

# Franciscan Crown

## The Seven Joys of Mary

Pray the Franciscan Crown especially  
on Saturdays during Advent and Christmas and Easter Seasons

1. Using beads for the Franciscan Crown (seven decades), announce the First Mystery and pray the Our Father on the single bead just before the medallion.
2. Pray one Hail Mary for each of the ten beads. (It seems most fitting to proceed around the beads in a clockwise direction.)
3. On the single bead between the decades, announce the next Mystery and then pray the Our Father. Continue as in Step 2 for the remaining Mysteries.
4. After the last Mystery, pray one Hail Mary each on the fourth and third beads from the Cross to complete 72 years of Mary's Joy.
5. Pray the Our Father and the Glory to the Father (Gloria Patri) for the intention of the Holy Father on the 2nd bead from the Cross.
6. Pray a Hail Mary on the single bead closest to the Cross

### Seven Joys of Mary

1. The Annunciation
2. The Visitation
3. The birth of Christ
4. The Adoration of the Magi
5. Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple
6. Meeting Christ after the Resurrection
7. The Assumption and Coronation



### History of the Franciscan Crown

*The Franciscan historian Luke Wadding (1588-1657) dates the origin of the Franciscan Crown to the year 1422. He tells the story of a young novice in the Franciscan Order named James who, previously accustomed to express his devotion to the Blessed Virgin by adorning her statue with a wreath of fresh flowers, was prevented from continuing this practice in the novitiate. In distress, he considered leaving the Order. But the Blessed Virgin appeared to him and instructed him to recite a rosary of seven decades in honor of her seven joys; thus, he might weave a "crown" more pleasing to her than flowers on her statue.*

*From that time the practice of reciting the "crown of the seven joys" became general in the order. Thus it became known as the Franciscan Crown—or the Seraphic Rosary.*

*St. Francis had a great devotion to the Blessed Mother and the Franciscans continue to have devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Franciscans are credited with adding the final words to the Hail Mary, "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death."*

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION NOVENA

NOVEMBER 29 TO DECEMBER 8

## **Day 1 – November 29 St. Francis of Assisi prayer**

Holy Queen, Mary, holy Mother of God, who are the Virgin made Church, chosen by the most Holy Father in heaven, consecrated by Him with His most holy beloved Son and with the Holy Spirit the Paraclete, on you descended and in you still remains all fullness of grace and every good. Hail His Palace! Hail His Tabernacle! Hail His Dwelling! Hail His Robe! Hail His Servant! Hail His Mother! Hail Advocate of the Poor! Salutation of Our Lady fulfill toward us your duty as protectress until the time set by the Father! Amen.

*Offer your intention for the Immaculate Conception Novena. Recite a Rosary and conclude with this prayer each day.*

**Accept, O Lord, the prayers we offer in preparation for the solemn feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Grant that as we proclaim her to have been preserved by your grace from all stain of sin, so through her intercession may we be freed from all our sins. Grant this through her Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to you.**

## **Day 2 – November 30 St. Anthony of Padua prayer**

Our Lady, we ask you for that singular hope that our souls be illumined by the brilliance of your grace, cleansed by the brightness of your purity, and warmed by the comfort of your visitation. With your help may we be reconciled with your Son, and so come to share in His glory; He whom the angel announced to you, who assumed your glorious flesh, and who wished to live in you for nine months. To Him be honor and glory forever. Amen.

## **Day 3 – December 1 St. Bonaventure prayer**

O blessed Lady, Our Lord has become our brother and our Savior by means of you. The Holy Spirit has made you fruitful; the power of the Most High has overshadowed you. By the excellence of your sanctity you surpass all angels and archangels. Blessed be your most pure conception. Blessed be the virginal bringing forth. Blessed be the purity of your body. Blessed be the sweetness of the mercy of your heart. Blessed are they, O Virgin Mary, who love your name; your grace will comfort their souls. They will be refreshed as by fountains of water. You will produce in them the fruit of justice. God has blessed the works of your hands. Your mercy and your grace are preached everywhere. Amen.

## **Day 4 – December 2 Blessed John Duns Scotus petition**

O Immaculate Virgin and Mother, with our brother, John Duns Scotus, we turn to you in humble petition: "Permit us to praise you, O Most Holy Virgin, and give us strength against your enemies." Amen.

## **Day 5 – December 3 St. Joseph of Cupertino prayer**

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of the Lord, rose without thorn, lily of love, refuge of sinners, have pity on us. Gain for us the grace of final perseverance. Amen.

## **Day 6 – December 4 St. Francis Anthony Fasani prayer**

O Immaculate Conception: Among all creatures pure, you, Mary, are the perfect one; you alone are the blessed one from among all women. You are the lily among the thorns, you are the Rose of Jericho; you are the Mother, Daughter and Spouse of the God who created you. O Immaculate Conception! Amen.

## **Day 7 – December 5 St. Francis Anthony Fasani prayer**

O Immaculate Conception: You are Mother of the Lord, but preserved in your virginity; you stand alone and you have no equal; you are distinct and pre-elected. You are elect, like the sun; you are beautiful, like the moon; you are a light never failing, never wanting, never weakening. O Immaculate Conception! Amen.

## **Day 8 – December 6 St. Maximilian Kolbe prayer**

Who are you, O Immaculate Conception? You are uniquely privileged among all the children of Eve. You are not just a creature of God, not only an adopted child, but the very Mother of God. You alone are the Immaculate Conception! Amen.

## **Day 9 – December 7 St. Maximilian Kolbe prayer**

O Immaculate Mother, when will you become Queen of every soul? When will all the souls in the entire world know the goodness and love of your heart toward them? When will every soul show you its gratitude with ardent love, so that you may form them according to the pattern of the Sacred Heart of your Son? May we, your children, be dedicated to this cause until our last breath. Help us, Our Queen, Our Lady, Our dearest Mother. Amen.

## **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Act of Consecration of the Order to Mary**

Immaculate Virgin, Queen of the entire Seraphic Order, and patroness of the United States look down upon us.

### **We consecrate our beloved Order to your Immaculate Heart. We publicly profess:**

That we truly wish to follow the example of our seraphic father Francis. We consecrate ourselves to you wholly and without reserve.

Immaculate Heart of our Mother and Queen, we lovingly place in your hands, our heart, our body, and our soul. We profess solemnly and with childlike love: That you are our Lady and our Queen. To you we belong all together. To you we give ourselves with all that we are and all that we have, our spiritual blessings and our temporal goods. We entrust ourselves entirely to your care. This we do for the greater honor of God, for the prosperity of holy Mother Church, and for the welfare of our Holy Father, Pope Francis.

### **We consign and consecrate to you:**

Our words and actions, our prayers and sufferings, our acts of penance and of love, our apostolic works and trials, the smallest duties of our state of life. May all of it be directed and guided by you, so that throughout the world there may be renewed and strengthened, the kingdom of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus: the kingdom of truth and life, the kingdom of holiness and grace, the kingdom of justice, charity, and peace.

### **We consecrate to you:**

All our brothers and sisters and the entire Franciscan family, so that they may be strengthened by God's grace, to remain full of zeal and true to their vocation until death.

Immaculate Heart of Mary: Make holy and perfect all the members of our Order.

Immaculate Heart, full of burning love: Fill our hearts with the glow of seraphic love.

Obedient Heart of Mary: Help us faithfully keep the commandments of God, and the precepts of our holy Rule. Amen.