



Prayer: Our Powerline to God

We each pray in our own way. God in his great wisdom and incredible love for us, answers each sincere prayer, perhaps not as we request but in the way that is best for our soul. When we pray a petition in common, the community of prayer, along with intercessory prayer from angels, saints and the Blessed Virgin, can result in wonderful miracles. Praying for others thanks God for His love for us.

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Fifth Edition

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Contact Us!

Have you experienced the Power of answered prayers in your life?

Prayer: Our Powerline to God is a volunteer driven parish newsletter of stories thanking and praising God for His love and goodness.

If you have a testimonial or would like to assist as a "field editor", please call Lynette at 223-5559. Or email us at

PrayerInOurLives@gmail.com

Thank you for a Miracle!!

Patrick Donovan, his wife Kim, along with their family, want to thank all the parishioners who have been faithfully praying for Pat, throughout his long illness and (current) recovery from a bi-lateral lung transplant. Pat lived with Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis for over 6 years. Pat required increasing amounts of oxygen as his lung function deteriorated over time.

That all changed when the united prayers of many people were answered on July 31, 2016 when Pat received the gift of new lungs. Our family has been blessed beyond measure by the collective power of prayer from our parish, St. Mary's Church in particular, and many others.

Thank you so much! — Patrick and Kim Donovan

God Arranges our Lives Purposefully

When I was in high school, my guidance counselor suggested that I apply to college as a Special Education Major. I had always wanted to be a teacher but I'd never heard of Special Education (The year was 1979). I got my Bachelors of Science in Education as a dual major, Special Education and Elementary Education. I was a Resource Room teacher for a few years. After starting a family, I developed glaucoma and as a result, became legally blind. I had 4 daughters, one of whom is deaf, and one of whom has an Autism Spectrum disorder. I have sat on both sides of the IEP table, and even though I haven't taught in a long time, God knew what He was doing when Mr. Heroy convinced me to study Special Education. It has certainly been a blessing! — Laurie

Thank you for Praying!

Just after the last edition was printed, we got a request from a gentleman who wanted to thank everyone for prayers for a child whose name had been on the **Parish prayer line**. She has recovered! Thank God! We are sorry we lost your name but the message means a lot. It shows how effective our prayer line is — I know because my name was on the prayer line for a time and it really helped me! Please keep praying people! It is so important, especially these days. Prayer really is a power line to God! — Lynette

Prayers for Healing Answered

Prayers have definitely been answered in one particular case I know of and in a way that seems most unlikely. In this case, a young woman—a wife and mother of four children—one day woke up and found that her leg was not working properly. In the matter of a few months, she had lost the use of her leg all together. She was confined to a wheelchair and found many other disturbing physical symptoms.

Her doctors were perplexed as to her condition and did not know how to advise her. She found that in order for her family to subsist, she had to move out of their family home and into her parent's home. These humbling circumstances should have been enough to devastate most people but not this young woman. Her life went from normal to desperate in the matter of a few months.

The one thing she never changed was how she prayed to God. She continued to attend Mass, often - more frequently than before. She prayed and asked God to unite her sufferings to those of Jesus. She was wise to do this because her suffering then turned into a beautiful prayer which she could offer up to God. She also asked for prayer of healing which many of her friends and family offered to God. Of course, the first thing that came to mind to the faithful in prayer was that the prayer of healing is for her leg and that she could one day walk again. However, God had a much different idea about how he would work to heal this brave young woman.

Many days, she experiences great pain that is debilitating. On these days, she asks God to take over and work things out. He always provides for her in one way or another. She has turned the notion of suffering around and instead of focusing on herself; she focuses on others - her family and friends and those who have no one to pray for them. Her reward is true joy. Her joy is lived in such a way as others can visibly see it. Her smile lights up the darkest room. Her laugh is genuine and so hearty. Her attitude is always cheerful. She improvises as her brilliant mind finds ways to solve the most puzzling problems especially with how to navigate around in a wheelchair. The usual answer she gives to anyone asking how she came up with the unlikely solution is that "it just came to me." She doesn't mind the times she has to crawl across a floor or up the stairs, using only her arms and her one good leg to propel her. She often has grass stains on her knees from all the work she does in her yard and at the new home she is creating for her family. Through many doctors' appointments and medicine changes, she not only approaches her condition objectively, she is now a near expert on all the conditions that are affecting her body. She is organized and speaks succinctly. She strives for harmony in her own body and is patient when the answers are more perplexing than definitive. Her first thought and word is to God, asking His will for her life and discerning His will through the signs all around her of His tender love. She has learned patience and submission to God's will which is her fortress. God does all the hard work for her as He carefully heals the small things in her life and also the big things. Her faith is formidable and she gladly teaches and instructs her family and friends many simple ways of God and how to live a fuller life.

My friend and her husband were able to renew their wedding vows which brought wholeness and harmony once again in their family. She tirelessly works with her children and husband to fix up their new-old home so that they can all move back someday soon and be "home again". She is patient as the whole process is taking a long time with many bouts of difficult physical symptoms as well as budgetary constraints.

The puzzling thing is that without this near tragedy which literally brought her and her family to their knees in prayer, they would not have the fullness and depth of love and healing possible without the journey into despair where they met their God face to face and relied on Him for their every possible need. — Heather

The Night My Son was born

God has shown me so many miracles in my life, but the one that stands out the most in my mind was the night my son was born. It was January 12, 1990 and my due date was January 15th. I had a doctor's appointment that Friday afternoon and the doctor said, "I don't know what is keeping that baby, but we will wait a few more days to see what happens." It made me a little nervous so I went to my sister's house to wait for David, my husband, to get out of work. He came and we went home and as soon as we got home, my water broke.

In expecting my baby to be born that night and expecting a long night of labor, I said, "Well, I am going to take a bath." Then the little musical church that my mother-in-law gave us started playing Amazing Grace all on its own. My husband David said, "That is it; we are going now!"

So, knowing that God was with us, we started the long drive to Ellsworth from Winterport. The night was rainy and the roads were very slippery because of the low temperature which caused black ice to form. We hadn't driven a mile up the road when we were stopped by a Sheriff telling us to be careful of the driving conditions. David quickly told him, "My wife is having a baby and we have to go now!" So the Sheriff led the way with lights flashing to the Ellsworth town line where another police car took over and led us straight to the hospital.

They had already called the hospital and my doctor was waiting in the elevator in her office at the back of the hospital. We had to go to the back of the hospital because the Emergency Room entrance was locked. A few hours later Daniel David was born without complications. He arrived early in the morning of January 13, 1990!

So, God was with us, helping us and guiding us through every step of the way. We have felt God's love and guidance through many other times in our lives but not always with the clear signs like the night our son Daniel David was born. — Joan

Homeless but Unafraid

In September of 2015 I became homeless. I finished Graduate School in May and had been unable to find a job. I did not have savings or any family I could count on. The first month I was homeless I spent crying. One day God spoke to me and said, "Stop crying, this is a temporary state." I was living in St. Louis, Missouri where I was able to attend daily Mass, pray the Rosary and read Scripture. Every day when I woke up I gave thanks to God. Throughout the day I would take time and Praise God and give thanks. I read the scripture and kept scripture verses in my mind which I would continually repeat,

"God is faithful and true to his promises."

"God has plans for me to prosper and not perish."

"All things work for my good to those who love the Lord."

"Wait patiently on the Lord and he will give me the desires of his heart."

I continued to send out resumes and apply for jobs. When I did not get the job, I trusted the Lord that this was not the job he had chosen for me. I was still homeless at Christmas of that year. I thought about our Blessed Mother. She traveled while she was pregnant and could not find a place to give birth to the Son of God. She bore her sufferings patiently and with grace and dignity. This gave me strength and courage to carry on.

In January of 2016 I began to pray the Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help. The first time I prayed the Novena, I got a call from the Social Security Administration. I interviewed with them and I knew that this was the job God had chosen for me. I waited four months before they offered me a position. During that time, I thought about the 23rd Psalm, **"The Lord is my shepherd and he has to make ready my path."** I interviewed for a position in Lewiston/Auburn, Maine but in April I was offered a position at a much better salary in Bangor, Maine.

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From September of 2015 to May of 2016, God put many angels in my path to minister to me. He provided for my financial, spiritual and emotional needs. I trust God more and more each day. I know that God has my back and he wants what is best for me. I know that what we experience in this life is for God's honor and glory. I hope that sharing my story will bring honor and Glory to God. I am gainfully employed, a member of the church and have a place to stay and am now able to take care of myself. That is such a good feeling. Praise be to God!

— Mary Ann Lockard

The Story behind this Newsletter and its Signature Yellow Rose

About 7 years ago one of the women in our prayer group was getting a call from God to create this letter. She had not been able to take on anything more. We really thought it was important so I decided to do it. How hard could it be, collecting stories of how God had helped in our lives? This might really be big! Three major problems surfaced! I had no skills in this area. The devil Did Not Want It. People are reluctant to tell their stories. One step forward, ten backward. From the start, we enlisted the help of the Little Flower, St. Therese. We proceeded in her little way. When the devil was coming closer to winning, my yellow rose bush grew an extra stem up to my window and kept three rose buds there all winter. How could I give up? With the help of angels we got four letters out. This year, the letter became a volunteer parish ministry. God wants this, **"Not only for His Glory but for our awareness of how He loves us all."** Please share your story.... My yellow rose bush is blooming more than ever and is showing me that St. Therese is still helping us. We are thankful to have had many angels helping us with this letter throughout the years. Would you like to be one? — Lynette

Are you aware Catholic NON Votes win many elections at all levels of local, state and national elections? We have one vote each but we are many! Our weapons are STRONG and BOLD. We have the Rosary and Trust in God. If we use them we preserve our precious right to our beliefs and freedoms.

VOTE – PRAY  HOPE – TRUST

The Miraculous Rose Novena

The Novena consists of 24 "Glory Be's" for nine consecutive days to thank God for the blessings given to Saint Therese of the Child Jesus during the 24 years of her life.

Holy Trinity, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, I thank Thee for all the blessings and favors Thou hast showered upon the soul of Thy servant Therese of the Child Jesus during the 24 years she spent here on earth, and in consideration of the merits of this, Thy most beloved saint, I beseech Thee to grant me this favor, if it is in accordance with Thy most Holy Will and is not an obstacle to my salvation.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen (Say 24 times)

St. Therese of Lisieux PLEASE PRAY FOR US!

Origin of the Novena: Father Putigan, a Jesuit, began the Novena to Saint Therese of the Child Jesus on December 3, 1925 asking the glorious Saint for one great favor. For nine days he recited the "Glory be to the Father" 24 times thanking the Holy Trinity for the favors and Graces showered on Saint Theresa during the 24 years of her life on earth. The priest asked Saint Therese that as a sign that his novena was heard he would receive from someone a freshly plucked rose. On the third day of the novena, an unknown person sought out Father Putigan and presented him with a beautiful rose. Father Putigan began the second novena on December 24 of the same year and as a sign asked for a white rose. On the fourth day of the novena one of Sister-nurses brought him a white rose saying, "Saint Therese sent you this." Amazed, the priest asked, "Where did you get this?" She answered, "I was in the chapel and as I was leaving I passed the altar above which hangs the beautiful picture of Saint Therese. This rose fell at my feet. I wanted to put it back into the bouquet but a thought came to me that I should bring it to you." Father Putigan received the favors he had petitioned of the Little Flower of Jesus and promised to spread the novena to increase devotion to, and to bring her more honor.