

novena in honor of
the 345th baptismal anniversary
of mother IGNACIA DEL ESPIRITU SANTO

OPENING PRAYER FOR EACH DAY: Prayer for the Beatification

Father in heaven ...

FIRST DAY: "THE FAITH OF MOTHER IGNACIA DEL ESPIRITU SANTO"

Scripture Reading: *"Whoever does the will of God is brother and sister and mother to me." (Mk. 3:35)*

Reflection: The virtue of faith implanted in Ignacia at baptism finds expression in her maturing years in her posture of seeking and doing the will of the Father.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, your Son Jesus Christ taught us to seek and do your will in all things and in all events. Through the intercession of your handmaid Ignacia, grant our prayers, and especially grace us with a readiness to accept your will always. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was ...

SECOND DAY: "THE COURAGE OF MOTHER IGNACIA"

Scripture Reading: *"I am sure of this much: that He who has begun the good work in you will carry it through to completion, right up to the day of Christ Jesus." (Phil.1:6)*

Reflection: If faith prompted Mother Ignacia to seek the Father's will at all times, this same faith gave her the courage to do it: to overcome obstacles that stood between her and the foundation of the religious family God called her to establish.

Prayer: Father, your Son Jesus urged us to bravely take up our cross to follow Him. Help us to overcome courageously the obstacles around us and especially those within us that still prevent us from becoming your faithful children. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was ...

THIRD DAY: "THE OBEDIENCE OF MOTHER IGNACIA"

Scripture Reading: *"None of those who cry out "Lord, Lord," will enter the kingdom of God but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven." (Mt. 7:21)*

Reflection: The life of Mother Ignacia reflected her triple loyalty: to God, to the Church, and to God's people. In anticipation of God's will in her life, she made herself constantly disposed to accept this will at all times, in all places, and under all circumstances.

Prayer: Father, your Son Jesus said "My meat is to do the will of him who sent me." Through the intercession of Mother Ignacia del Espiritu Santo, please answer our needs, especially for the grace of doing your will always. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was ...

FOURTH DAY: "THE HUMILITY OF MOTHER IGNACIA"

Scripture Reading: *"Anyone among you who aspires to greatness must serve the rest, and whoever wants to rank first among you must serve the needs of all. (Mt. 20:26-27)*

Reflection: Pedro Murillo Velarde, the eyewitness biographer of Mother Ignacia, was most impressed by her humility. She exhorted her religious family to the practice of humility in her Constitution. But the crowning of her own virtue was exemplified when she voluntarily abdicated her position as Superior more than ten years before her death.

Prayer: Father, your daughter Ignacia overcame the human prosperity to pride by her voluntary choice of the way of humility. Please grant our petition today, especially that of learning from the meek and humble Christ. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was ...

FIFTH DAY: "HOPE IN THE POVERTY OF MOTHER IGNACIA"

Scripture Reading: *"Seek first this kingship over you, his way of holiness, and all things will be given you besides." (Mt. 6:33)*

Reflection: The virtue of hope lived out by Mother Ignacia reflects her full trust and confidence in the God whom she had offered her entire life. In this same trust she voluntarily chose a life of poverty, to "live by the sweat of her brow" although she still had parents who were materially well-off. Her simple and frugal life attracted many to follow her.

novena in honor of
the 345th baptismal anniversary
of mother ignacia del espiritu santo

Prayer: God, in your Divine Providence, teach us to place our confidence in your abiding love for us. After the example of your handmaid Ignacia, help us to appreciate the dignity of honest labor and the value of being poor with your Son, Jesus Christ. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was ...

SIXTH DAY: "THE CHARITY OF MOTHER IGNACIA"

Scripture Reading: *"I give you a new commandment. Love one another. Such as my love has been for you, so must your love be for each other. This is how all will know you for my disciple: your love for one another."* (Jn. 13:34)

Reflection: When Mother Ignacia instructed her beatas to "serve God our Lord with all their hearts" she reflected what in her own sense and practice was her love for neighbor. Her "all embracing love in Jesus Christ" included the less privileged Yndias and Chinese mestizas as well as Spanish girls and ladies in search of spiritual formation and education in her times.

Prayer: Father of love and mercy, Jesus said that the mark of his disciples is their love for one another. Through the prayers of Mother Ignacia del Espiritu Santo grant us unity in our purpose and charity for all. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was ...

SEVENTH DAY: "THE BAPTISM OF MOTHER IGNACIA"

Scripture Reading: *"I solemnly assure you, no one can enter into God's kingdom without being begotten of water and Spirit."* (Mt. 3:11)

Reflection: On March 4, 1663 Ignacia received baptism in the name of Jesus Christ, the gift of the Holy Spirit became indelibly marked in her with the devotional name given her: del Espiritu Santo. The 85 years that she lived was characterized by fidelity to the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

Prayer: God, our loving Father, you have gifted your handmaid Ignacia with openness to the direction of the Holy Spirit. We ask you to grant our petitions, through her intercession, and especially gift us with docility to your will at all times. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was ...

EIGHTH DAY: "MARY AND MOTHER IGNACIA"

Scripture Reading: *"His mother instructed those waiting on table: Do whatever he tells you."* (Jn. 2:5)

Reflection: From the earliest years of her foundation, Mother Ignacia had placed her religious community under the patronage of Mary in her glorious Assumption, and held the Mother of God as model and mother of the Beaterio. Her own life reflected that attitude of Mary, the handmaid of the Lord, ready to do God's will at all times.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, you inspired Mother Ignacia del Espiritu Santo to imitate the disposition of Mary, the perfect disciple. Grant us our petitions, especially that of imitating the virtues of Mary, our Mother. Help us grow in the discerning posture of Mary and the humble servanthood of Mother Ignacia in our service to your people. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was ...

NINTH DAY: "THE EUCHARIST AND MOTHER IGNACIA"

Scripture Reading: *"I am the bread of life ... If anyone eats this bread will live forever; the bread I will give is flesh for the life of the world."* (Jn. 6:48)

Reflection: Mother Ignacia led a life that is centered in the Eucharist. Hers is a life of prayer and devotion to the Eucharist. She died kneeling after receiving the Body of Jesus. It is a reward for a life of prayer and penance.

Prayer: O Eternal Father, we adore you, praise you, and thank you for the graces and gifts you have generously bestowed upon your lowly handmaid, Ignacia del Espiritu Santo. Trusting in your love and mercy we hope to obtain the favor we earnestly desire, to live and to die in your love. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen.

END