

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF SORROWS

For the defeat of the NSW Abortion Bill

Saturday 7 September – Sunday 15 September



1. Mary receives Simeon's prophecy with faith (Lk. 2: 26-35)

“Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to thy people Israel.” And his father and his mother marvelled at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against. And a sword will pierce through your own soul also that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed.”

Ponder in your heart the sorrow Our Lady experienced here

Intention

For expectant mothers...

Prayer

Dearest Mother, Our Lady of Sorrows, we pray for expectant mothers who are considering or who are being pressured into having an abortion today. Intercede for them that they may have the courage to carry their unborn children to birth. Be their sure support in times of worry or despair and draw them close to your maternal heart.

Pray seven Hail Marys in honour of the Sorrows of Our Blessed Mother



2. Mary flees into Egypt with Jesus and Joseph (Mt. 2: 13-14)

Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, and departed to Egypt.

Ponder in your heart the sorrow Our Lady experienced here

Intention

For expectant fathers...

Prayer

Dearest Mother, Our Lady of Sorrows, we pray today for expectant fathers that they may support the women who carry their unborn children. May they be courageous like St Joseph and be there to protect and accompany the mother especially where abortion may seem to be the only way forward. Guide them to make the right decision when they go astray and draw them close to your maternal heart.

Pray seven Hail Marys in honour of the Sorrows of Our Blessed Mother



3. Mary seeks the lost Jesus in Jerusalem (Lk. 2: 41-51)

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when they saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been looking for you anxiously." And he said to them, "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying which he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart.

Ponder in your heart the sorrow Our Lady experienced here

Intention

For parents wounded by the loss of a child through abortion...

Prayer

Dearest Mother, Our Lady of Sorrows, we pray today for parents who have lost children through the decision to have an abortion. Through your compassionate intercession, may they experience the Father's mercy and unconditional love. Lead them to your Son so that, under His merciful gaze, their hearts may be opened to receive the consolation and healing they most yearn for.

Pray seven Hail Marys in honour of the Sorrows of Our Blessed Mother



4. Judas betrays Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane (Lk. 22: 47-51)

While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him, "Judas, would you betray the Son of man with a kiss?" And when those who were about him saw what would follow, they said, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?" And one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him.

Ponder in your heart the sorrow Our Lady experienced here

Intention

For those who have encouraged women to have abortions...

Prayer

Dearest Mother, Our Lady of Sorrows, we pray today for those who have encouraged women to have an abortion or have supported them financially to do so. By your constant prayer for their conversion, may they see the hurt they have brought about and recognise that they too are in need of God's mercy and healing. Be their sure light, lead them to the Truth, so that they may know the love of your maternal heart.

Pray seven Hail Marys in honour of the Sorrows of Our Blessed Mother



5. Mary meets Jesus on the road to Calvary (Lk. 23: 26-27)

And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. And there followed him a great multitude of the people, and of women who bewailed and lamented him.

Ponder in your heart the sorrow Our Lady experienced here

Intention

For politicians and legislators who have supported laws that condone abortion...

Prayer

Dearest Mother, Our Lady of Sorrows, we pray today for those who have written, lobbied for, and supported laws that bring about the death of unborn children through abortion. Pray for them, you who are the Queen of Heaven and Earth, that they may turn from this path of evil and walk anew in the light of Truth. Intercede powerfully for them so that they, too, may experience the intimacy of your maternal heart.

Pray seven Hail Marys in honour of the Sorrows of Our Blessed Mother



6. Mary stands at the foot of the Cross (Jn. 19: 25-27)

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

Ponder in your heart the sorrow Our Lady experienced here

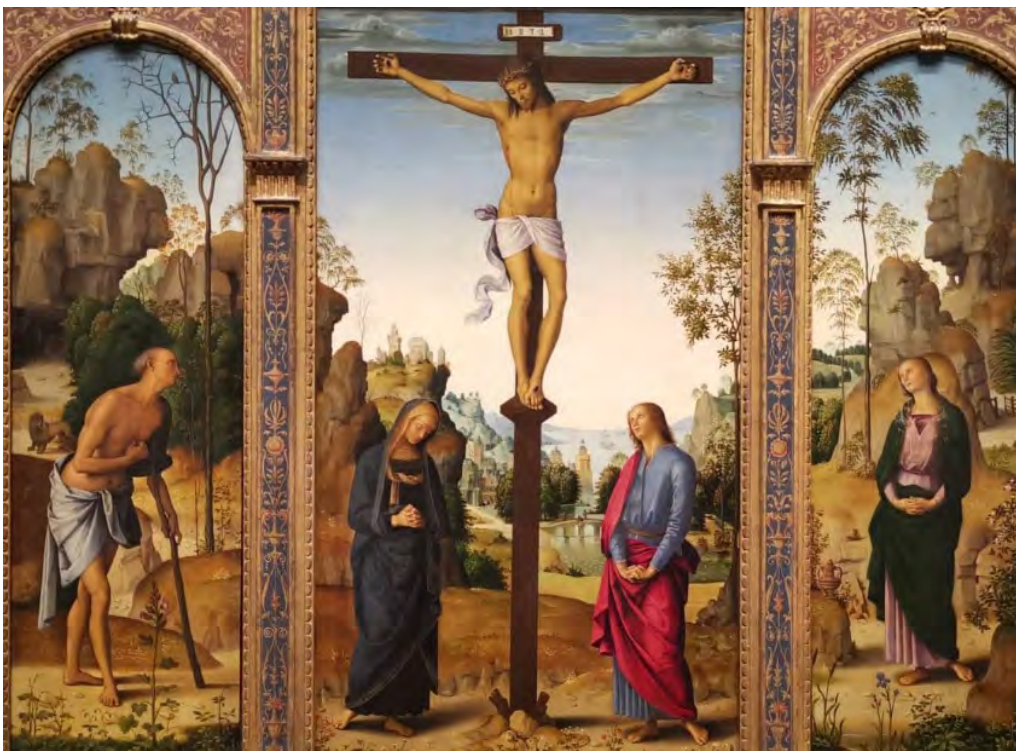
Intention

For doctors, nurses and assistants who carry out abortions...

Prayer

Dearest Mother, Our Lady of Sorrows, we pray today for doctors, nurses and their assistants who daily take away the life of unborn children through the scourge of abortion. Be their powerful advocate so that the grace and mercy won by your Son as he hung on the tree of Calvary, may enlighten their conscience and bring about their eternal salvation. Be a Mother to them especially those who suffer extreme remorse for what they have done.

Pray seven Hail Marys in honour of the Sorrows of Our Blessed Mother



7. Mary accepts the body of Jesus from the Cross (Mt. 27: 57-59)

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body, and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud.

Ponder in your heart the sorrow Our Lady experienced here

Intention

For those who advocate for the right to life of unborn children...

Prayer

Dearest Mother, Our Lady of Sorrows, we pray today for those who advocate on behalf of unborn children and their mothers. Be their powerful mediatrix and grant them the grace of perseverance and courage as they seek to defend the right to life of their brothers and sisters still in the womb. Give them your grace and strength and let them rest always in your immaculate and maternal heart.

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8. Mary places the body of Jesus in the tomb and awaits the Resurrection (Jn. 19: 40-42)

They took the body of Jesus, and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb where no one had ever been laid. So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, as the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

Ponder in your heart the sorrow Our Lady experienced here

Intention

For unborn children...

Prayer

Dearest Mother, Our Lady of Sorrows, we pray for unborn children who face the threat of abortion today. Shield them from the hands of those who seek to take their life and advocate for them the gift of growing up with a loving family. May they, through your efficacious prayer, receive in time the grace of Baptism and the opportunity to live a life ever close to your maternal heart.

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9. Our Lady visits the places of Jesus' Passion

And he said to all, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake, he will save it.

Ponder in your heart the sorrow Our Lady experienced here

Intention

For the defeat of the NSW Abortion Bill...

Prayer

Dearest Mother, Our Lady of Sorrows, we pray today for the defeat of the NSW Abortion Bill. Through your powerful intercession, may the Premier of NSW and her fellow members of Parliament know the truth and inherent dignity of unborn children within the womb of their mothers and act in accordance with right conscience and the commandments of Almighty God. Oh Mother of the Word Incarnate and Our Lady of Sorrows, open your gentle and loving hands and impart the floodtide of grace that we so need at this critical time in the history of our nation Australia.

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We ask this in Jesus' all powerful name. Amen

