



Society of the Little Flower

PROMISE TO ST. THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX

St. Thérèse, the Little Flower, please bestow your grace and patronage upon me to help me follow your "Little Way" and strengthen my relationship with you.

I promise to pray to you each day and share my struggles and joys with you.

I promise to strengthen my relationship to you by following your "Little Way" each day. In your honor, I will do small acts of love and kindness for those around me to make a difference in their lives.

(Please sign your name here)

"Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice, here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word; doing the smallest thing and doing it all for love."

St. Thérèse's Feast Day is the perfect time to recommit to our devotion and further our relationship with her through prayer and by following her "Little Way."

As a child, Thérèse experienced prayer as visiting with God or the heavenly Communion of Saints. She knew that spending time listening and talking to God was the perfect way to build and deepen her relationship with Our Father.

Prayer was always a source of strength for Thérèse because it allowed her to share her troubles with God and feel His presence during difficult, as well as joyful times.

Through our devotion and prayer to St. Thérèse, and through her, to God, each of us can feel that same strength and sense of purpose. In her "Little Way," she gives us a path to follow to bring us closer to God by doing small acts of kindness and love to make a difference in other people's lives.

During her Feast Day and beyond, please join us in praying these special Novenas. Each has a message on how to live her "Little Way" and experience God's grace and compassion each and every day.

Day One Our novena prayer

St. Thérèse,

Flower of fervor and love, fill my heart with your pure love of God. As we approach and celebrate your Feast Day, make me more aware of the goodness of God and how well He tends His garden. Instill in me your "Little Way" of doing ordinary things with extraordinary love.

Give me the heart of a child who wonders at life and embraces everything with joy. Teach me your delight in God's ways so that divine charity may blossom in my heart.

We come before Jesus as God's children, because you are our heavenly friend. As we celebrate the Feast Day of your homecoming in heaven, continue to shower roses and grace upon me. *Amen*.

"Our Lord does not look so much at the greatness of our actions, or even at the difficulty, as the LOVE with which we do them."

Day Two OUR NOVENA PRAYER

O, glorious St. Thérèse, whom almighty God has raised up to aid and inspire each of us, teach me to trust that He will answer the prayers in my heart.

You are so powerful in obtaining every need of body and spirit from the heart of God. Your "Little Way" reminds me to trust in God and place my hope in Jesus.

You know my struggles and how my heart cries out to you. Please carry out your promise of spending heaven doing good on earth...and Let Fall from Heaven a Shower of Roses into my heart.

Little Flower, give me your childlike faith, to see the face of God in the people and experiences of my life, and to love God with full confidence. *Amen*.

"He guides and inspires me every moment of the day. Just when I need it, a new light shines on my problems."

Day Three OUR NOVENA PRAYER

O, little St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, please pick a beautiful rose from the heavenly gardens and send it to me as a message of love.

Help me to pass this message of love, this rose from your garden, to every person I meet today.

O, Little Flower of Jesus, please ask God to listen to the prayers that you hear in my heart and soul.

Help me to always believe as you did in God's great love for me, so that I might imitate your "Little Way" each day. *Amen*.

"If every flower wanted to be a rose, nature would lose her springtime beauty." ~ St. Thérèse of Lisieux

Day Four OUR NOVENA PRAYER

O, little St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, during your short life on earth you became a mirror of angelic purity. Help me to remember that I can be an angel to someone today through the little things that I do. Each day when I wake up, remind me that:

My smile can help someone who is grieving see the happiness in life. My hopeful words can bring someone who is suffering out of darkness. My joyful surrender to God's will can remind someone who has turned away of His caring presence. My faith can help someone who is lost to renew their hope in the future.

St. Thérèse, please instill in me your wholehearted abandonment to God and help me to always follow your "Little Way." I leave all things in your loving hands. *Amen*.

"A word or a smile is often enough to put fresh life in a despondent soul."

Day Five Our novena prayer

Sweet Thérèse,

When first you dreamed, you pictured a life full of greatness but, through your devotion to Jesus, you found joy and purpose in the small things, the ordinary details of your life.

Help me to focus all my energy on the ordinary things in my life, to find God's presence in a field of wildflowers, a hug from someone special, in a kind gesture from a friend.

You have been blessed and favored by God. Your humble heart and sweet face are always turned towards God.

Through your heart, inspire me to be as humble as you are, to empty myself of worldly needs and concerns, so that my heart may be filled with God's plans, hopes and dreams for me. *Amen*.

"Our Lord's love shines out just as much through a little soul who yields completely to His Grace as it does through the greatest..."

Day Six our novena prayer

Precious St. Thérèse, God has wiped clean your soul because of your devotion. He has written His words on your heart and encouraged your hands to do His work on earth.

Gentle child of God, help me to be an encouragement to others in the same way that you have sent many little encouragements to me in my journey through life. There have been times of weariness and fear and times when I was ready to give up. You have been there in the little gestures that I receive from loved ones.

Teach me to be as you are, a humble servant of God, spreading His word and following the plan that He has laid out for me. Help me to be a blessing to those in my life, to reach out beyond the fear and hesitation in my heart, and to see more clearly the picture that He has painted for my life. *Amen*.

"I am a little brush that Jesus has chosen in order to paint His own image in the souls...entrusted to my care."

Day Seven Our novena prayer

St. Thérèse,

When I lose my way, you are there. You are the star in the sky that guides me to God, Who is our eternal light, our hope, our destination.

With your guidance, I am ready to say to God: I will go wherever You want me to go, do whatever You want me to do, say whatever You want me to say.

When I feel like I am getting off course or am lost in life, Thérèse, you remind me that the path to heaven is paved with kindness and love.

Please help me to continue to remember that God is always there for me, showing me the way with His love. *Amen*.

"Kindness is my only guiding star..."

~ St. Thérèse of Lisieux

Day Eight OUR NOVENA PRAYER

Dear St. Thérèse,

You never had an easy life, and yet you lived with a great sense of peace and joy. When I am struggling with difficulties in my life, I look to you, Little Flower, and ask myself: what made such joy possible?

Help me to find that joy for myself and share it, as you do, with those around me.

Help me to find the same peace which Jesus put into your soul when I am restless and unhappy.

Help me to find the love that you found when you placed your trust completely in a loving God.

Remind me to renew my faith in that love every day by praying and living out the responsibilities and demands of my life. Remind me that even when everything seems overwhelming, all things are possible if I find the power of love in my relationship with God. *Amen*.

"I know quite well all you are suffering...and I share it..."



Precious St. Thérèse,

Your spirit of gratitude opened you to God's grace. You lived your life knowing His blessings were multiplied by your own thankfulness.

Help me to be as grateful as you were to live in an enchanted world of grace, where God's presence and fingerprints are everywhere.

Teach me to be grateful for the people, challenges and experiences that are God's way of making me a better and more faithful person.

Instill in me your confidence that God's plan for me is a beautiful gift of love from Him and that all my actions should show how joyful I am to live my life for Him and devote every beat of my heart, my every thought, my simplest works to His glory.

St. Thérèse, let me join my prayers and voice with yours to sing a song of thanks to the Lord! *Amen*.

"For all that Our Lord is constantly giving me, my gratitude is boundless..."

Daily Prayer to St. Thérèse

Dearest Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, you said that you would spend your time in heaven doing good on earth.

Your trust in God was complete. Pray that He may increase my trust in His goodness and mercy as I ask for the following petitions...

(State your intention clearly and confidently.)

Pray for me that I, like you, may have great and innocent confidence in the loving promises of our God. Pray that I may live my life in union with God's plan for me, and one day see the Face of God whom you loved so deeply.

Saint Thérèse, you were faithful to God even unto the moment of your death. Pray for me that I may be faithful to our loving God. May my life bring peace and love to the world through faithful endurance in love for God, our savior.

Loving God, you blessed St. Thérèse with a capacity for great love. Help me to believe in your unconditional love for each of your children, especially for me.

I love you, Lord. Help me to love you more!

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

Amen.

Feast Day Prayer

O Little St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, as we celebrate your Feast Day, let us reflect on your "Little Way" and let our hearts be filled with the pure love of God. During your short life on earth, you became a mirror of angelic purity and of wholehearted abandonment to God. Now that you rejoice in the reward of your heavenly virtues, cast a glance of compassion on me as I leave all things in your hands. Make my troubles your own. Speak a word for me to our Blessed Mother, whose flower of special love you wereour Queen of Heaven, who smiled on you at the dawn of life. Beg her as the Queen of the Heart of Jesus to obtain for me, by Her powerful intercession, the grace I yearn for so ardently at this moment, and that she join with it a blessing that may strengthen me during life.

Continue to shower your roses and graces upon me as I turn my eyes to you, my heavenly friend.

"For me, prayer is a burst from my heart; it is a simple glance thrown toward Heaven, a cry of thanksgiving and love in times of trial as well as in times of joy."

- ST. THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX



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The mission of the Society of the Little Flower is to promote devotion to St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, the Carmelite Nun and Doctor of the Church. Through prayers and donations, friends of St. Thérèse enable Carmelites throughout the world to make a difference in people's lives through Gospel ministries and the education of seminarians, fulfilling her mission to "make God known and loved to the ends of the earth" in the most concrete ways of charity and justice.

