



## *St. Valentine, Priest and Martyr*

*by Fr. Francis Xavier  
Weninger*

**Feast Day:** February 14

**Patron Saint:** love,  
engaged couples,  
married couples, happy  
marriages, beekeepers,  
epilepsy, plague,  
travelers and young  
people

The holy Priest Valentine lived at the time of the Emperor Claudius. He was held in high estimation, both by the Christians and heathens, on account of his natural amiability, wisdom and virtue. The story tells that St. Valentine was illegally performing marriages for Christian couples and aiding Christians being persecuted by Claudius. Yet, Claudius himself desired to see him, and on his being brought into his presence, said to him: "Why do you refuse to be my friend, when I wish to become yours? Nothing in you displeases me, but that you confess a faith which is against our gods." Valentine replied: "O Emperor! If you knew the God I worship, you would consider yourself blessed to serve Him. He it is who has given you your life and your crown, and who alone can make you eternally happy." One of those present interrupted him, saying: "What think you, then, of Jupiter, of Mercury?" "I think that they have been wicked men, as their lives show," answered the Priest; "and, therefore, they are unworthy to be called gods." "That is sacrilege!" cried many: "Valentine deserves to die!" Valentine begged the Emperor graciously to lend him his ear, only for a short space of time, that he might defend his words.

Having received permission to speak, he placed the falsity, of the heathen gods and the truth of the God of the Christians so clearly before their eyes, that the Emperor, prepossessed in his favor, said to those surrounding him: "I must confess this man speaketh with much reason, and nothing can be said to confute his teaching." Calphurnius, the

Governor, who was also present, on hearing the Emperor speak thus, was filled with fear that he would embrace the Christian faith, and cried: "Valentine is a sorcerer, a blasphemer of the gods of the Empire! He must die, or an insurrection will break out among the people!" This speech alarmed the Emperor to such a degree that he gave up the holy Priest entirely into the hands of the Governor.

Calphurnius immediately cast him into a dungeon, and gave orders to Judge Asterius to accuse him as an enemy of the gods, according to law. Asterius wished first to make an attempt to win over the Priest, who was so universally loved, from the Christian faith, but to the good fortune of the judge, the contrary took place. Valentine restored the sight of the daughter of Asterius, who had been blind for many years, and, in consequence, the judge and his whole family forsook their idolatry and were baptized. When this was reported to the Emperor, he admired the power of the God whom Valentine adored, and endeavored to set the Saint free, but again frightened by Calphurnius with an insurrection, he at length gave orders to behead him. Saint Valentine received his death sentence with great joy, and ended his life by a glorious martyrdom.

<https://catholicarboroffaithandmorals.com/St.%20Valentine%20popup.html#:~:text=I%20My%20God,%20I%20desire%20to%20see%20Thee.%20Thee%20not.%20Valentine%20popup.html%20More%20items...>





## HOW TO PRAY the Chaplet of St. Valentine

### *NOVENA TO SAINT VALENTINE (Modified Into Chaplet)*

#### **On the Crucifix:**

O glorious advocate and protector, Saint Valentine, look with pity upon our wants, hear our requests, attend to our

prayers, relieve by your intercession the miseries under which we labor, and obtain for us the Divine blessing, that we may be found worthy to join you in praising the Almighty for all eternity; through the merits of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pray, then, O holy Martyr, for the Faithful, who are so persevering in celebrating thy memory. The day of Judgment will reveal to us all thy glorious merits. Oh! intercede for us, *<mention intentions>* that we may then be made thy companions at the right hand of the Great Judge, and be united with thee eternally in heaven.

**Pendant Bead:** *Our Father*

**10 Beads:** *Hail Mary's*



#### **Closing Prayer on the Medal:**

Let us pray: Grant, we beseech thee, O Almighty God, that we who solemnize the festival of blessed Valentine, Thy Martyr, may, by his intercession, be delivered from all the evils that threaten us. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Saint Valentine, advocate and protector, pray for me.

(If wishing to pray the 9 Day Novena, say the above prayers without the 1 Our Father and 10 Hail Marys, and then close with 1 Our Father... 1 Hail Mary... and 1 Glory Be... each day)

<https://www.catholicdoors.com/prayers/novenas/p03711.htm>

#### **Optional Additional Closing Prayers:**

**Closing Prayer for those Seeking Love:** "Loving Father, You know that the deepest desire of my heart is to meet someone that I can share my life with. I trust in your loving plan for me and ask that I might meet soon the person that you have prepared for me. Through the power of your Holy Spirit, open my heart and mind so

that I recognize my soulmate. Remove any obstacles that may be in the way of this happy encounter, So that I might find a new sense of wholeness, joy, and peace. Give me the grace too, to know and accept, if you have another plan for my life. I surrender my past, present, and future into the tender heart of your Son, Jesus, Confident that my prayer will be heard and answered. Amen. Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you. Valentine, pray for me.

**Closing Prayer for those Engaged:** O Gracious Father, who dost bless us by Thy bounty, pardon us by Thy mercy, support and guide us by Thy grace, and govern us by Thy providence: I give Thee humble and hearty thanks for all the mercies which I have received at Thy hands in time past. And now, since Thou hast called me to the holy estate of marriage, be pleased to be with me in my entering into it and passing through it, that it may not be a state of temptation or sorrow to me by occasion of my sins or infirmities, but of holiness and comfort, of love and dutifulness, as Thou hast intended it to be to all that love and fear Thy holy name. Amen.

**Closing Prayer for those Married:** My Saviour Jesus, Who hast united us in so indissoluble a tie by means of a great sacrament, maintain us in a spirit of union and concord, loving one another as Thou dost love the Church; give us the spirit of patience and gentleness, peacefully to bear with each other's faults; arm us with the spirit of prudence and holiness, so that we may always remain within the limits of our duties, and in no way offend Thee by any act opposed to the profound respect due to Thy sacrament. Send us a spirit of prudent concern and forethought, that we may with justice and charity provide for the needs of our family. Preserve us from the spirit of the world and the love of its vanities, so that we may only seek to please Thee, our God, our Love, the true bond of our hearts. Inspire us with a true spirit of faith, so that our home may be a school of piety, and a sanctuary where all virtue may be found. Far from us, O God! far from us the misfortune of being the cause of our children's ruin through our over-indulgence or our disedifying life. Far be from our home whatever could be a scandal or an occasion of sin. O Mary! to thy maternal heart we recommend our children: be to them a Mother, and form their hearts to virtue. Tender Mother, may they be pious, charitable, and always Christian; may their lives, filled with good works, be crowned by a holy death. O Mary, may we all be reunited in heaven, there to contemplate thy glory, to celebrate thy goodness to us, and thy love, and to bless thee eternally with thy dear Son Jesus Christ. Amen.



### *Acts of the Love of God*

1. My God, my sovereign good, would that I had always loved thee!
2. My God, I detest the time in which I loved Thee not.
3. How have I lived so long without Thy holy love!
4. And Thou, my God, how hast Thou borne with me?

5. I thank Thee, O my God, for so much patience.
6. Now I desire to love Thee for ever.
7. I would rather die than cease to love Thee.
8. My God, deprive me of life rather than permit that I should cease to love Thee.
9. The grace I ask of Thee is, that I may always love Thee.
10. With Thy love I shall be happy.

*Glory be to the Father...*

1. My God, I desire to see Thee loved by all men.
2. I should consider it a happiness to give my blood, in order that all men may love Thee.
3. Blind are they who love Thee not.
4. Enlighten them, O my God!
5. Not to love Thee, O Sovereign Good, is the only evil to be feared.
6. Never will I be of the number of those blind souls who love Thee not.
7. Thou, O my God, art my Joy and all my good.
8. I desire to be wholly Thine for ever.
9. Who shall ever be able to separate me from Thy love!
10. Come, all created beings: come, all of you, and love my God.

*Glory be to the Father...*

1. My God, would that I had a thousand hearts to love Thee!
2. Would that I had the hearts of all men to love Thee!
3. How I should rejoice were there many worlds, who might all love Thee!
4. I should be happy if I could love Thee with the heart of all possible creatures.
5. Thou, indeed, dost merit it, O my God!
6. My heart is too poor and too cold to love Thee!
7. O woful insensibility of man, in regard of this Sovereign Good!
8. Oh, the blindness of worldlings, who know not true love!
9. O blessed inhabitants of heaven, who know it and love it!
10. O happy necessity, to love God!

*Glory be to the Father...*

1. O my God, when shall I burn with love for Thee?
2. Oh, how happy would be my lot!
3. But since I know not how to love Thee, I can rejoice at this, that so many others love Thee with all their hearts.
4. I rejoice at this particularly, that the angels and saints love Thee in heaven.
5. I unite my feeble heart to their inflamed hearts.
6. Would that I could love Thee as well as those saints who have been most inflamed with love for Thee!
7. Would that I had for Thee a love similar to that of St. Mary Magdalene, St. Catherine, and St. Teresa!
8. Or such as that of St. Augustin, St. Dominic, St. Francis Xavier, St. Philip Neri, St. Aloysius Gonzaga.
9. Or as that which was entertained for Thee by the holy Apostles; and particularly by St. Peter, St. Paul, and the beloved disciple.
10. Or, in fine, as that with which the great patriarch St. Joseph loved Thee.

*Glory be to the Father,*

1. Would, moreover, that I could love Thee as the blessed Virgin loved thee upon earth!
2. As she loved Thee, particularly when she conceived Thy divine Son in her virginal womb, when she brought Him into the world, when she nourished Him with her milk, and when she saw Him die.
3. Would that I could love Thee as she loves Thee now, and as she will love Thee for ever in heaven!
4. But to love Thee as thou deservest to be loved, O God, infinitely good, even this would not suffice.
5. I should wish, moreover, to love Thee as the Divine Word made Man loved Thee.
6. As he loved Thee at His birth.
7. As he loved Thee expiring on the cross.
8. As He loves Thee continually in the tabernacles where he lies hid.
9. As He loves, and shall love Thee forever.
10. In fine, my God, I wish to love Thee as thou lovest us; but since that is impossible, grant that I may love thee as well as I know how, as much as I can, and as much as Thou wishest me. Amen.

*Glory be to the Father...*

O God, who has prepared invisible rewards for those who love Thee, pour forth some of Thy love into our hearts, to the end that, loving Thee in all and above all, we may obtain the accomplishment of Thy promises, which surpass all desire; through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, Amen.

*(Pius VII., by a rescript, August 11, 1818, granted an indulgence of three hundred days to all the faithful who should recite, with a contrite heart, a succession of acts of the love of God, arranged in form of a crown, with five Gloria Patris, as above. By saying them ten times a month for a whole year, a person may gain a plenary indulgence on any day he may choose; confession, communion, and prayers according to the Pope's intentions being supposed.)*