

MAY – The Month of Mary

The following information was taken from The National Catholic Register

**Have you ever heard of THE “FLYING NOVENA” to Our Lady?
Do you know how to pray THE “FLYING NOVENA”?**

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta found this never-fail quick novena to turn to our Blessed Mother for speedy assistance. What of those times when you are in need of an answer but time doesn't permit for prayers in petition for a day or more? St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta knew what to do. She turned to Our Mother, and prayed her “FLYING NOVENA.” This was Mother Teresa's spiritual rapid-fire weapon. It consisted of 10 Memorares – not 9, as one thinks of a novena. Novenas are usually 9 days. Because Mother Teresa was inundated with requests for prayers and other spiritual needs, she invented the Quick Novena – the FLYING NOVENA. HERE ARE THE WORDS OF THE CENTURIES-OLD MEMORARE:

**“Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,
That never was it known that anyone
Who fled to your protection, implored your help, or
Sought your intercession was left unaided.
Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto you,
O Virgin of virgins, my Mother.
To you I come, before you I stand,
Sinful and sorrowful.
O Mother of the Word incarnate, despise not my petitions
But in your clemency hear and answer me. Amen.”**

“Mother Teresa used this prayer constantly: for petitions for the cure of a sick child, before important discussions or when passport went missing, to request heavenly aid when the fuel supply was running short on a night-time mission and the destination was still far away in the darkness. The Quick Novena had one thing in common with nine-day and even nine-months novenas: confident pleading for heavenly assistance as the Apostles did for 9 days in the Upper Room ‘with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and the women’ (Acts 1:14) while waiting for the promised help from the Holy Spirit.”

Why did Mother Teresa always pray 10 Memorares? “She took the collaboration of Heaven so much for granted that she always added a 10th Memorare immediately, in thanksgiving for the favor received.”

Mother Teresa taught: “Get into that habit of calling on her (Mary). She interceded – at the wedding feast at Cana, there was no wine ... She was so sure that He will do what she asks Him ... She is Mediatrix of all graces ... She is always there with us.” The Memorare is so powerful, Mother Teresa said. “We are to pray the Memorares with confidence and in thanksgiving knowing Our Lady will grant this. The Memorare is a prayer that effectively expressed Mother Teresa's trust in the power of Mary's intercession as the Mediatrix of all graces.” The Memorare flows from the love and confidence she had in Mary and was a simple way to present her petitions to her. The speedy response she received inspired her with ever greater confidence to have recourse to Mary with the words of the Memorare.

Mother Teresa wanted everybody to learn and use this prayer for it will glorify Our Lady and it will glorify Her Son, Our Lord.

THERE'S ALWAYS REASON FOR THE FLYING NOVENA. PRAY IT 9 TIMES FOR THE REQUEST AND THE 10th IN THANKSGIVING SINCE MOTHER TERESA BELIEVED THAT IT WOULD BE GRANTED – MAYBE THAT IS WHY SHE IS A SAINT.

