



~~JOHN~~. JOHN J. WOJTAN  
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**M**ARTYRS' LITANY, published by the  
Society of St. Ann, New York. It is the  
lit of the martyrs of Saint Isaac Jogues, the  
Venerable John Landry, of Huron, and the Disci-  
ples of Robert Tekonoffin.

Martyr, Ignace, is the lit of the Martyrs of  
France of the Society, who were martyred by Louis  
Jou de Brabant and Commanche. It is the lit of  
St. Marie des Neiges.

The prayers for the martyrs are with the words  
taken from the translation of the Martyrs' Litany  
by Marquette, Desjardins and Gagnon, entitled  
"The Mass Every Day in the Year."

The litanies attributed to the Martyrs of the  
Martyrs are from authentic sources reported first  
in the "Martyrs' Litany" of the Martyrs of the  
Hill, First St. Marie, and the late Father Gagnon of  
Montreal. They must all be invoked the will of the  
Martyrs and to report litanies received.

The litanies reported were obtained from a group  
of monks, sometimes with other systems, the appli-  
cation of the Martyrs' relics, manual or printed, and  
it seems to be simply marking them as they were to use  
of the litanies mentioned above.

Father Lally, of Montreal, permits use of prayer.

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For information, address Rev. John J. Wozniak,  
S.J., who was V. Pontifical for the Commanche  
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## NOVENA

**N**OVENA means nine successive days of prayer. The first novena began after Our Lord ascended into heaven. It lasted nine days until on Pentecost Sunday the Holy Ghost came upon the Apostles and Disciples who, with Our Blessed Mother, were awaiting His coming, "persevering with one mind in prayer" (Acts 1, 14). That is the model novena. Through the Church we are still reaping its fruit.

Why nine days? Because so many days of earnest prayer and the blessings they bring dispose us to persevere in prayer, to do Our Lord's bidding by "praying at all times" (Luke 21, 36).

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Usually a novena is made before some Feast, as of Pentecost, the Sacred Heart, the Immaculate Conception, or the Feast of some Saint, or group of Saints, like our Jesuit Martyrs. The practice is good at any time, whenever one desires to honor some Mystery or Saint, or obtain special blessings.

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For many reasons a public novena in honor of the only canonized Saints of North America should be a nation-wide observance prior to their Feast, 26 September. If a novena be inconvenient the following reflections and prayers can easily be adapted for a triduum, or the triduum can be in honor of Goupil, Lalonde, Jogues, who were martyred on our own soil.

When the Book of Life is opened to our gaze it will rejoice us to see the names of countless men and women who have consecrated by their labors, some even by

shedding their blood, this well-favored land of ours. Some day we may hope to have, as in other countries, our American Book of Saints: for this we should pray.

Meanwhile we should honor those who can obtain for us great blessings as they did even in the day of their earthly pilgrimage and trial. Whether it be made publicly or privately, let this become a favorite novena, made with some of the affection these martyrs have for us.

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Saint was the name for all followers of Christ long before they were named Christians or Catholics. It means holy, set apart, and consecrated to be and to do something for God out of the ordinary, something sublime, heroic. The Saints honored in this novena were all men apart, extraordinary, noble, heroic, sublime. In life they were esteemed as holy. Long before the Church solemnly declared them saints, they were regarded as such, alike by Catholic and non-Catholic. They are Martyrs, which means "witnesses unto blood," for they sealed with their blood their faith in Christ, and their supreme love for Him.

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When distinguished Servants of God are declared Saints, a day is set apart for their special veneration, their Feast Day. For these Martyrs it is 26 September, celebrated in every church in the United States and Canada, and in Jesuit churches throughout the world. They should be honored without ceasing throughout the year. The gospel in the Mass for their Feast repeats the beatitudes as given by St. Luke: in this novena they are taken from the VI Chapter of St. Matthew.

Beatitude means blessing, joy. Blessed was the first word uttered by Our Lord in public in His Sermon on the Mount. His beatitudes are for here and hereafter. It is usual to speak of eight beatitudes, but there are really nine. Every one of them seems the very opposite of what people generally consider blessing or joy. The Martyrs knew their true meaning by experience. Each lived in a manner to entitle him to every beatitude, but each also exemplified one in a special manner.

For the eight Martyr Saints there are eight Beatitudes. For their saintly companions, many of them Martyrs, there is the ninth.

<i>Saints</i>	<i>Beatitudes</i>
René Goupil	Poor in spirit
John Lalande	Meek
Isaac Jogues	Peacemaker
Noel Chabanel	Mourner
Anthony Daniel	Merciful
Charles Garnier	Clean of heart
Gabriel Lalemant	Hungering for justice
John de Brebeuf	Suffering persecution
Their Saintly Companions	Reviled and persecuted

*Ninth Beatitude*

Blessed are ye when they shall revile you and persecute you, and speak all that is evil against you, untruly, for my sake: be glad and rejoice; your reward is very great in heaven (Matthew v, 11).

## I DAY — SAINT RENE GOUPIL

Born Angers, France, 15 May, 1608;  
martyred, Martyrs Hill, 29 September, 1642.

Blessed the poor in spirit: theirs the kingdom  
of heaven.

The poor in spirit merit all the other blessings. They are meek, mourning, peace-loving, merciful, clean of heart, hungering for justice and ever ready to suffer persecution.

The poor in spirit look to the hand of God for all good things, life, health, liberty, food, raiment, friendship. For any of these they are grateful; at their loss they do not rebel. Their one thought is: "The Lord hath given; the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be the Name of the Lord." They bless Him; He blesses them a hundredfold.

St. René (meaning reborn in grace) was poor in spirit. When ill-health forced him to leave his religious Order, he did not complain. When he acquired some knowledge of medicine he gave it back to God by serving the missionaries whose Order illness had forced him to leave. When deprived of liberty, he did not rebel. When treated as outcast, slave, and victim, he took all as from the hand of God. "The Lord hath given; the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be the Name of the Lord."

That Holy Name he sought to bless by teaching it in the Sign of the Cross; the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, even though he knew it meant his death. Poor in spirit, his life-blood belonged to God.

How rich his reward now, Blessed in the Kingdom of heaven with the Lord of gifts and with His angels

and saints! Blessed on earth on our altars; Blessed and blessing that ravine below Martyrs Hill, hallowed by his precious remains which his companion, St. Isaac Jogues, so prized as to seek and find and bury them, at the risk of his life; blessing also all who go there to honor his memory.



#### THROUGH THE MARTYRS

A good Sister arrives at Martyrs Hill from her convent in Buffalo, after several serious operations unable to walk. She spends the days of a novena at the Shrine. Into water from the well she drops grains of soil from the Ravine. She leaves for home apparently as she had arrived. Next morning she astonishes her community by walking down-stairs to the chapel. That was over twenty years ago and she is still alive and active.

"Still here, father; ill recently. Father Jogues did not go back on me" (27 Oct., '36).

#### PRAYER TO BE POOR IN SPIRIT

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. Amen.

#### ASK FOR SPECIAL FAVOR

*Generous Martyr of Jesus Christ, pray for us*

[FOR BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT, SEE 30, 31.]

## II DAY — SAINT JOHN LALANDE

Born Dieppe, France; martyred, Martyrs Hill,  
19 October, 1646

Blessed the meek: they shall possess the land.

The meek, too, merit all the other blessings. They are poor in spirit, peace-loving, mourning, merciful, clean of heart, hungering for justice, and for it bear persecution.

St. John Lalande was above all things meek. He was a trapper of heroic sort. For this was he chosen as companion for St. Isaac Jogues on his last perilous journey to the Mohawks. He knew Jogues' prophecy: "I shall go, but shall not return." With Jogues and like him, he would bear every peril of the journey, every affront and torment of his Mohawk captors. Let diabolical powers rage against him: faithful to Jogues, he would bear all meekly. He was scarcely twenty years old.

That meek was Lalande, he effaced himself, kept out of the picture so successfully that he escaped the attention of those who were working for the canonization of his fellow martyrs until Rome directed that he should be added to their number.

As trapper, this Saint knew every turn and twist of land, hills, lakes, rivers, woodlands, wild animals and the fiercer men. With the strength born of meekness, he possessed himself with courage against their cruelties even unto death. Little could he imagine that in these vast regions of North America he would come to possess the attention and veneration of all who dwell therein, become the patron of all true woodsmen, the



model for boy scouts, the medium of increasing the harvest of faith, devotion and true religion over the soil made his by the effusion of his blood and the waters hallowed by his precious remains. The meek shall possess the land.



### THROUGH THE MARTYRS

It is Sunday afternoon on Martyrs Hill. The priests in charge are preparing for the Procession of the Blessed Sacrament. A four-year-old boy who had never walked is carried in his mother's arms near the priest bearing the Monstrance. She and his father are told to invoke the Martyrs. The next morning he is met walking about on the street by one of the assistant priests of St. Mary's, Amsterdam; his crutches are on the Hill.

### PRAYER FOR MEEKNESS

Nourished with peace-giving delights and sacraments of salvation, we suppliantly beseech thee, O Lord our God, that Thou, Who art meek and humble of heart, wouldst make us, cleansed from the stain of every vice, more steadfastly abhor the proud vanities of the world. Who livest and reignest with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God world without end. Amen. *Former Mass of the Sacred Heart.*

### ASK FOR SPECIAL FAVOR

*Generous Martyr of Jesus Christ, pray for us*

## III DAY — SAINT ISAAC JOGUES

Born Orleans, France, 10 January, 1607;  
martyred, Martyrs Hill, 18 October, 1646.

Blessed the peacemakers: theirs the kingdom of  
heaven.

Well named was this Martyr: Isaac, in Holy Writ, was a man of peace and a victim; so was Jogues. For many achievements was St. Isaac Jogues renowned: to every blessing pronounced by Christ was he entitled, poor in spirit, meek, mourner, merciful, clean of heart, craving for justice, suffering persecution. The crown of all was his distinction of being chosen out of all the other missionaries similarly blessed to make peace with implacable enemies who a few years before had inflicted on him incredible tortures for a month and held him a year in degrading captivity.

Long before the Saint came to this New World he yearned to become peacemaker, mediator, between God and men, especially those who knew not God, to make them at peace with their Creator. His peculiar gift for doing this was quickly perceived by his fellow Jesuits, his religious superiors, and gradually by the civil authorities. No sooner had he arrived in Quebec than he was sent to the difficult Huron tribes, whose good-will he won so cordially that they adopted him as one of them with the name *Ondessonk*, "Ever Bright Light," beacon on the way to peace.

Then came his capture, unspeakable torments and long captivity. Even when from all these the kindly Dutch of Fort Orange (now Albany) wished to deliver him, he would not consent for fear of causing hostilities between them and his Indian masters. He

won the esteem and hospitality of the Dutch Governor of New Amsterdam (New York) where all was then hostile to his religion. Sent back to France, he was ill at ease because treated as a hero, until permitted to return to his Indians. On the return voyage he calmed the mutinous crew. Then came his appointment to make peace with his fierce Iroquois torturers, in their Mohawk castle at Ossernenon (now Martyrs Hill). Sublimely he accepted, "at the peril of one thousand lives."



This was in May, 1646. He sailed over Lake George on the eve of the Feast of Corpus Christi, and named it Holy Sacrament, recalling, no doubt, the prayer of the priest about to partake of the Holy Sacrament of Peace: "My peace I give you: My peace I leave you." Soon the Empire State will erect his monument on its shores. Well did he succeed on his peace errand, so much so that after his return to Canada it was decided he should come back and establish a Mission. He was back in October with St. John Lalande and a trusty Huron. Before they could begin their work, knavish Indians tomahawked all three, impaled their heads on the fence-posts around the village and threw their bodies into the Mohawk River, so that we have no relics of them except the soil bedewed with their blood.

### THROUGH THE MARTYRS

One signal favor the Fathers at Martyrs Hill in its early days will never forget is the cure of tuberculosis in a young man who came under hardship from a great

distance. He spoke little, but prayed much. Every year he kept his vow to return. Soon he came with his bride. Then, after sixteen years of pilgrimages, he came with his handsome son. Faith can move mountains.

#### PRAYER FOR PEACE

O God, from Whom are holy desires, right counsels, and just works, give us, Thy servants, that peace which the world cannot give: so that with our hearts dedicated to Thy commandments, and, the fear of enemies removed, the times may be, by Thy protection, peaceable. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God world without end. Amen. *Votive Mass for Peace.*

#### PRAYER FOR THE FRUITS OF THE MARTYRDOMS

O God, Who, by the preaching and blood of Thy blessed Martyrs, Isaac and John and their Companions, didst consecrate the first fruits of the Faith in the vast regions of North America, graciously grant that by their intercession the flourishing harvest of Christians may everywhere and always be increased, through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in union with the Holy Spirit, one God world without end. Amen. *Mass, Feast of the Martyrs.*

#### ASK FOR SPECIAL FAVOR

*Generous Martyr of Jesus Christ, pray for us*

## IV DAY — SAINT NOEL CHABANEL

Born Mende, France, 2 February, 1613;  
martyred near Ste. Marie, Canada, 8 December, 1649.

Blessed who mourn: they shall be comforted.

All know what mourning is: not all know what true comfort is. Everyone born into this world has frequent reason to mourn illness, failure, ingratitude, loss of relatives and friends, dread of death, afflictions of every sort. Some know what absolute and apparently hopeless failure is. Too many seek to escape it, even by self-inflicted death. A far greater number fall into despair and lose all energy of body and soul. They seek comfort for the body, but what comfort means for the soul they do not know.

Comfort for the true mourner means strength of mind and courage to stand most unbearable conditions of every sort. St. Noel Chabanel felt from the start that he was unfitted for Indian missionary life. He could not bear the rude habits of the Indian, could not acquire their language, stomach their food, stand the smoke, vermin and stench of their cabins. It was slow but continuous martyrdom. What will he do? Will he give up and ask to be recalled to France? No, he will seek strength, true comfort from heaven. To obtain it he made a vow to put up with everything, no matter how repugnant or how nauseous it might be.

“Jesus Christ, my Saviour, Who by a wonderful dispensation of Your paternal providence hast willed that I, though altogether unworthy, should be a co-adjutor of the Holy Apostles in this vineyard of the Hurons; impelled by the desire of ministering to the purpose which Your holy spirit hath respecting me,

that I should help forward the conversion to the faith of the barbarians of this Huron country: I, Noel Chabanel, being in the presence of the most holy Sacrament of Your Body and Your Precious Blood, which is the tabernacle of God



among men—make a vow of perpetual stability in this Mission of the Hurons; understanding all things as the superiors of the Society expound them, and as they choose to dispose of me. I conjure You, therefore, O my Saviour, to be pleased to receive me as a perpetual servant of this Mission, and to make me worthy of so lofty a ministry. Amen."

That vow and its heroic observance won for Chabanel in this life strength to endure every hardship, and on the day of the canonization of the Martyrs the distinction of a glorious portrait separate from that of his Companions.

#### THROUGH THE MARTYRS

Mrs. H., Parliament St., Toronto, had five operations. Sixth was declared necessary, but she refused and said she would go to the Midland Shrine, near Fort Ste. Marie. Doctors of St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, told her it was folly, as she would have hemorrhage and die on the way. After Confession, Communion and blessing with relics, the wound healed, all pain disappeared, and a large lump on her side disappeared at once (testified to by doctor).

**PRAYER FOR COMFORT**

O God, the consoler of the afflicted, and the salvation of those who hope in Thee, Who mercifully didst accept the pious tears of the blessed Monica for the conversion of her son, grant us by the intercession of both to deplore our sins and to obtain the grace of Thy pardon. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God world without end. Amen. *Mass, Feast of St. Monica.*

"I was very near the throne of the Holy Father the day our North-American Martyrs were beatified, June 21, 1925. He bade Father James Dugas, S.J., of Montreal, to do all in his power to obtain the two miracles needed for their canonization. Never was mandate more zealously observed. By the application of the relics of the Martyrs and especially by novenas this good priest helped to obtain many remarkable cures — many apparently miraculous. Two of these are recorded under the eighth and ninth days of this novena. Some of the others, many attested by physicians as hopeless or incurable, are: cure from goitre that was threatening suffocation; an eczema of twelve years' duration; restoration of eyesight; cure of muscular atrophy; infantile paralysis; tuberculosis. In one parish alone there were fifteen remarkable cures and at least seven in each of three convents."—J.J.W.

**ASK FOR SPECIAL FAVOR**

*Generous Martyr of Jesus Christ, pray for us*

## V DAY — SAINT GABRIEL LALEMANT

Born, Paris, 10 October, 1610;  
martyred, Fort Ste. Marie, Canada, 17 March, 1649

Blessed who hunger for justice: they shall be filled.

Lalemant bore the name of God's messenger who announced to the Virgin Mary that she was to be Mother of Christ Our Lord. He begged for fourteen years to be sent from Old to New France to announce the Son of God to His creatures still living in darkness. Born in Paris, 1610, when making his vows as a Jesuit in 1632, he added a special one, to give his life to the Indians of the New World. At last he was allowed to fulfil his vow in 1646. His hunger for the justice he considered paramount was partly satisfied.

Within three years he was seized by the Iroquois during one of their invasions of the Hurons, and tortured in an unspeakable manner.

The delicate Lalemant and the giant Brebeuf were fellow martyrs. While the giant was a marvel of endurance, Lalemant kept his eyes raised toward heaven imploring for perseverance. Quickly those prayerful eyes were gouged out by his torturers and hot cinders put in their stead. Imploring, he looked to his giant fellow martyr to sustain his courage and constancy. Brebeuf, for all his strength, gave out before that March 16th was over, and Lalemant lasted until the following morning of the Feast of the great Irish Apostle in 1649. His quest of justice was fulfilled.

The blessings obtained through the intercession of the North-American Martyrs are not confined to any



one place or even to the countries in which they labored, suffered and died. That was a strange case of Sarah Sawkins, an orphan girl in England, who at the age of twelve was afflicted with ankylosis of the left knee. The doctor pronounced it incurable and proposed to amputate the leg. The heart was too weak to stand the shock. Just then a priest nearby had received relics of the Martyrs without their authentication. He proposed using the relics in this case, believing a cure effected by their use would prove them authentic. The cure was effected; the girl attained health she had never known.



#### THROUGH THE MARTYRS

"On June 17th while on a motor trip, I stopped at Auriesville Shrine, to pray for a very sick brother who was abed for six months and had not been to church for 25 years and would not see a priest . . . My brother has asked for a priest and made his peace with God."

#### PRAYER FOR JUSTICE

*Let us pray:* Grant, we beseech Thee, O almighty God, that we who proclaim the glorious Martyrs so brave in their ordeal, may feel the benefit of their pious intercession in our behalf. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God world without end. Amen. *Mass of the Forty Martyrs.*

#### ASK FOR SPECIAL FAVOR

*Generous Martyr of Jesus Christ, pray for us*

## VI DAY — SAINT ANTHONY DANIEL

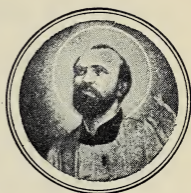
Born, Dieppe, 27 May, 1601;  
died near Fort Ste. Marie, Canada, 4 July, 1648

Blessed the merciful: they shall obtain mercy.

Before this Saint became a member of the Society of Jesus in 1622, he had practised law. Ten years afterward he was a missionary among the Hurons in New France. His was a generous soul, animating a frail body, but allowing it no rest when there was question of serving a neighbor. Who the neighbor might be mattered not. The parable of the Good Samaritan decided that. The more the need, the more the neighbor; the more souls were neglected, the more their need of his care.

The Indians of North America were in dire need of his care. His fellow Frenchmen had their great cathedrals, prosperous churches and schools, bishops of renown, zealous churchmen more than enough to satisfy every want; New France was still destitute of missionaries. So Daniel found his neighbors among the Huron Indians. Most of all, their children appealed to him because of their need of protection from the evil ways of older members of their people. He established schools for them and when the parents withdrew them he went back to civilize and christianize the parents. He was devoted to them, so devoted that when the Iroquois attacked the village in which he was laboring, instead of escaping as he might have done, he stood by them in the church, baptizing, giving absolution and cheering them: "To-

day, my brothers, we shall be in heaven." Shot to death, he died pronouncing the name of Jesus. His body perished in the flames of his church. Mercy means not only forgiveness, but also ransom and reward. Daniel ransomed souls; His reward is exceeding great.



### THROUGH THE MARTYRS

"Miss F. G., of Toronto, afflicted with meningitis, was declared incurable by six specialists, who said she could not recover. After being unconscious for seven days with convulsions and temperatures reaching at times 105, she was blessed with the relics. She regained consciousness, and her cure after that was rapid. Now she is in perfect health and recently she revisited the Midland Shrine."

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*Let us pray:* O God of whose mercies there is no number, and of whose goodness the treasure is infinite: we give thanks to Thy most merciful Majesty for the blessings bestowed upon us, ever beseeching Thy clemency, that, as Thou grantest the petitions of those that pray, Thou wouldst not forsake but prepare them for reward in the life to come. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God world without end. Amen. *Votive Mass of Thanksgiving.*

### ASK FOR SPECIAL FAVOR

*Generous Martyr of Jesus Christ, pray for us*

## VII DAY — SAINT CHARLES GARNIER

Born, Paris, 25 May, 1605;  
martyred near Midland, Canada, 7 December, 1649

Blessed the clean of heart: they shall see God.

The heart is universally considered as symbol, an index of all that is good and of all that is evil in man. It is clean when it is not soiled by any impure, vicious habit or tendency, by pride, envy, hatred, sloth, lust, avarice, gluttony. It is angelic when purified by all that is contrary, humility, generosity, affection, earnestness, chastity, contentment, self-restraint. Garnier was poor in spirit, meek, peace-loving, mourning, merciful, hungry and suffering for justice, but he was pre-eminently clean of heart. His fellow missionaries and his Indian wards regarded him as angelic. Instinctively jealous as the Indians were of their children, they would trust them to him.

In appearance he had all the bloom of innocence and gentleness, but he was strong and ardent and his uppermost thought was how he could devote himself to his people. This ruling passion was strong in death. When the Iroquois Indians attacked the Tobacco Nation in the Mission of the Apostles, he put aside all thought of his own safety. He went from cabin to cabin bidding his wards fly to safety, consoling and encouraging them. Shot twice, and faint from loss of blood, he staggered and crept on his knees to a dying Indian to give him as best he could the last rites. Then he was tomahawked and died with his heart clean of all unselfishness, meriting the vision of God. We have his relics, a precious memorial.

## THROUGH THE MARTYRS

"D. B., aged 13, of Dublin, Ontario, Canada, was afflicted with infantile paralysis; wore iron supports reaching from hips to ankles, and was obliged to use crutches as well. He was blessed with relics at the Midland Shrine and left both crutches and leg-irons; he walked about all day to the amazement of the crowds and has returned every summer since 1930 in thanksgiving."



## PRAYER FOR PURITY OF HEART

O God, Who by a wonderful dispensation dost provide the ministry of Angels and of men, graciously grant that our life on earth may be under the protection of those who minister unto Thee in heaven. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God world without end. Amen. *Mass of the Guardian Angels.*

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Praise is a form of prayer. The psalms abound in praise. "O praise the Lord all ye nations: praise Him all ye people" (Psalm 116). This in our hymn is: "Holy God, we praise Thy Name." "Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost." "Glory to God on High." We pray for blessings: praise God in His Saints through whom the blessings come.

## ASK FOR SPECIAL FAVOR

*Generous Martyr of Jesus Christ, pray for us*

## VIII DAY — SAINT JOHN de BREBEUF

Born at Conde-sur-Vire, near Lisieux, 1593;  
martyred near Fort Ste. Marie, Canada, 16 March, 1649

Blessed they that suffer persecution for justice  
sake: theirs the kingdom of heaven.

This Saint's life was a miracle in itself. Developing consumption when he was twenty-four, he became the most intrepid of all the missionaries, a giant in frame, superhuman in suffering persecution for justice. Driven back to France, when England illegally seized Canada, he returned to the mission on which he had set his heart after making the following vow:

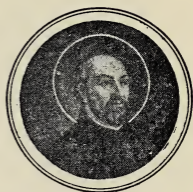
"Lord Jesus, my Redeemer: You have redeemed me by Your Blood and Your most precious death. This is why I promise to serve You all my life in the Society of Jesus, and never to serve any other than Thee. I sign this promise in my blood, ready to sacrifice it all for Thee as willingly as this drop.

"JEAN DE BREBEUF, Soc. J."

All Brébeuf did was heroic. When he and all his missionaries among the Hurons were threatened by the Indians with death, here is an extract from their last will and testament:

". . . May He be forever blessed for having appointed us to this country, among many others better than we, to aid Him in bearing His Cross. In all things, may His holy will be done! If He will that at this hour we should die, oh, fortunate hour for us! If He will to reserve for us other labors, may He be blessed! If you hear that God has crowned our insignificant labors, or rather our desires, bless Him! for it is for Him that

we desire to live and to die,  
and it is He Who gives us grace  
therefore. . . ."



Think of him again when he  
broke his shoulder-blade by  
falling on the ice in 1641 and  
making his way home, sleeping  
out nights when cold was splitting the trees!

No wonder those murderers plucked out his heart  
to eat and derive courage from it, after necklacing him  
with red hot hatchets, belting him with bark encasing  
hot pitch and resin, and in mimicry of baptism pour-  
ing over his wounds scalding water, before applying  
slow fire to his body. Demons could not excel his  
persecutors in cruelty, but he suffered it all for justice'  
sake, as true heir to the kingdom of heaven.

#### THROUGH THE MARTYRS

"One of the cures regarded as miraculous and  
accepted for the canonization of the Martyrs occurred  
in 1929 in the Monastery of the Religious of the  
Presentation near St. Hyacinthe, Canada. Sister Marie  
Maxime (Alexandrine Ruel) was then forty-one years  
old. She had entered religion in 1901 in good health.  
After six years hemorrhages developed, of which she  
was cured. In 1913 when operated on for appendi-  
citis, her condition was tubercular. The operation was  
repeated in 1918 and 1921. Her doctors gave her no  
hope when the ailment recurred. Her community  
appealed to the Martyrs. In a moment her cure was  
complete and it proved to be permanent." *Acts of the  
Apostolic See, 1930, p. 503.*

## PRAYER

*Let us pray:* O God, Who didst strengthen Thy blessed Martyr by the virtue of constancy in suffering, and aid him to preach Thy glory to the heathen, grant us, we beseech Thee, by his example, for love of Thee to make light of good things of the world, and not fear any of its hardships. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God world without end. Amen. *Adapted from Mass of Bl. John de Britto.*

## FOR SPECIAL BLESSINGS

O God, Who didst bestow on Thy holy Martyrs, Isaac, John and their Companions, such abundant blessings for their self-sacrifice and devotion to Thee: graciously grant, we beseech Thee, the blessings we pray for in this novena to their honor. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Thanksgiving is the habit of noble and generous souls. It is the first element of good breeding. It should be the dominant element in our relation with God through prayer. "It is truly meet and just, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto Thee, Holy Lord, Father Almighty, Everlasting God." *From the Preface of the Mass.*

## ASK FOR SPECIAL FAVOR

*Generous Martyr of Jesus Christ, pray for us*



IX DAY — SAINTLY COMPANIONS  
OF THE MARTYRS

O all ye holy men and women, children of God,  
make intercession for us.

“Blessed are ye when they shall revile you and persecute you, and speak all that is evil against you, untruly, for My sake. Be glad and rejoice for your reward is very great in heaven.”—  
MATT. v, 11, 12.

Hundreds, if not thousands of missionaries, colonists and Christian Indians as well as our Martyr Saints in New France merited this blessing. It is not surprising that the missionaries did so, but that their rude colonists and even Indian converts did, bearing persecution even unto death, shows how the priests were bent not merely on baptizing and getting them to observe the Commandments, but on helping them practise Christian virtues to a heroic degree.

Outstanding in the long list are martyrs, witnesses unto blood, like:

Brother Gilbert Du Thet, killed by the English, 18  
July, 1613.

Father James Buteux, killed by the Iroquois, 10 May,  
1652.

Father Leonard Garreau, killed by the Iroquois, 2  
September, 1656.

Father Sebastian Rale, killed by the English troops,  
23 August, 1724.

Father Paul Du Poisson, killed by the Natchez Indians,  
28 November, 1729.

Father John Souel, killed by the Yazoo Indians, 11 December, 1729.

Father John Aulneau, killed by the Sioux, 8 June, 1736.

Father Claude Virot, killed by the Iroquois, 24 July, 1759.

The number of Indian converts who were devoted to our Faith, some even unto death, is astonishing. Take only those who were captured with Father Jogues and died at the stake or by tomahawk, Eustace Ahatsistari and his nephew, Onnonhonaton, Stephen Totiri. Add to them Otrihome, the faithful Huron guide who, with Lalande, stuck to Father Jogues to the end, and were tomahawked the day after him. The missionaries delight in proclaiming the virtue and heroism of Garakontie, Togonoiout, Garoniaghue and his wife Marie, Garhio, of Tonsohoten and his wife Gandeaktena, Tonatescon, Skandgourhacton. Then there were the three clustered two decades later about Tekakwitha: Anastasia Tegonhatsiongo, Teresa Tegaiguenta, Mary Skarichions, only a few of hundreds who were really saintly.

It is a sublime story, surpassed for heroism in no other age or country. The blood of the martyrs suffusing the soil on which they were sacrificed would seem to have arisen in the vapors which penetrated the very atmosphere, and so hallowed their memory that more than one Hot Ashes and many more than one Tekakwitha and many of her companions seemed to breathe in the odors of holiness, so that verily the blood of martyrs became the seed of Christians. The

Church, with its long and pious memory, has never forgotten Tekakwitha and there is reason to hope that our Chief Pastor may declare her deserving of the beatitudes the Martyr Saints now enjoy. We should pray this may happen very soon.

### THROUGH THE MARTYRS

"Marie Robichaud, in religion Sister Savoie, born 1889 in Shippegan, Canada, when thirty-one years old became a religious of the Congregation of the Hospital Sisters of St. Joseph in the City of Tracadie. When thirty-six, she was afflicted with tubercular peritonitis (fibrocasseosa). She suffered great pain and loss of strength. After some months, doctors thought her incurable and in danger of death. A novena by her Sisters to the Martyrs brought about her cure on the last day, suddenly cured completely and permanently. This cure also was accepted for their canonization.

*Acts of the Apostolic See, 1930, page 503.*

### PRAYER

*Let us pray:* Almighty everlasting God, Who dost permit us to venerate in one solemnity the merits of all Thy Saints, we beseech Thee, bestow upon us, through their multitudinous intercessions, the fulness of Thy mercy we long for. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God world without end. Amen. *Mass, Feast of All Saints.*

### ASK FOR SPECIAL FAVOR

**FOR THE CANONIZATION  
OF OUR HOLY ONES**

O Lord Jesus Christ, Who art All Holy and Who by Thy grace dost deign to sanctify Thy servants, grant, we beseech Thee, that the number of those who follow Thy inspiration may ever and everywhere increase, and that all who in this fair land of ours have merited Thy benediction: "Come ye Blessed of My Father, possess the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world," may by Thy special favor be raised to the honor of our altars and venerated as among the blessed in Heaven. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**FOR THE BEATITUDE OF THE MARTYRS**

Whom Christ has bidden: "Come ye Blessed of My Father, possess the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world — ye poor in spirit, meek, peacemaking, mourning, merciful, clean of heart, hungering after justice, reviled and persecuted for it — obtain for us to share with you the Beatitudes of Christ on earth and in heaven. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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The publican who struck his breast, saying: "O God, be merciful to me a sinner," went down to his house justified. He prayed not for health, not for earthly goods, but for mercy. His prayer was one of propitiation, as we call it. That should precede every prayer in which we beg God's blessing.

*Generous Martyr of Jesus Christ, pray for us*

## THE FEAST, or CLOSING DAY

*O all whom Christ bade: Come ye Blessed of  
My Father; graciously hear us.*

O GLORIOUS KING of Martyr hosts,  
Thou Crown that each Confessor boasts,  
Who ledest to celestial day  
Those who have cast earth's joy away:

Thine ear in mercy, Saviour, lend,  
While unto Thee our prayers ascend;  
And as we count their triumphs won,  
Forgive the sins that we have done.

Martyrs in Thee their triumphs gain,  
From Thee Confessors grace obtain;  
O'ercome in us the lust of sin,  
That we Thy pardoning love may win.

To Thee who, dead, again dost live,  
All glory, Lord, Thy people give;  
All glory, as is ever meet,  
To Father and to Paraclete.—*Martyrs Office.*

This is the day of the blessedness of the Martyrs and of all their blessed followers; a day of joy and of glory. To the motto: "The greater glory of God" they lived and died: to their supreme glory, their Glorious King now reigns over, or, as He would say when on earth, with them in Heaven.

"Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath it entered into the heart of man, what things God hath prepared for them that love Him." All we can do is imagine their bliss, seeing the God Whom here they

knew only by faith, but now dwelling with Him. Their great glory here helps us to glimpse their ineffable glory in heaven.

The great Shrines in the United States and Canada, at Martyrs Hill, Auriesville, New York, and at Midland, near Fort Ste. Marie, Ontario, Church, Chapels, Oratories, Altars, Institutions, Statues, Paintings, Colleges, Schools, Camps, Streets; triduums, votive Masses, societies, novenas made in their honor and solemn celebrations of their Feast; answers to prayer, some apparently miraculous, wherever they are duly venerated.

Notable is the honor in which they are held by all who know their story, regardless of belief. To Jogues the Empire State of New York is, by Act of Legislature, to erect a monument on the shores of Lake George, to traverse which he was the first white man. As it was Corpus Christi eve, 1646, he named it Holy Sacrament. The name has been changed, but its memory remains; the Episcopalian Church bears the name and so does the Masonic Lodge hard by. The Minister names his farm after Jogues. Thus is a holy memory in benediction. May we soon see a church or other memorial, even more than one, in every diocese in the Northern New World.

To the signal answers to prayer recorded for each day of the Novena ask Almighty God, through the intercession of the Martyrs, to grant you your heart's desire. The number of blessings, cures, conversions, relief in every form of distress attributed to the invocation of our North-American Saints is extraordinary and it is increasing daily. May everyone who makes this Novena have at least one other blessing to add to the countless blessings on record.

PRAYER FOR THE FRUITS OF THE  
MARTYRDOMS

O God, Who, by the preaching and blood of Thy blessed Martyrs, Isaac and John and their Companions, didst consecrate the first fruits of the Faith in the vast regions of North America, graciously grant that by their intercession the flourishing harvest of Christians may everywhere and always be increased, through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in union with the Holy Spirit, one God world without end. Amen. *Mass, Feast of the Martyrs.*

FOR FELLOWSHIP WITH THE SAINTS

To us sinners also, Thy servants, hoping in the multitude of Thy mercies, vouchsafe to grant some part and fellowship with Thy holy Apostles and Martyrs, and with all Thy Saints, into whose company we beseech thee to admit us, not weighing our merit, but pardoning our offences. Through Christ our Lord. Amen. *Canon of the Mass.*

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Imitation of the Saints whose intercession we invoke, imitation of their virtues, be it ever so faint, is the best proof of our sincerity. On the great Saint Francis Xavier's Feast the prayer of the Church is: "That we who venerate his merits may imitate also his example."

ASK FOR SPECIAL FAVOR

*Generous Martyr of Jesus Christ, pray for us*

HYMNS FOR BENEDICTION OF THE  
MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

## O Salutaris

O Salutaris Hostia  
Quæ cœli pandis ostium;  
Bella premunt hostilia,  
Da robur fer auxilium.

Uni trinoque Domino  
Sit sempiterna gloria,  
Qui vitam sine termino  
Nobis donet in patria.

## Tantum Ergo

Tantum Ergo Sacramentum  
Veneremur cernui,  
Et antiquum documentum  
Novo cedat ritui;  
Præstet fides supplementum  
Sensuum defectui.

Genitori, Genitoque  
Laus et jubilatio,  
Salus, honor, virtus quoque  
Sit et benedictio,  
Procedenti ab utroque  
Compar sit laudatio. Amen.

*V.* Panem de cœlo præstitisti eis.

*R.* Omne delectamentum in se habentem.



## PRAYER

O God, Who, under a Wonderful Sacrament, hast left us a memorial of Thy passion, grant us, we beseech Thee, so to venerate the sacred mysteries of the Body and Blood that we may ever feel within ourselves the fruit of Thy Redemption. Who livest and reignest world without end. Amen.

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## THE PRAISES AFTER BENEDICTION

Blessed be God.

Blessed be His Holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.

Blessed be the Name of Jesus.

Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.

Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.

Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse.

Blessed be God in His Angels and in His Saints.

Following the *Praises* the prayer from the Mass of the Martyrs may be said, page 29.

## CATHERINE TEKAKWITHA



Since the Cause for the beatification and canonization of the most notable fruit of the sacrifices of the Martyrs, Kateri Tekakwitha, "Lily of the Mohawks," is progressing so rapidly and so favorably all should join fervently in the following prayer:

For her Canonization and for Special Favors

**O** GOD, Who didst wonderfully protect the innocence of Thy Servant Catherine, and bestow on her the gift of faith and spirit of penance, grant that all who invoke her may obtain what they desire, and I also the blessing I humbly beg; so that her favor with Thee may be known to all, and she may be exalted to the honor of our altars, as among the Blessed in Heaven. Amen.

*Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father.*

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For a brief Life of the "Lily of the Mohawks" and leaflets recording remarkable favors received through her intercession, apply to the V. Postulator for her canonization,

REV. JOHN J. WYNNE, S.J.

226 EAST FORDHAM ROAD, NEW YORK



