fiat, and fidelity, we now ask Mary, our Mother; Jesus, our God and our Savior; and The Holy Spirit, our God and our Sanctifier, to guide and prepare us so that through our total consecration, we can become living temples of the indwelling Presence of God.

We also ask God Our Father on this special day:

- (1) to allow us to cultivate and maintain a close and Intimate relationship with Him,
- (2) to have Mercy on all His children – past, present, and future,
- (3) to bring His peace to the world,
- (4) to gather all His children to Himself, and
- (5) and that His Kingdom comes and His Will is done on earth as it is in heaven.

Liturgically, this day should include a Holy Mass with Scripture readings and a homily that specifically honor God Our Father as "The Father of All Mankind." Blessed palms should also be provided for praising our Lord and Father. After the Celebration of Holy Mass, medals, chaplets, and Offering Cloths may be blessed. The children of God should be invited to collectively pray the chaplet, litany, and the daily theme prayer for the eighth day of the consecration.



THE EIGHT DAYS OF THE HOLY OCTAVE OF CONSECRATION TO GOD OUR FATHER

DAY ONE

Suggested Daily Devotional Practices:

1. Holy Mass (Recommended)
2. The Formal Chaplet of The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father (See Below)
3. The Litany of The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father (See Below)
4. Daily Meditation on a Minor Octave Theme (See Below)

THE FORMAL CHAPLET

(Extended Version With Meditations)

A Preparatory Prayer Invoking the Presence of God Our Father:

DEAREST FATHER – Our Creator and our God: Thou promised that in every place where we honor Thy name, Thou would come to us and bless us. O Father, arise and come to rest in us, Thy children. Clothe us in Thy Salvation and let us rejoice in Thy goodness. Please do not turn away our faces from Thy loving presence. If we have found favor in Thy sight, show us Thy face so that we may know Thee and find grace before Thy eyes. Please speak to us now as Thou spoke to Moses – as a man speaks to his friend.

Let it be known this day that Thou are the "Father of All Mankind" Who can turn all hearts back to Thyself, and that we are Thy children who desire only to do Thy Will in all things. Answer us, Lord; answer us, so all Thy children may know that Thou are mankind's one true God and Father.

As Thy prodigal children, we want only to return home to Thee. As we approach Thee, Father, please run to meet us. And in Thy unconditional love and compassion, embrace and kiss us.

Like Mary, Thy handmaid, and Jesus, Thy Son, we love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee. Following those Thou sent to bring us back home, we now freely consecrate ourselves to Thee, saying:

With Mary, our Mother: *"Be it done to me according to Thy Will'."*

Through Jesus, our God and Savior: *"Not as I will but as Thou wilt. "*

In the Holy Spirit, our God and Sanctifier: *"Abba, Father!"*

Jesus promised, when two or three are gathered together in His name, He is in the midst of us. So as Jesus is in Thee and Thou in Jesus – and Jesus is the vine and we are the branches – be with us now, and through Thy Holy Spirit, dwell in us always as Thy living temples. Bless us, Father, and walk among us, Thy children. And may Thy Glory descend upon us as the transforming fire of Thy tender love and mercy, now and forever. Amen.

On the Medal of The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father:

Sign of the Cross: In the name of The ✠ Father, and of The Son, and of The Holy Ghost. Amen.

DEAREST GOD, OUR FATHER, we humbly ask that on our journey home to Thee, Thy Holy Angels protect and guide us; that Thy blessed Saints in Heaven intercede for us; and that Thy suffering souls in Purgatory pray for us, as we pray for them now. Amen.

Bead 1: 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.

Bead 2: Jesus, our God and our Savior, Thou loved us so much, Thou died for us on the Cross, so that we, too, could return to our Father in Heaven. Thou art the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Through Thy Holy Eucharist, please sustain us and be present with us always on our journey home. Amen.

Bead 3: Holy Spirit, our God and our Sanctifier, Jesus sent Thee to us for our journey back home to the Father. Please purify and refine us. Fill us with Thy Divine Light and Love so that the Presence of God may dwell in us. Amen.

First Major Octave: THE DISOBEDIENCE AND EXILE OF GOD OUR FATHER'S CHILDREN

Let us Meditate on (1) Adam and Eve's choice not to do God Our Father's Will, (2) their exile from the Paradise He created for them, and (3) Our Father's promise that "the woman" (Mary) would someday Triumph by "crushing the head" of the serpent that seduced them into disobedience.

God Our Father was with us at the beginning in the Paradise He created for us – the Paradise of His Divine Will. Seduced by Satan, Adam and Eve chose not to do the Will of God and were, therefore, expelled from this Paradise and denied God's intimate presence. However, Our Father promised that "the woman" would ultimately defeat the evil that had caused this separation – the evil of saying "No" to God's Will. (Gen 2:8-3:24) *Our Father...*

Minor Octave (eight red beads):

Bead 1: In praise: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 2: In thanksgiving: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 3: In offering: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 4: In repentance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 5: In our inheritance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 6: In saying our "Yes": We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 7: In fidelity: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 8: In consecration: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Second Major Octave: THE PRESENCE OF GOD OUR FATHER IN THE OLD TESTAMENT ERA

Let us meditate on God Our Father's Presence Among Us During the Old Testament era:

Although God's children were expelled from Paradise by their choice not to do God's Will, God never abandoned them. He was present with them from the beginning. In Old Testament times, He manifested His presence through His own voice, the words of His Prophets, in the burning bush, in a pillar of smoke, and in the Ark of the Covenant.

After God rescued His children from the bondage of Egypt, He requested that they celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles for eight days each year. He wanted them to remember that He loved them, He saved them, and He was present with them. Later when God was present in the Ark of the Covenant, Solomon built a magnificent Temple to house it. He then celebrated an eight-day Feast of Dedication in preparation for God's presence in the Temple. And God responded by manifesting His presence in a tangible and powerful way.

At the close of the Old Testament, the Maccabees re-instituted this eight-day feast to purify and re-dedicate the Temple that had been defiled through Pagan influence, so the Presence of God would dwell with them once more. (Lev 8:33-36-9:1-24; 23:33-43; 2 Chron 7:1-9; 2 Mac 2:1-12) *Our Father...*

Minor Octave (eight red beads):

Bead 1: In praise: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 2: In thanksgiving: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 3: In offering: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 4: In repentance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 5: In our inheritance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 6: In saying our "Yes": We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 7: In fidelity: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 8: In consecration: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Third Major Octave: THE FIAT OF MARY, OUR MOTHER

Let us meditate on (1) Mary's "Triumphant" Fiat, her "Yes" to God's Will, and (2) how she became the "New Ark," a living tabernacle for the newly manifested presence of God: Jesus, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity – Savior of God Our Father's children:

Mary gave her "Yes" when the angel Gabriel came to her and asked her to be the mother of the Son of God. The Holy Spirit came upon her and the power of God Our Father overshadowed her. In saying "Yes" to God's Will, Mary ("the woman") allowed God to be present with His children in a new way. She actually became the "New Ark," a living tabernacle of Jesus, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, mankind's Savior; Who with His Mother's cooperation, would restore the exiled children of God to their Father. (Lk 1:26-35) *Our Father...*

Minor Octave (eight red beads):

Bead 1: In praise: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 2: In thanksgiving: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 3: In offering: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 4: In repentance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 5: In our inheritance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 6: In saying our "Yes": We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 7: In fidelity: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 8: In consecration: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

**Fourth Major Octave: THE FIAT OF JESUS, OUR SAVIOR – SON OF GOD
AND SECOND PERSON OF THE HOLY TRINITY**

Let us meditate on (1) Jesus' Fiat, His "Yes" to God's Will, and (2) how God Our Father sent Jesus to save us and to bring us back home to Him:

Jesus offered His "fiat" to God Our Father during His Passion in the Garden of Gethsemane. "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as Thou wilt." (Mt 26:39).

Through His Passion, Death, and Resurrection, Jesus redeemed us, defeating **the sin - saying "No" to God's Will, and death - separation and exile from God**, which Satan introduced into the world. Through Jesus, His Church, and His Sacraments, we could now return to God Our Father and have eternal life. *Our Father...*

Minor Octave (eight red beads):

Bead 1: In praise: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 2: In thanksgiving: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 3: In offering: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 4: In repentance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 5: In our inheritance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 6: In saying our "Yes": We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 7: In fidelity: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 8: In consecration: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

**Fifth Major Octave: THE SENDING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, OUR SANCTIFIER –
SPIRIT OF GOD AND THE THIRD PERSON OF THE HOLY TRINITY**

Let us meditate on how Jesus, after completing His Mission for God Our Father, asked Him to send the Holy Spirit, a newly revealed manifestation of God – The Third Person of the Holy Trinity:

The Holy Spirit was sent (1) to lead us on our journey back home to Our Father and (2) to purify and refine us so that we could become living tabernacles of the indwelling presence of God. Before ascending to His Father, Jesus promised that He would not leave us orphans. He asked God, Our Father to send the Holy Spirit. In doing this, God could again be present with us in a new way. It was now "possible" for God, not only to be "with" us (as in Old Testament times), but "in" us (Jn 14:16-17). *Our Father...*

Minor Octave (eight red beads):

Bead 1: In praise: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 2: In thanksgiving: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 3: In offering: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 4: In repentance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 5: In our inheritance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 6: In saying our "Yes": We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 7: In fidelity: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 8: In consecration: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

**Sixth Major Octave: THE CHOICE OF GOD'S PRODIGAL CHILDREN
TO RETURN TO THEIR FATHER**

Let us meditate on (1) how we are all prodigal children of God Our Father and (2) how He has provided every one of us with the opportunity to make a free-will choice to return to Him:

As prodigal children of God Our Father, we are given the opportunity - individually and collectively, to make a sincere, free-will decision to return to our Father's House. This means deciding to turn away from our own will, our own sinfulness, our own worldliness, and "convert" or turn back towards the presence of God Our Father (Lk 15:11-24). *Our Father...*

Minor Octave (eight red beads):

Bead 1: In praise: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 2: In thanksgiving: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 3: In offering: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 4: In repentance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 5: In our inheritance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 6: In saying our "Yes": We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 7: In fidelity: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 8: In consecration: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

**Seventh Major Octave: THE FIAT OF GOD OUR FATHER'S CHILDREN -
INDIVIDUALLY AND AS THE BODY OF CHRIST**

Let us meditate on how, in consecrating ourselves to God Our Father and saying "Yes," unconditionally, to His Will, we find our way home to Him – we become living tabernacles of the indwelling presence of God:

In giving our "Yes" to God Our Father, in agreeing to do His Will in all things, in giving ourselves completely to Him, He comes to dwell in us and we dwell in Him – we are home with our Father. We become temples of the Living God (2 Cor 6: 16). In a sense, heaven and earth are joined: "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Mt 6: 10). Our Father...

Minor Octave (eight red beads):

Bead 1: In praise: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 2: In thanksgiving: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 3: In offering: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 4: In repentance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 5: In our inheritance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 6: In saying our "Yes": We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 7: In fidelity: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 8: In consecration: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Eighth Major Octave: THE COMING OF THE NEW JERUSALEM

Let us meditate on the eventual conclusion of our Salvation History: the New Jerusalem promised in the Book of Revelation – when heaven and earth will be transformed, when mankind will finally be fully restored to God our Father, and when God will manifest His presence and dwell with His children forever in a new way.

THEN I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

AND I saw the holy city, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband; and I heard a great voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God Himself will be with them; He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away."

AND HE WHO sat upon the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." Also He said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water without price from the fountain of the water of life. He who conquers shall have this heritage, and I will be his God and he shall be My son." (Rev 21:1-7) Our Father...

Minor Octave (eight red beads):

Bead 1: In praise: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 2: In thanksgiving: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 3: In offering: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 4: In repentance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 5: In our inheritance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 6: In saying our "Yes": We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 7: In fidelity: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 8: In consecration: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

On the Medal of The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father:

CONSECRATION PRAYER OF THE HOLY OCTAVE OF CONSECRATION TO GOD OUR FATHER

OUR DEAREST FATHER, please accept this offering of ourselves – our bodies, minds, and souls.

We *praise* Thee for Thy Creation – all Thy works and wonders.

We *thank* Thee for giving us life and for all that Thou hast done for us.

We *offer* up to Thee all that Thou hast so generously given us.

We are sincerely sorry for not knowing, loving, serving, and honoring Thee as we should.

We embrace our inheritance as Thy child, both the joy and the responsibilities.

We give Thee our "Yes" so that we may be instruments of Thy Will.

We pledge our *fidelity* to Thee and we ask for the grace of steadfastness and perseverance in our Faith.

Most loving, caring, and merciful of Fathers, in Thy Divine Presence, we sincerely proclaim our love for Thee; we give ourselves and our family to Thee; and we solemnly *consecrate* ourselves and our family to Thee – now and forever.

Dearest Father, as Thy child, we ask:

- That Thou send Mary to guide us to Jesus, and that Jesus sends us the Holy Spirit so that they may all bring us to Thee.
- That Thou dwell with us and in us – living temples prepared by Mary, dedicated by Jesus, and purified by Thy Holy Spirit. And may we always be with Thee and in Thee. That Thou permit us, as Thy children, to be Thy true and intimate friends – who loves Thee above all things. And that Thou come for us when we die, to bring us home to Thee.

We further ask Thee, Father, for the sake of all mankind:

- To have mercy on all Thy children: past, present, and future.
- To bring peace to the world and to gather all Thy children to Thyself.
- And that Thy Kingdom comes and Thy Will is done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Now Proceed to the Litany:

THE LITANY

The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father

Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*

Christ, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*

Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*

Christ, hear us. *Christ, graciously hear us.*

God, the Father of Heaven. *Have mercy on us.*

God, the Son, Redeemer of the World. *Have mercy on us.*

God, the Holy Spirit. *Have mercy on us.*

Holy Trinity, one God. *Have mercy on us.*

God Our Father saved eight people on Noe's Ark. **R.** *Have mercy on us, O Loving Father.*

God Our Father decreed that all male babies be circumcised on the eighth day as a sign of His Covenant with us. **R.**

God Our Father manifested Himself to Moses and His children after they completed an eight-day period of consecration and offering to Him. **R.**

God Our Father instituted the eight-day Feast of Tabernacles to remind His children that He was with them, loved them, and brought them out of the bondage of Egypt. **R.**

God Our Father accepted purification offerings from His children on the final eighth day of ritual cleansing. **R.**

God Our Father was glorified when David, the eighth son of Jesse, brought the Ark of the Covenant into the City of David amidst praises sung for the octave upon harps. **R.**

God Our Father heard David's repentant cry played on an eight-stringed harp. **R.**

God Our Father was glorified when Solomon completed the House of the Lord in the eighth month of the year. **R.**

God Our Father filled the Temple with His majesty and came to dwell with His children on the eighth day of Solomon's Feast of the Dedication. **R.**

The Presence of God Our Father was to be approached by eight steps in the new Temple envisioned by His prophet Ezekiel. **R.**

God Our Father was glorified when His defiled Temple was purified and re-dedicated by the Maccabees during the eight-day Feast of the Dedication. **R.**

God Our Father made a new covenant with His children, through Jesus, His Son, Who was circumcised on the eighth day. **R.**

God Our Father revealed His Son Jesus during the Transfiguration, eight days after Jesus fed the multitudes. **R.**

God Our Father was glorified when, from Solomon's Porch in the Temple, on the eight-day Feast of the Dedication, His Son, Jesus, revealed that He was consecrated to God Our Father and that He and the Father were one. **R.**

God Our Father was glorified after His Son, Jesus, rose from the dead on the eighth day of His week of Passion and Redemption for our sins. **R.**

God Our Father was glorified when Jesus showed His wounds to unbelieving Thomas eight days after His Resurrection. **R.**

Let us Pray

DEAREST GOD, OUR FATHER, let us know, love, and honor Thee through eight days of purification and dedication, as Thou willed it throughout our Salvation History. And may *The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father* and its eighth solemn day, *The Feast of the Father of All Mankind*, serve to bring all Thy children back home to Thee.

MAY THIS BE granted through Thy Love and the Love of Jesus, our God and Savior; the Holy Spirit, our God and Sanctifier; and Mary, our Mother. Amen.

Now Proceed with the Daily Theme:

Suggested Daily Devotional Practices:

1. Holy Mass (Recommended)

2. The Formal Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father Chaplet
3. The Litany of The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father
4. Daily Meditation on a Minor Octave Theme (See Below)

For Day Eight: The Offering Cloth – held in an open hand during recitation of the Day Eight Daily Theme and, thereafter, during a prayer of daily offering: the chaplet or the short prayer, "I love you, Father, and I give myself to Thee." Ideally, Offering Cloths should be blessed before the formal consecration on "The Feast of the Father of All Mankind." However, this can be done by a priest at any time.

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## DAY ONE

### Daily Theme: Praise

*"I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have being." (Ps 146:2)*

Glory to Thee, God our Father!

Thou, Who made the universe and all that is in it.

Thou, Who made the brightest star and the darkest ocean depth.

Thou, Who made the fiercest storm and the gentlest summer breeze.

Thou, Who made the heavenly angels, as well as the beasts, birds, and fishes of the earth.

Thou, Who made us, created in Thy image and likeness.

We praise Thee, God our Father – now and forever! Amen.

[Meditate on the wonders God Our Father has created, and praise Him in your own thoughts and words.]

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DAY TWO

Daily Theme: Thanksgiving

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits." (Ps 103:2)

We Thank Thee, our dearest Father, for loving us into existence.

We Thank Thee for this body, mind, and soul that Thou fashioned specially for us.

We Thank Thee for the people and circumstances of our lives.

We Thank Thee for opening our eyes, ears, and hearts so that we may see, hear, and love Thee.

We Thank Thee for taking us by the hand and leading us back home through all the dangers and difficulties of our lives.

We Thank Thee for loving us. Amen.

[Meditate on all that God Our Father has given you. Thank Him in your own words.]

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## DAY THREE

### Daily Theme: Offering

*"And like living stones be yourselves built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." (1 Pet 2:5)*

Thou hast given us everything, Father.

Thou hast given us Thyself!

What can we possibly offer Thee?

Let us offer Thee the first fruits, the best fruits, of all we do or receive.

Let all Thy children offer themselves as the fruit of Thy Tree of Life,

Ripened on the sacrifices, sufferings, and crosses of their earthly journeys,

So that the worldwide effects of Thy children's "No" – darkness, discord, and disorder.

May be transformed and made new, through Thy Light and Love.

We raise our arms in offering to Thee, Father.

Receive all Thou hast given us into Thy Paternal Heart. Amen.

[Meditate on what you can offer up to God Our Father. Offer back to Him all that He has given you, the blessings and the crosses, so that all may be transformed in His Love.]

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DAY FOUR

Daily Theme: Repentance

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort."

(2 Corinthians 1:3)

Our Good Father, Thou are all loving, But Thou art also Just.

How can Thy children ever make reparation for all their sins?

How can they ever hope to balance Thy Scales of Justice, especially in these times:

- these times when so many of Thy children say "No" to Thee,
- these times when so many of Thy children reject Thy Will,
- these times when so many of Thy children no longer believe in Thee and have enthroned themselves as "gods,"
- these times when so many of Thy children embrace the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.

They have embraced the lie; they have embraced death.

Shower us with Thy Grace and Mercy, Father. Cleanse us in Thy tears,

Allow us to be compassionate warriors of Thy Mercy on earth,

So that Thy Sword of Justice may be transformed into a loving means of Thy Mercy. Amen.

[Meditate on all the many ways you have hurt or offended God Our Father. Ask for His forgiveness and mercy. Ask for the grace to know, love, serve, and honor Him and to do His Will in all things.]

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## DAY FIVE

Daily Theme: Inheritance

*"For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the spirit of sonship. When we cry, Abba! Father! it is the Spirit Himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him." (Romans 8:14-17)*

Dearest God Our Father:

With awe and wonder, we have learned to praise Thee and all of Thy creation,

With sincere gratefulness, we have learned to thank Thee for Thy boundless generosity.

With humility and love, we have learned to offer up to Thee all that Thou hast given us.

With a sorrowful but hopeful heart, we have learned to ask for Thy forgiveness and tender mercy.

And now that we can fully appreciate that Thou exist, that Thou art God, that Thou created this entire universe, that Thou created us,

We now learn that in addition to these wonders, Thou art truly our Father and we are truly Thy children.

How can our hearts contain the excitement – we are not only Thy creatures, but we are actually Thy children!

Thou created us in Thy own image so that we could spend eternity with Thee. Thou love us that much.

But even though Thou have told us this in Holy Scriptures and through the teachings of the Church, our ears have not heard the words, our hearts were hardened.  
We had wandered far away – from Thy voice, Thy Heart, Thy Love for us.  
But now the veil is lifted, the fog has cleared. We see, we hear, we understand!  
Thou art truly our Father and we are truly Thy children! We are Thy prodigal children, running back to Thee, into Thy waiting arms.  
We are coming home, to Thee, our Father, where we belong. Please hold us tightly to Thy Heart and never let us go – now and forever. Amen.

[Meditate on what it means to have God as your true Father and for you to be His true child. What does this legacy mean? Think about the tremendous joy and responsibilities that this involves.]

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DAY SIX

Daily Theme: Our Fiat (Saying "Yes" to God Our Father)

"Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your I word." (Lk 1:38)

"My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will but as Thou wilt." (Mt 26:39)

Our Good and Loving Father:

Please allow us the privilege of saying our "Yes" to Thee! We say "Yes" to Thee, Father, in all things.

Not a conditional "Yes" that involves doing only those things that are comfortable or easy.

Not a conditional "Yes" that means doing only those things that benefit us.

No, we give Thee our "Yes" in all things, Father,

Because we know Thou are pure Love and as pure Love, Thou can transform all things.

Doing Thy Will can never hurt us.

Doing Thy Will can never harm another.

Doing Thy Will can never separate us from Thee.

Doing Thy Will can only bring about the rhythm and harmony of Thy Will here on earth.

Doing Thy Will can only spread Thy Light and Love. Doing Thy Will can only help bring us to Thee.

Doing Thy Will can only help us bring others to Thee. When we step inside Thy Will, we are dancing with Thee in the order, rhythm, and harmony of Thy Divine Will. When we step outside Thy Will, we are stumbling alone in the chaos, disorder, and discord of darkness.

Let us listen to Thy gentle, loving voice beckoning us, inviting us into Thy Divine Will.

We are Thine, Lord, do with us what Thou wilt. Because we know that Thy Will is Love.

Even when Thy Will may seem painful or unfair,

We know that Thy ways are not always man's ways. Only Thou can see the grand scheme of things. Only Thou know the "whys" of our crosses.

But despite what may sometimes appear to be unjust, we trust in Thee totally.

Why? Because Thou art our Father - and Thou lovest us. Thou wantest only what is good for us.

Thou wantest us to come home – to Thee.

There's nothing in heaven or on earth that we want more. So we say "Yes," Father! We say "Yes" to Thee!

We say "Yes" to the rhythm and harmony of Thy Divine Will. Amen.

[Meditate on what it means to give your fiat, your "Yes" to God Our Father. How will this change your life? How will this change your relationship with God; with others?]



DAY SEVEN

Daily Theme: Fidelity

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." (2 Tim 4:7)

Dearest Father, our Love and our Life:

We pledge our faith, hope, and love, as a precious gift, a promise, of our unconditional fidelity to Thee. Know that we trust in Thy love for us.

Give us the strength, courage, and perseverance to never doubt, never stray, never despair.

Please bless this vow and make of us Thy gentle warriors,

Battling the darkness with Thy Sweet Sword of Love and Mercy.

As Thou will never abandon us, we pray that we will never abandon Thee.

Please press us tenderly to Thy heart, and never let us go.

In Thee, Father, we trust! Amen.

[Meditate on pledging your fidelity to God Our Father. What does it mean to be loyal and committed to God? Do you feel committed to returning to your Father? Do you want to help others return, too? What does it mean to be a "gentle warrior" of God Our Father's Love and Mercy here on earth? Like St. Paul, when you die, will you feel as though you've fought a good fight?]

DAY EIGHT

Daily Theme: Consecration

"For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people." (2 Cor. 6:16)

Dearest God Our Father:

We call upon Thee to witness and participate in our solemn consecration to Thee. After seven days of preparation, we come to Thee now as the ones who are still learning how to know and love Thee, how to praise and thank Thee, how to offer up to Thee all the blessings and crosses Thou hast given us, and how to ask for Thy forgiveness and mercy. We also come to Thee as warriors, strong in our resolve to serve and honor Thee. But most importantly, we come to Thee as wide-eyed children, filled with awe and wonder in the knowledge that we are truly Thy children and that Thou, Creator of the vast universe, are truly our Father.

Although we have wandered far from Thee in our lifetimes, we choose now to return, for we long to be with Thee in Thy house forever.

In Thy Divine Presence, with full knowledge and free will, we consecrate ourselves to Thee this day. Like small children, we approach Thee; we lay tenderly against Thy Fatherly Heart, and we ask that Thee to hold us tightly and never let us go.

Let us be temples for Thee to dwell in, Father. And with the greatest love and tenderness, may we be Thy gentle and loyal companions, carrying Thee within us all the days of our lives. May we bring Thee to our families and friends, to strangers we have yet to meet, so that they might also see Thy Light and feel Thy tender Love.

When Thou dwell in us, there is a blessed connection between heaven and earth. May more and more of Thy children consecrate themselves to Thee. As Jesus taught us to pray, may **"Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done on earth as it is in heaven."** Amen.

[Meditate on what it means to be "consecrated" to God Our Father. The word consecration means to "make holy" or "to give oneself for a holy purpose." How does this change your life? How does this change your relationship with God Our Father? How can you "live" your consecration every day?]

DAILY CHAPLET TO GOD OUR FATHER

God is Our Father



Abba, The Eternal Father

For Daily Prayer After Formal Consecration

This concise version of the chaplet is provided at the end of the booklet for easy reference. In contrast to the extended version which is provided for the formal eight-day consecration, this concise version is easily memorized and may conveniently be used on a daily basis-especially after completion of the formal eight-day consecration. As was mentioned previously, we strongly recommend that the formal consecration be renewed, yearly during The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father, culminating on The Feast of the Father of All Mankind, and that the chaplet (either the formal or daily version) be prayed on a daily basis.

On the Medal of The Holy Octave of Consecration to God Our Father:

Sign of the Cross: In the name of The ✝ Father, and of The Son, and of The Holy Ghost. Amen.

DEAREST GOD, OUR FATHER, we humbly ask that on our journey home to Thee, Thy Holy Angels protect and guide us; that Thy blessed Saints in Heaven intercede for us; and that Thy suffering souls in Purgatory pray for us, as we pray for them now. Amen.

Bead 1: 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.

Bead 2: Jesus, our God and our Savior, Thou loved us so much, Thou died for us on the Cross, so that we, too, could return to our Father in Heaven. Thou art the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Through Thy Holy Eucharist, please sustain us and be present with us always on our journey home. Amen.

Bead 3: Holy Spirit, our God and our Sanctifier, Jesus sent Thee to us for our journey back home to the Father. Please purify and refine us. Fill us with Thy Divine Light and Love so that the Presence of God may dwell in us. Amen.

First Major Octave: THE DISOBEDIENCE AND EXILE OF GOD OUR FATHER'S CHILDREN

On the first **gold bead**: *Our Father...*

Minor Octave (**eight red beads**):

Bead 1: In praise: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 2: In thanksgiving: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 3: In offering: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 4: In repentance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 5: In our inheritance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 6: In saying our "Yes": We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 7: In fidelity: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 8: In consecration: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Second Major Octave: THE PRESENCE OF GOD OUR FATHER IN THE OLD TESTAMENT ERA

On the first **gold bead**: *Our Father...*

Minor Octave (**eight red beads**):

Bead 1: In praise: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 2: In thanksgiving: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 3: In offering: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 4: In repentance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 5: In our inheritance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 6: In saying our "Yes": We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 7: In fidelity: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 8: In consecration: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Third Major Octave: THE FIAT OF MARY, OUR MOTHER

On the first **gold bead**: *Our Father...*

Minor Octave (**eight red beads**):

Bead 1: In praise: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 2: In thanksgiving: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 3: In offering: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 4: In repentance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 5: In our inheritance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 6: In saying our "Yes": We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 7: In fidelity: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 8: In consecration: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Fourth Major Octave: THE FIAT OF JESUS, OUR SAVIOR

On the first **gold bead**: *Our Father...*

Minor Octave (**eight red beads**):

Bead 1: In praise: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 2: In thanksgiving: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 3: In offering: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 4: In repentance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 5: In our inheritance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 6: In saying our "Yes": We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 7: In fidelity: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 8: In consecration: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Fifth Major Octave: THE SENDING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, OUR SANCTIFIER

On the first gold bead: Our Father...

Minor Octave (eight red beads):

Bead 1: In praise: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 2: In thanksgiving: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 3: In offering: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 4: In repentance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 5: In our inheritance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 6: In saying our "Yes": We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 7: In fidelity: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 8: In consecration: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

**Sixth Major Octave: THE CHOICE OF GOD'S PRODIGAL CHILDREN
TO RETURN TO THEIR FATHER**

On the first gold bead: Our Father...

Minor Octave (eight red beads):

Bead 1: In praise: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 2: In thanksgiving: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 3: In offering: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 4: In repentance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 5: In our inheritance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 6: In saying our "Yes": We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 7: In fidelity: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 8: In consecration: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Seventh Major Octave: THE FIAT OF GOD OUR FATHER'S CHILDREN

On the first gold bead: Our Father...

Minor Octave (eight red beads):

Bead 1: In praise: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 2: In thanksgiving: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 3: In offering: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 4: In repentance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 5: In our inheritance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 6: In saying our "Yes": We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 7: In fidelity: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 8: In consecration: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Eighth Major Octave: THE COMING OF THE NEW JERUSALEM

On the first gold bead: Our Father...

Minor Octave (eight red beads):

Bead 1: In praise: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 2: In thanksgiving: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 3: In offering: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 4: In repentance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 5: In our inheritance: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 6: In saying our "Yes": We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 7: In fidelity: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

Bead 8: In consecration: We love Thee, Father, and we give ourselves to Thee!

CONSECRATION PRAYER OF THE HOLY OCTAVE OF CONSECRATION TO GOD OUR FATHER

OUR DEAREST FATHER, please accept this offering of ourselves – our bodies, minds, and souls.

We *praise* Thee for Thy Creation – all Thy works and wonders.

We *thank* Thee for giving us life and for all that Thou hast done for us.

We *offer* up to Thee all that Thou hast so generously given us.

We are sincerely sorry for not knowing, loving, serving, and honoring Thee as we should.

We embrace our inheritance as Thy child, both the joy and the responsibilities.

We give Thee our "Yes" so that we may be instruments of Thy Will.

We pledge our *fidelity* to Thee and we ask for the grace of steadfastness and perseverance in our Faith.

Most loving, caring, and merciful of Fathers, in Thy Divine Presence, we sincerely proclaim our love for Thee; we give ourselves and our family to Thee; and we solemnly *consecrate* ourselves and our family to Thee – now and forever.

Dearest Father, as Thy child, we ask:

- That Thou send Mary to guide us to Jesus, and that Jesus sends us the Holy Spirit so that they may all bring us to Thee.
- That Thou dwell with us and in us – living temples prepared by Mary, dedicated by Jesus, and purified by Thy Holy Spirit. And may we always be with Thee and in Thee. That Thou permit us, as Thy children, to be Thy true and intimate friends – who loves Thee above all things. And that Thou come for us when we die, to bring us home to Thee.

We further ask Thee, Father, for the sake of all mankind:

- To have mercy on all Thy children: past, present, and future.
- To bring peace to the world and to gather all Thy children to Thyself.
- And that Thy Kingdom comes and Thy Will is done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Closing Prayer:

DEAREST GOD, OUR FATHER, We love Thee! We adore Thee! We worship Thee! Amen.

