

Christmas Seen As Best Time To Pray For Release Of The Holy Souls In Purgatory

What would you want for Christmas if you were in Purgatory? *Heaven.*

You would want to see the Face of Jesus gazing on you with love for all eternity!

During Christmas night, it is believed that thousands of souls in Purgatory are raised up to Heaven...

Christmas Day and not All Souls' Day is when the most souls are released, according to the Blessed Mother of Medjugorje.

It is our duty especially to pray for the souls of our family, friends, and benefactors.

Let us be an advocate by our prayers and turn their pain into everlasting glory.

We invite you to join us with Our Lady and give the gift of Jesus to our Holy Heroes on Christmas Day! Do you realize how many "new intercessors" you will have on Christmas Day by helping to bring about their release? Be Our Lady's merciful ones. Christmas is upon us. Answer the call this Advent. Here are a few suggestions to give "Paradise" to our friends and loved ones for Christmas.

- Double up on your prayers and sacrifices for your departed loved ones.
- Insert the St. Gertrude prayer or your favorite Holy Souls prayer in your Christmas cards.

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the Universal Church, for those in my own home and within my family. Amen.

- Sprinkle Holy Water on the graves of your loved ones and those around the grave when visiting the cemetery during the Holidays. Kneel and pray there.
- Parents, grandparents, guardians, Godparents, teach the children... the eternal rest prayer, how to sprinkle Holy Water for the holy souls, and how to offer up "little things." Bring them to the cemetery. You will have planted the seed of reverence in their hearts and in due time this will manifest itself and assure you of their suffrages at the hour of your death.
- Light blessed candles. The burning candle is a sign of our prayer, a bright silent intercessor for the holy souls.
- Give the Holy Souls the joy of a Holy Mass. Arrange to have Masses offered during Advent. Offer your Mass and indulgences on Christmas Day. The Mass is the most powerful prayer on earth. It is the quickest means to bring the Holy Souls to Paradise!
- Place a special ornament on your tree or wreath in honor of the Holy Souls.
- Recite the eternal rest prayer before and after your meals.

Remember, the Holy Souls are our mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles, sisters, brothers, Godparents, doctors, nurses, priests, and nuns — all who have helped us in this life! Pray for them and the souls most abandoned, closest to Heaven, and the soul most like you! When you are called home, the Holy Souls you released during your lifetime will greet you at the gates of Paradise!

Just think of the power and privilege God has given to us to help Him.

To quote St. Thomas Aquinas, "Of all prayers, the most meritorious, the most acceptable to God are prayers for the dead, because they imply all the works of charity, both corporal and spiritual."

ETERNAL REST PRAYER: Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Add your loved ones to the Sacred Heart of Jesus Purgatorial Society and they will be included in the monthly mass. Form on reverse side.

Good Shepherd Church
87 South Hunter Highway
Drums, PA 18222

Sacred Heart of Jesus Purgatorial Society

Our ***monthly masses*** will be offered on behalf of the names enrolled in the society registry on the second Monday of every month.

To enroll your loved ones, simply submit their names below and your loved ones will be permanently enrolled. There is no charge and you are not obligated to become an active member.

I would like to enroll my loved ones listed below:
There is no limit to how many you can enroll. If more space is needed attach a separate paper.



A CHRISTMAS PRAYER FOR THE FORGOTTEN

Dear Lord, as we prepare for Your coming, let us reflect on the journey Your earthly parents took.

They were tired and alone, yet there was no room for them at the inn. There was no one to lend a helping hand.

Lord, help us to recognize those who may need our help or love this Christmas. Let us pray for those who have none. We pray that those without loved ones will still share in the season's blessings. We especially pray for those who feel forgotten and unloved.

Lord, break our hearts for what breaks yours. Help us to see with Your eyes, serve with Your hands, and to give of the talents and treasures You have blessed us with.

We implore You, O Lord, to stretch forth Your paternal arms to anyone feeling the sting of loneliness or pangs of sadness this Christmas season. Please bring them into Your love and peace. Amen.