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J.M.J.

PRAYERS TO OUR BLESSED MOTHER

—*Raccolta*



PRAYER OF SAINT AUGUSTINE TO MARY

O Blessed Virgin Mary,
who can worthily repay thee
thy just dues of praise
and thanksgiving,
thou who by the wondrous
assent of thy will
didst rescue a fallen world?
What songs of praise can
our weak human nature
recite in thy honor,
since it is by thy intervention
alone that it has found
the way to restoration?
Accept, then, such poor thanks
as we have here to offer,
though they be unequal
to thy merits;
and, receiving our vows,
obtain by thy prayers
the remission of our offenses.
Carry thou our prayers within
the sanctuary of the heavenly
audience, and bring forth from it
the antidote of our reconciliation.
May the sins we bring before
Almighty God through thee,
become pardonable through thee;
may what we ask for
with sure confidence,
through thee be granted.

Take our offering,
grant us our requests,
obtain pardon
for what we fear,
for thou art the sole hope
of sinners.
Through thee we hope for
the remission of our sins,
and in thee, O blessed Lady,
is our hope of reward.
Holy Mary,
succor the miserable,
help the faint-hearted,
comfort the sorrowful,
pray for thy people,
plead for the clergy,
intercede for all women
consecrated to God;
may all who keep thy holy
commemoration feel now
thy help and protection.
Be thou ever ready to assist us
when we pray, and bring back
to us the answers to our prayers.
Make it thy continual care
to pray for the people of God,
thou who, blessed by God,
didst merit to bear
the Redeemer of the world,
who liveth and reigneth,
world without end.
Amen.

INTEMERATA

O Untouchable,
and forever blessed,
singular and incomparable
Virgin Mary
Mother of God,
most grateful temple of God,
the sacristy of the Holy Ghost,
the gate of the kingdom
of heaven,
by whom next unto God
the whole world liveth,
incline O Mother of Mercy
the ears of thy pity
unto my unworthy
supplications,
and be pitiful to me
a most wretched sinner,
and be unto me
a merciful helper in all things.

O most blessed John,
the familiar
and friend of Christ,
which of the same
Lord Jesus Christ
was chosen a virgin,
and among the rest
more beloved,
above all instructed
in the heavenly mysteries,
for thou wast made a most worthy
Apostle and Evangelist:

thee also I call upon with Mary
mother of the same
Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour,
that thou wouldst vouchsafe
to afford me thy aid with hers.

O ye two celestial jewels,
Mary, and John.
O ye two lights
divinely shining before God.
Chase away
by your bright beams
the clouds of my offences.
For you are those two
in whom the only begotten
Son of God,
for the merit
of most sincere virginity,
hanging upon the cross
confirmed the privilege
of his love,

saying thus to the one of you:
Woman, behold thy son:
and then unto the other:
Behold thy Mother.

In the sweetness therefore
of his most sacred love,
through which by our Lord's
own mouth,
as mother and son
you were joined in one,
I a most wretched sinner
recommend this day to you

both my body and soul
that at all hours and moments,
inwardly and outwardly,
you would vouchsafe
to be unto me firm guardians,
and before God
devout intercessors:
ask earnestly for me
I beseech you,
health of body and soul.

Procure I beseech you,
procure by your glorious prayers,
that the pure spirit,
the best giver of graces,
may vouchsafe
to visit my heart
and dwell therein,
which may thoroughly purge me
from all filth of vice,
lighten and adorn me
with sacred virtues:
cause me perfectly
to stand, and persevere
in the love of God
and my neighbour,
and after the course of this life
the most benign comforter
may bring me to
the joys of his elect,
who with God the Father,
and the Son liveth and reigneth
world without end. Amen.