

## 15 Days Of Prayer With Saint Catherine Of Siena

Catherine of Siena (1347-1380) had her first vision of Christ at age 6 and dedicated her life to his service as a Dominican. She produced an extraordinary series of nearly 400 letters on spiritual education and the public affairs of the Church and served as an advisor to Pope Gregory XI and his successor, Urban VI. Catherine is also the author of the Dialogue and a Doctor of the Church. Saint Catherine issues an invitation and challenge: change direction, move away from self and toward God and neighbor. This 15-day journey will teach you to focus on Christ and be transformed by him, sharing the knowledge and joy of his love with others. The Cross is the central axis of these fifteen days because it is the place that leads to God. This is the vision of spiritual awakening in Christ that Saint Catherine offers us.

Born in 480 to a distinguished family in Nursia, Benedict as a young man abandoned his studies and gave up his inheritance to pursue a monastic life. He lived for several years as a hermit in Subiaco, where a group of monks seeking a spiritual leader joined him. After an attempt on his life he moved to Monte Cassino, where he founded the abbey considered the birthplace of the Benedictine order. At Monte Cassino Benedict wrote his Rule and died there in 547. Benedict required of himself and his monastic brothers a life of work, prayer and spiritual reading—a pattern that anyone may reproduce in some form today. Benedict asks us to listen carefully and look for God, to practice obedience, humility and renunciation and finally to lose ourselves in the liturgy, in the Scriptures and in prayer. Not everyone is called to the monastic ideal of poverty, chastity and obedience but even the busiest person may draw nearer to God and live humbly and prayerfully, in the spirit of Saint Benedict. A book in the 15 Days of Prayer series: On a journey, it's good to have a guide. Even great saints took spiritual directors or confessors with them on their itineraries toward sanctity. Now you can be guided by the most influential spiritual figures of all time. The 15 Days of Prayer series introduces their deepest and most personal thoughts. This popular series is perfect if you are looking for a gift or if you want to be introduced to a particular guide and his or her spirituality. Each volume contains: • A brief biography of the saint or spiritual leader • A guide to creating a format for prayer or retreat • Fifteen meditation sessions with focus points and reflection guides

“15 Days of Prayer” Collection Now distributed by New City Press, this popular series is perfect for those looking for an introduction to a particular spiritual guide, those searching for gift ideas and those who merely wish to know more about the person and his or her spirituality. Additional volume planned in 2 to 3 months intervals. Each volume contains: • A brief biography of the saint or spiritual leader introduced in that volume • A guide to creating a format for prayer and retreat • 15 meditation sessions with focus points and reflection guides

This volume, 15 Days of Prayer With Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, introduces readers to the “first American-born saint” and leads them to a place of peace and prayer that reflects the spirituality of Saint Elizabeth. Follow in the footsteps of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Elizabeth Bayley was born of a well-to-do family in 1774 and baptized in the Episcopal Church. After the death of her husband, William Magee Seton and her subsequent conversion to Catholicism, Elizabeth was no longer accepted in her previous social and family circles, leaving her a poor widow with five young children. At the invitation of Bishop Carroll, Elizabeth relocated her family to Baltimore, where she founded a school. She was soon joined by other women and formed the Daughters of Charity of Saint Joseph, serving as the first superior of that order. By the time of her death in 1821, Mother Seton's community had established schools and orphanages in North America, South America and Italy. Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton was canonized by Pope Paul VI in 1975. Serve God always Knowing wealth but no stranger to poverty, devoted spouse and mother, committed religious, generous heart—Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton has become a model of sanctity to people in all walks of life in America and throughout the world.

Inspirational treasures from a giant of Christian spirituality weave 15 days of prayer, conversation, and deepening interaction and revelation. Designed to emulate a personal encounter, it transports readers to the locale of a retreat or spiritual conference where they may benefit from the personal company of Saint Thomas Aquinas. Practical and insightful, it includes: a brief history of Aquinas, an itinerary for the 15 days, an invitation of prayer in each chapter and a bibliography.

Celebrating the 800th Anniversary of the Franciscan Order. Many contemporary readers may be familiar with Francis's life but not his spiritual vision. In 15 Days of Prayer with Saint Francis, Thaddée Matura selects key texts and provides a commentary that introduces the Poverello's gospel-based message. This volume provides a spiritual itinerary: the grandeur and misery of the human condition; the love of neighbor, especially the poor and the marginalized; poverty, the path to perfect joy; wonder over all of creation; and above all, discovering and praising the mystery of the Trinity, the center of every Christian life. Those who may have only an anecdotal acquaintance with the facts of Francis's life will be astonished at the density of his spiritual message.

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Follow in the footsteps of Saint Louis de Montfort A childlike devotion to the Mother of God marked Louis's life from the start. At confirmation he took the name Mary. Studying with the Jesuits at Rennes, and then at the Sorbonne and Saint-Sulpice, Louis became familiar with the French school of spirituality and as he himself declared, read nearly all of the books dealing with devotion to Our Lady. Seek Christ through Mary In the brief 16 years of his priesthood, Saint Louis de Montfort fulfilled a career of founder, missionary and prolific writer. Two years after ordination he organized the nursing and teaching congregation of the Daughters of Wisdom and in 1705 founded his missionary congregation of men, the Missionaries of the Company of Mary (Montfort Fathers). Throughout his life, Louis stressed that a tender devotion to Mary is the greatest secret of

achieving union with Christ. It is Mary, Louis emphasized, who intercedes on our behalf when we pray, for just as Jesus passed through Mary in his Incarnation, all graces and God's gifts pass through her hands. Enjoy your time with Saint Louis de Montfort as you journey with one of the most engaging spiritual figures of all time.

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Follow in the footsteps of Saint Francis de Sales Francis de Sales (1567–1622), presented as a young man with opportunities for a brilliant marriage and a successful worldly career, chose instead a life of devotion to Christ as a priest and eventually, bishop of Geneva. Francis was a humble servant of the poor and an exceptionally skilled evangelist, preaching Catholic doctrine with tremendous love and patience, often in the face of grave danger. He was influential in the revival of French Catholicism in the 17th century and was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1877. Give thanks to God The only way of spiritual progress, Francis teaches, is through an opening to the Holy Spirit. It is he who sanctifies us, it is he who makes us understand the Father's loving plan, realized in Jesus Christ, the Savior. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life" (Jn 3:16). To make a retreat with Saint Francis de Sales, to pray with him under his direction, is to renew our outlook on the grandeur of God and his goodness to us.

Dorothy Day connected radical faith with doing radical deeds. Beginning from her discovery of God in the Word when she was eight years old, Michael Boover shares Dorothy's reflections about her pilgrimage to the daily discipline of readiness and openness to God in her life, especially to God in her neighbor. He shares her words on why and how she prays, on her preference for frequent confession, on her intentional choice of suffering and poverty, and on her desire to imitate the saints and to make sanctity the norm of everyone's life. In these 15 days, we see how Dorothy's discipline gave her true freedom. In particular, it allowed her to give priority to Love – to take the most direct route to God by loving her neighbor. She recognized "the paucity of her own best spiritual efforts and took refuge in the fact that God would do for believers what they could not fully do for themselves." Boover's practical exercises emulate Day's own temperament. They push you to live with more integrity and deeper love, and they show a deep compassion for the difficulty of the challenge.

Blessed Frederic Ozanam is best known for founding the Conference of Charity which became the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul. His dream was to encircle the globe in a network of charity, and the Society continues to live by this mission, maintaining active memberships across five continents. 15 Days of Prayer with Blessed Frederic marks the 200th anniversary of Ozanam's birth. Christian Verheyde selects writings that reflect the breadth of Ozanam's interests, including his love for his family; his desire to proclaim the faith authentically; and his desire to reconcile science and religion, wealth and poverty, and believers and unbelievers. Following the format of the bestselling 15 Days of Prayer series, each meditation includes reflection questions the perfect means of attending to Ozanam's insistence that faith be put into action.

These selections, taken from the diary that her spiritual director encouraged her to keep, relate St Faustina Kowalska's mystical experiences, and convey the spirituality she drew from love for the Eucharist and reinforced through trust in the love of God.

15 Days of Prayer with Saint Benedict New City Press

Father Constant Tonnelier is a chaplain for the Carmelites in Laval, France, and is a renowned expert in Carmelite spirituality.

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This volume, 15 Days of Prayer With Charles de Foucauld, will lead you, over a period of fifteen prayer sessions, to a place of prayer where a stronger relationship with God is possible. Follow the footsteps of Charles de Foucauld. From spoiled child to hero of God, the life of Charles de Foucauld is a model of how Christ's love can transform a person's soul. A rebellious child, Charles de Foucauld became a wild, pleasure-loving soldier in the French Army. But at 28, he experienced a spiritual transformation, rediscovering the Catholic faith of his childhood and accepting an "apostolate of goodness." Charles left the life of a soldier for missionary work and believed that to love is the most powerful way to be loved. Serve the poor. A hermit who preferred the silence of solitude, Charles became a respected missionary in the remote Sahara concerned deeply about universal salvation. Believing that Christ did not come to earth primarily to teach but to share the human lot, Charles lived among those who were "furthest from God" and most rejected by men, sharing their lives and their hardships. In 1916, during an anti-French uprising, Charles was assassinated. Now Charles de Foucauld is remembered as not only a martyr for the France he loved but also for the God he adored. Enjoy your time with Charles de Foucauld and be prepared to be surprised as you journey with one of the most engaging spiritual figures of our time.

A respected author weaves a spiritual master's words into 15 days of prayer, conversation and deepening interaction and revelation. With this volume, readers can gain spiritual insight and develop a spiritual relationship with the great teacher Saint John of the Cross, the Spanish mystic, poet, theologian and spiritual director.

Through a series of imaginary conversations, Rev. Michel Lafon introduces us to the life and spirituality of St. Jeanne Jugan, foundress of the Little Sisters of the Poor. As one who gave herself entirely to God and the aged poor, Jeanne Jugan is a friend and patron of the elderly—but she is more than that. In our materialistic culture she calls us to live the Beatitudes, trusting that God will provide. She challenges young people to refuse God nothing in following his call. No matter what our age or vocation, she invites us to do everything through love. After founding the Little Sisters of the Poor by welcoming the needy elderly into her home and caring for them with extraordinary love and dignity, Jeanne Jugan disappeared into the shadows. She spent her last years in forced retirement among the novices and young Sisters at the community's motherhouse, quietly instilling generations of her daughters with her spirit of humility and charity. At the time of her death there were already 2,400 Little Sisters serving the elderly in nine countries. Today over 2,700 Little Sisters continue the charism and work of St. Jeanne Jugan in thirty-two countries around the world.

Fifteen meditations on the life and writings of Thomas Merton.

To enter into a relationship with Clare of Assisi for fifteen days is to race along carried by the momentum of a woman burning with love. The love that fills Clare with life springs forth like a fountain in her heart.

15 Days of Prayer with Saint Alphonsus Liguori is one of twenty titles in the series 15 Days of Prayer with.... This series provides an introduction to spiritual masters of both modern and historical times and gives the reader an opportunity to participate in a spiritual conference with a great teacher-if only through the pages of a book. Each volume contains a brief history of each spiritual guide, an itinerary for each of the fifteen days, an invitation for reflection in each chapter, and a bibliography at the end of the book.

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Follow the footsteps of Pierre Teilhard de Chardin. Born the fourth child of a family of minor nobility and the great-nephew of Voltaire, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin was a well-respected scientist and a Jesuit priest who tirelessly pursued the connection between science and religion. He felt that “only through purity of heart and not pure science, is one able...to discover, with certainty, a creator behind the forces of nature.” Seek Christ in all of creation. A mystic and visionary, Pierre’s spirituality unites what seems to be contradictory experiences—intellect and adoration, science and religion, evolution and creation. Pierre believed that creation was not a single act, but a process that has never stopped; a great continuous gesture which spans across the totality of time; the universe is clay in the hands of the Creator, molded into the infinite possibilities that lay before us. Ultimately, it is here, with open hearts to the world around us, that we find the fundamental energy and the manifestation of God in the universe—love of Christ, love of neighbor and love of all creation. Enjoy your time with Pierre Teilhard de Chardin and be prepared to be surprised as you journey with one of the most engaging spiritual figures of our time.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Lutheran pastor, theologian, opponent of Hitler and martyr, stands as one of the boldest examples of twentieth century Christian witness. By the time that the Gestapo hanged him in Flossenberg Concentration Camp for involvement in a plot to assassinate Hitler, Bonhoeffer had marked out not only a firm Christian defense of the rights of Gods Ancient People the Jews but had sketched out an undogmatic Christianity for 'a world come of age.' The essence of this Christian vision was the belief that God is always present in Christ and always present in suffering. In a twenty-first century when trivial quarrels can still divide Christians, Bonhoeffers witness to this core gospel truth and his willingness to die for it, offer an enduring example. This book offers a fifteen day course in Bonhoeffer's spirituality, drawing abundantly from his writings. A book in the 15 Days of Prayer Collection

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Christian Rodembourg was born in Bruxelles in 1959. After catechetical and pastoral studies at Lumen Vitae (Belgium), he was named literary director for the editions of Saint-Paul (Paris/Fribourg). He received a degree in Theology (Montreal), and was ordained a priest in 1995. He is now a parish priest in the Diocese of Saint-Jean-Longueuil (Canada), and a sponsor for the Week-end Amoureux (pastoral care for couples). He is also the Assistant General Animator and General Secretary for the Society of the Missionaries of the Holy Apostles.

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Follow in the footsteps of Don Bosco Brought up in poverty by his hardworking mother after the death of his father, Don Bosco became a priest and accomplished speaker, working tirelessly to help poor, homeless youth. He was a pioneer in educating children, rejecting corporal punishment in favor of frequent confession and Communion. Through catechetical training, he helped to unite the spiritual lives of youths in their study, work and play. Spirituality for everyday living Recognized as the patron saint of young apprentices, Don Bosco encouraged his young followers to learn a trade, thus, trailblazing the way for modern ideas in the area of vocational training. To retain the services of young priests, he began training his own helpers, bonding them informally under the patronage of Saint Francis de Sales. In 1859 he founded the Salesian order, which quickly spread throughout Italy. Members of this order still work in the missions and in the education of youth. Enjoy your time with Don Bosco and be prepared to be surprised as you journey with one of the most engaging spiritual figures of all time.

"Inspired by the life and writings of Chiara Lubich, Servant of God, this book reveals the two prayers: "Father, may they all be one" (Jn 17:21) and "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Mt 27:46) for which she devoted her entire life and which encompass her ideal"--

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Follow in the footsteps of Saint Katharine Drexel Born in 1858 into a socially prominent Philadelphia family, Katharine Drexel seemed destined to lead the life of a debutante. Instead, from the age of 33 until her death in 1955, she dedicated her life and fortune to the material and spiritual well-being of underprivileged Americans. Mother Drexel founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament and helped open schools for African- and Native Americans. She also founded Xavier University in New Orleans. For Katharine Drexel, sharing the bread of her life was an extension of her desire to share her wealth with those who had little. Pope John Paul II canonized her in October 2000. Peacefully do what at the moment needs to be done The perfect model of a Gospel-centered life, Saint Katharine Drexel lived life with a sense of social justice in a world torn by differences.

Henri Nouwen (1932-1996) is considered one of the greatest spiritual masters of the modern age. Born, educated and ordained in Holland, he came to America as a professor of pastoral theology. Invited by Jean Vanier to join his mission to help the handicapped, Nouwen left academia behind to become pastor of L'Arche Daybreak, a home for the disabled in Toronto. There, among God's wounded, he found a home and his greatest happiness. A heart attack cut short his rich life as writer, lecturer and priest. Nouwen drew standing room only audiences, who flocked to hear his message that we are God's beloved children, that God is the One of unconditional love who loves us now, with no strings attached. His many books are arrows pointing towards this love, reminding Christians of the timeless message that Christ came into the world not to blame but to love.

15 Days of Prayer with The Cure of Ars is one of twenty titles in the series 15 Days of Prayer with.... This series provides an introduction to spiritual masters of both modern and historical times and gives the reader an opportunity to participate in a spiritual conference with a great teacher-if only through the pages of a book. Each volume contains a brief history of each spiritual guide, an itinerary for each of the fifteen days, an invitation for reflection in each chapter, and a bibliography at the end of the book. This series provides an introduction to spiritual masters of both modern and historical times, and gives the reader an opportunity to have a spiritual relationship with a great teacher. Each book provides a spiritual break from a busy and distracted life. These are practical volumes with a brief history of each figure at the beginning of the book, an itinerary for fifteen days of prayer and meditation, and a bibliography included in each volume. This series comprises an essential spiritual resource for active Christians, and offer an inside look at each renowned spiritual guide.

This collection of meditations brings the reader inside the mind of St. Josemaria Escriva as he prays. It draws from St. Josemaria's expansive body of work and author Fr. Guillaume Derville's personal experiences as a friend and follower of St. Josemaria. This collection weaves a fascinating portrayal of how St. Josemaria entered into the Gospels to develop personal relationships with Jesus, Mary, and others. "It is exciting that these meditations will now be available in English. They bring alive the explosive and transforming Love contained in the Gospels." -Translator Justin Gillespie St. Josemaria Escriva was born in Spain in 1902 and was ordained a priest in 1926. In 1928, he received the divine inspiration to found Opus Dei, a Catholic organization of lay people and priests who try to grow close to God through their ordinary lives. St. Josemaria died in 1975 and was canonized by Pope John Paul II in 2002.

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Follow in the footsteps of Saint Dominic Founder of the Order of Friars Preachers (Dominicans), Dominic was well known for his attachment to truth, quick grasp of situations, maturity of reflection aided by long periods of prayer and firmness in his decisions. Joined to these were a great capacity for instant rapport, sympathy and enthusiasm; a great heart quickly moved to mercy; an attachment to confreres and friends and courage. Above all, it was Dominic's love of neighbor, which he never separated from his love of the Church, that characterized his life. Immerse yourself in the love of Jesus As a cleric, Dominic had a keen sense of the needs of the Church—of her hierarchy and of her resources for action. He was completely dedicated in accepting and bearing the totality of her anxieties and burdens. Everything Dominic thought, said and did was rooted in a strong and poignant love of the Savior. It was in the constant contact with the Christ of the Gospel that he discovered the importance of all the traditions of “imitation of the Apostles,” which he gathered together “to speak only of God or with God.” Enjoy your time with Saint Dominic and be prepared to be surprised as you journey with one of the most engaging spiritual figures of all time.

“Eugene de Mazenod, the founder of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, is not very widely known, despite being canonized as saint in 1995. More unfortunate still is the fact that his rich spirituality, which takes Christ's preferential option for the poor as its centerpiece, suffers that same anonymity.... In this book, Bernard Dullier selects for us the major transformative moments from the life of Eugene de Mazenod and key texts from his writings to invite us into a deeper vision of discipleship and service. And he is a master: Bernard Dullier is one of deepest, most respected minds in our congregation, there is a deserved aura always when he speaks and he blends his sharp intellect with a deep love for his fellow-countryman, Eugene de Mazenod, with whom he shares the same fiery temperament, along with an equally fiery passion for ministering to the poor. Only a fellow-countryman could so capture the soul of Eugene de Mazenod. As a fellow-missionary under the charism of Eugene de Mazenod, I am deeply grateful for this book. It wonderfully honors our founder and more importantly, is an exceptional selection of biographical notes and autobiographical texts that capture the very essence of the rich charism that was left to the Oblates and to the world through the person and writings of St. Eugene de Mazenod.” From the Foreword by Ronald Rolheiser

These inspirational treasures from five of the giants of Christian spirituality weave each of the spiritual master's own words into 15 days of prayer, conversation, and deepening interaction and revelation. Written from a perspective designed to emulate a personal encounter, each work transports readers to the locale of a retreat or spiritual conference where they may benefit from the personal company of the respective spiritual leader. By providing readers with an inside look at each revered figure, this collection fosters heightened understanding and creative interpretation, and transcends the typical "second-person" approach of most spiritual literature.

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Follow in the footsteps of Saint Bernard Bernard of Clairvaux was a twelfth-century Cistercian monk whose influence extended into many areas of Church life. His

monastic reforms emphasized mystical prayer as the foundation of daily observance, bringing the Cistercian order into a position of unprecedented expansion and renown. He fought successfully for acceptance of Innocent II after a disputed papal election and aggressively countered theological heterodoxy within the Church. Bernard was also a great champion of the Second Crusade and obtained recognition for the Knights Templar as a dedicated order of Christian warriors. Stand fast in the Gospel Saint Bernard's most enduring contribution to the Christian Faith is his body of writings, including his letters, homilies and a variety of theological studies. Perhaps his best-loved works are his collections of sermons, including Homilies in Praise of the Blessed Virgin and Sermons for the Seasons of the Year, which reveal Bernard as an experienced guide for your spiritual journey and resolve the paradox of his varied life: secluded monk and Church leader, man of peace and man of the sword, humble servant and bold reformer—always a dedicated preacher and champion of the Gospel. Let Saint Bernard accompany you on the path to spiritual renewal in Christ.

Saint Augustine stressed that Christianity was not something external and visible, found in obedience to laws, but a matter of spirit, something inside people. He also reminds us that the Church has room for both sinners and saints, for the imperfections of those in whom God's grace is still at work. Taking this 15 day journey with Augustine allows us to see his own evolution in prayer, his own teachings on the centrality of Trinitarian love in our own relationships, and his own sense of inadequacy in expressing the experience of God. And Jaime Garcas suggestions for deepening prayer and deepening love bring a renewed sense of what it means that God is our father and that by looking less at ourselves and more at God-who-is-love, we can begin again to purify the eyes of our heart and welcome Him now so as to be with Him forever.

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