

"Mary, inexhaustible source of hope"

NINTH DAY

Intention of the day: For the fruits of this Jubilee Year.

7 - 15 JULY 2025 - CARMELITE MISSIONARIES - ROME



1. INTRODUCTION

On the last day of the novena let us pray to the Lord for the fruits of this Jubilee Year which was initiated on 24 December last year and will conclude on 6 January 2026.

During these eight days, we have been united as one heart in sincere prayer, feeling the wounds of the Church, crucified, poor, needy, persecuted, rejected and scorned. (cf. Letter 42: 2 of Francisco Palau y Quer)

May the desires of Pope Francis expressed in the Bull of Convocation of the Jubilee Year become a reality by the grace of God, counting on the intercession of Our Lady and on our humble supplications.



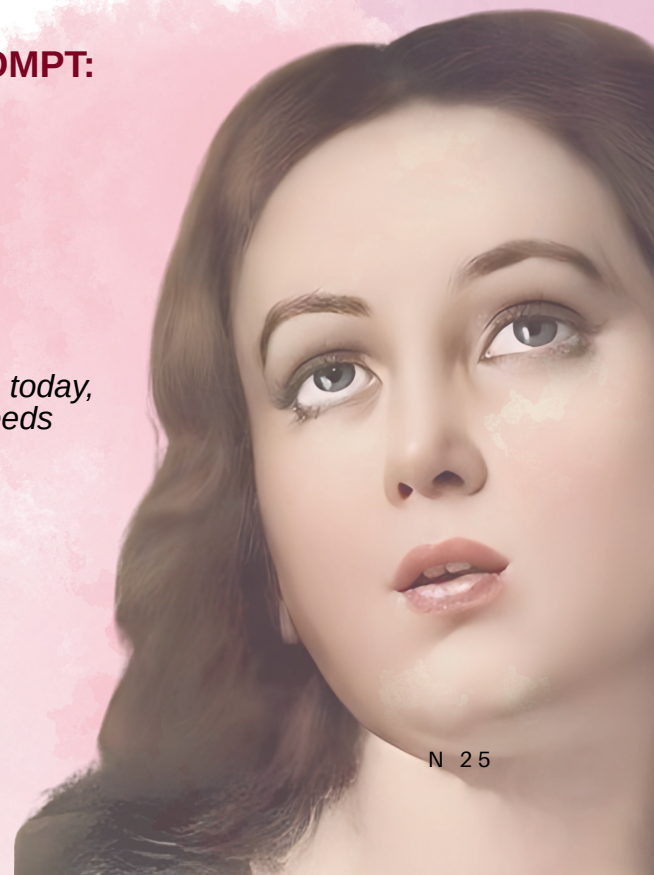
2. VIDEO FOR REFLECTION AND THEME PROMPT:

LINK: For pilgrims of hope

-Next, we sing or listen to the Jubilee Hymn 2025

3. OPENING PRAYER

Mother of Mount Carmel, Virgin of Contemplation, receive today, our hearts with its joys and afflictions, intercede for our needs and pray for us to your Son, Jesus. Amen



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4. BIBILICAL ENLIGHTENMENT (Rom 5: 1-5)

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.



5. WORDS OF POPE FRANCIS

The Holy Year of 2025 is itself in continuity with preceding celebrations of grace. In the last Ordinary Jubilee, we crossed the threshold of two millennia from the birth of Jesus Christ. Then, on 13 March 2015, I proclaimed an Extraordinary Jubilee for the sake of making known and encouraging an encounter with the "merciful face of God", the core message of the Gospel for every man and woman of every time and place. Now the time has come for a new Jubilee, when once more the Holy Door will be flung open to invite everyone to an intense experience of the love of God that awakens in hearts the sure hope of salvation in Christ. The Holy Year will also guide our steps towards yet another fundamental celebration for all Christians: 2033 will mark the two thousandth anniversary of the redemption won by the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus. We are about to make a pilgrimage marked by great events, in which the grace of God precedes and accompanies his people as they press forward firm in faith, active in charity and steadfast in hope (cf. 1 Thess 1:3).

Hope finds its supreme witness in the Mother of God. In the Blessed Virgin, we see that hope is not naive optimism but a gift of grace amid the realities of life. Like every mother, whenever Mary looked at her Son, she thought of his future. Surely she kept pondering in her heart the words spoken to her in the Temple by the elderly Simeon: "This child is destined for the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed, so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too" (Lk 2:34-35). At the foot of the cross, she witnessed the passion and death of Jesus, her innocent son. Overwhelmed with grief, she nonetheless renewed her "fiat", never abandoning her hope and trust in God. In this way, Mary cooperated for our sake in the fulfilment of all that her Son had foretold in announcing that he would have to "undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again" (Mk 8:31). In the travail of that sorrow, offered in love, Mary became our Mother, the Mother of Hope. It is not by chance that popular piety continues to invoke the Blessed Virgin as Stella Maris, a title that bespeaks the sure hope that, amid the tempests of this life, the Mother of God comes to our aid, sustains us and encourages us to persevere in hope and trust.

In this regard, I would note that the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City is preparing to celebrate, in 2031, the fifth centenary of Our Lady's first apparition. Through Juan Diego, the Mother of God brought a revolutionary message of hope that she continues to bring to every pilgrim and all the faithful: "Am I not here, who am your Mother?". (Bull of the Jubilee year of Hope).



6. LET US TALK TO MARY

Mary is an inexhaustible source of hope, she has been our leader during this novena, she has accompanied, guided, encouraged, inspired and supported us with her unceasing intercession. Grateful to her who loves us with true motherly love, let us beseech God saying:

Mary, the inexhaustible source of hope, intercede for us

- That all Christians may keep the flame of hope, given to us in baptism burning, be disciples and missionaries consumed with the zeal of the Gospel. Let us pray
- That we may be able to rekindle the sense of universal fraternity, discovering in each person the face of Christ, our Redeemer. Let us pray
- That we may not close our eyes to the tragedy of rapidly advancing poverty that prevents millions of men, women, young people and children from living in a humanly dignified way and that we may commit ourselves to change it. Let us pray
- That as pilgrims on the earth, where the Lord has placed us, we may till it and take care of it (cf. Gen 2:15), not disregarding, on the way, the contemplation of the beauty of creation and the care for our common home. Let us pray
- That as a Church, the people of God, we may take steps towards synodality, communion and fraternity, not only among ourselves, but also with other Christian Churches, thus making the dream of Jesus a reality "Father, that they may be one, as you and I are one". Let us pray

7. CONCLUDING PRAYER

Consecration to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

*Virgin of Mount Carmel, O my Mother,
I consecrate myself to You,
and I entrust my entire existence
into Your hands.
Accept my past with all that has been.
Accept my present with all that is.
Accept my future with all that will be.
With this total consecration
I entrust to you all that I have
and all that I am,
all that I have received from your Most
Sacred Son and from your Most Holy
Spouse.*

*I entrust to you my intelligence,
my will and my heart.
I place in your hands my freedom, my
anxieties and my fears, my hopes and
my desires, my sorrows, and my joys.
Take care of my life and all my actions
so that I may be more faithful to the
Triune and One Lord, and with your help
attain salvation.
I entrust to you, O great Lady, my body
and my senses, so that they may always
be pure and help me in the practice of
virtues*

8. FINAL SONG

Flower of Carmel, Our Mother So Dear