

The following is taken from the Novena Booklet we use at the National Shrine of St. Dymphna, Massillon OH.

We recite the Litany in honor of St. Dymphna and the day's intention and prayer each weekday.  
(Mon-Fri except for holidays)  
Please make the novena with us!

## DEVOTION IN HONOR OF ST. DYMPHNA

The name of St. Dymphna is an object of veneration everywhere, but especially is it so in the devotion city of Gheel, where the devotion to the saint is so natural to the inhabitants that it need not be aroused. The reason is of course evident. St. Dymphna dwelt in the city of Gheel until the time when she sanctified Gheelian soil by shedding her blood. Hers was the first shed for Jesus Christ and His Faith in Brabantine territory.

Sovereign Pontiffs and the Bishops have always shown their veneration for St. Dymphna and have favored with indulgences the church which is built over the saint's tomb; the tomb which God has favored with so many miracles through her intercession. Amidst such surroundings the people of Gheel cannot remain indifferent toward this holy virgin and martyr. In the older litanies St. Dymphna is mentioned not only under the title of Patroness of Gheel but also as Patroness of Brabant.

The afflicted, who have invoked the name of St. Dymphna have not found her wanting. Since she resisted courageously the insane, raging love of her father, God has made her the special protectress of all who are afflicted with nervous disorders and the many Miraculous cures at Gheel have established her in that title.

We ought to invoke the powerful aid of St. Dymphna with faith and confidence. We ought to celebrate her feast, honor her holy relics; attend the devotions held in her honor, and visit her Shrines. We ought to pray to her, daily, and above all our younger generation ought to imitate her virtues, particularly her purity.

## LITANY IN HONOR OF ST. DYMPHNA

Lord have mercy on us.

***Christ have mercy on us.***

Lord have mercy on us. Christ hear us.

***Christ graciously hear us.***

God the Father of Heaven,

***have mercy on us.***

God the son, Redeemer of the world,

***have mercy on us.***

God the Holy Ghost,

***have mercy on us.***

Holy Trinity, one God,

***have mercy on us.***

Holy Mary, Virgin and Mother of God,

conceived without sin,

***pray for us.***

St. Dymphna,

***pray for us.***

St. Dymphna, noble by birth but more noble in virtue,

***pray for us.***

St. Dymphna, docile to the lessons of your pious mother,

***pray for us.***

St. Dymphna, obedient to your saintly confessor, Gerebran,

***pray for us.***

St. Dymphna, who abandoned the court of your father, to escape the danger of impurity,

***pray for us.***

St. Dymphna, who chose a life of poverty on earth so that you might lay up Treasure in Heaven,

***pray for us.***

St. Dymphna, who sought consolation in prayer and devout attendance of Holy Mass,

***pray for us.***

St. Dymphna, brilliant example of Christian youth,

***pray for us.***

St. Dymphna, who died a martyr, beheaded by your own father,

***pray for us.***

So that we may carefully preserve the virtue of chastity according to our state by avoiding all dangerous occasions of sin.

***pray for us.***

So that we may persevere in our Faith,

***pray for us.***

So that we may learn to have confidence in the Lord during our afflictions,

***pray for us.***

So that we may obtain the spirit of prayer, the source of all graces,

***pray for us.***

So that we may love our Lord and God with all our hearts and above all things,

***pray for us.***

So that we may receive the grace of final perseverance,

***pray for us.***

St. Dymphna, Patroness of Gheel,

***pray for us.***

St. Dymphna, Protectress against all nervous disorders,

***pray for us.***

St. Dymphna, renowned for many miracles, particularly in Gheel,

***pray for us.***

In moments of temptation,

***pray for us.***

In times of contagious diseases, in time of war and persecution against the faith,

***pray for us.***

In our last illness,

***pray for us.***

At the hour of death,

***pray for us.***

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,  
***Spare us, O Lord.***

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world,  
***Graciously hear us, O Lord***

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world,  
***Have mercy on us.***

Christ hear us,  
***Christ graciously hear us.***

Lord have mercy on us,  
***Christ have mercy on us,***

**Our Father Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy Will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.**

Pray for us, St. Dymphna,  
***That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.***

### Let Us Pray

O God, Who gave St. Dymphna to the infant Church in Brabant as a model perfect in all virtues, and Who ordained that Thy handmaid should seal with her innocent blood and with numerous miracles the teachings of the Gospels for the spread of the true faith, grant we beseech Thee that those especially who honor the Holy Relics may continue to enjoy her powerful protection so that being fortified in faith and gratefully imitating her other virtues may be able to gain a new glory from Thy infinite and supreme majesty, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**First Day**  
**Intention ~ Faith**

O God, Source of our salvation, Who in the midst of a pagan people didst enlighten St. Dymphna by the faith, which she professed under the guidance of her holy confessor, Gereberne, with such constancy that she suffered martyrdom, we beseech Thee through the intercession of these two saints that Thou wouldst deign to strengthen our faith which Thou hast given to us so that by wisely subjecting our souls to Thy Supreme Authority and by faithfully regulating our lives by our faith we may honor Thee with our whole heart and soul until the hour of our death, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

*Five times: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father*

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**Second Day**  
**Intention ~ Hope**

O Almighty and Infinitely Good God, Who hast promised eternal salvation to those who obey Thy Commandments and profit by Thy grace, we beseech Thee, through the intercession of St. Dymphna, who fled from the danger of sin by quitting the palace of her father and who hoping thereby to gain eternal salvation fled to Brabant to live in poverty, grant that we also who are striving for eternal happiness may overcome all obstacles in the pathway of virtue and may attain eternal salvation through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

*Five times: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father*

**Third Day**  
**Intention ~ Charity**

O God of Love, Most Perfect Being, Creator of All That is Good and Beautiful, deign to help us by Thy powerful grace through the intercession of St. Dymphna, who in her youth loved Thee above all Creatures and loved her neighbor as herself for Thy Sake as the Image and Likeness of Thee, as the price of the Blood of Jesus and as coheir of heaven, so that we may faithfully adhere to the two great commandments of charity not only in word, but in action and in truth, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

*Five times: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father*

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**Fourth Day**  
**Intention ~ Piety**

O God, Our Creator and Supreme Master, we beseech Thee through the intercession of St. Dymphna, who served Thee with great zeal even in her childhood, hearing Thy word with great delight, assisting at Holy Mass with great respect, and receiving Holy Communion from the hand of St. Gerebran with tender devotion that Thou wouldst grant us the same virtue of piety so that having honored Thee during this life as our Creator we may possess Thee hereafter as our final reward through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen

*Five times: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father*

**Fifth Day**  
**Intention ~ Prudence**

O God, Ruler of the universe, Who allowed St. Dymphna to discover an efficacious means of avoiding the criminal intentions of her father, deign to grant through the merits of Thy Holy servant, that we may become simple as doves and wise as serpents so that through prudent advice and sound judgment we may perceive that which is to be avoided and that which is to be followed in order to happily achieve the great work of our salvation through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

*Five times: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father*

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**Sixth Day**  
**Intention ~ Justice**

O God, Source of eternal justice, we supplicate Thee through the intercession of St. Dymphna, who in order to render to Thee that which is Thine, fled from her country and her father, that Thou wouldst deign to make us seek after justice so that we may perform rightly our duties toward Thee as we see them, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

*Five times: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father*

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**Seventh Day**  
**Intention ~ Fortitude**

O God, rewarder of those who remain firm in their good resolutions, we beseech Thee through the meditation of the merits of St. Dymphna, who through love of virtue had the courage to suffer privation, persecution and even martyrdom, that Thou wouldst grant us fortitude so that we may courageously and perseveringly overcome ourselves and finally conquer the enemy of our salvation through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

*Five times: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father*

**Eighth Day**  
**Intention ~ Temperance**

O God, who hast made St. Dymphna resplendent in the virtue of temperance so that she mastered sensual inclination and tempered the use of earthly goods, uniting with this the beautiful virtues of modesty, docility and humility which is called the foundation of all virtue because humility banishes from the soul pride which is an obstacle to grace, we beseech Thee through the intercession of St. Dymphna that Thou wouldst deign to guide and direct us so that being preserved from all nervous disorders we may come to a happy end in the good counsels Thou hast given through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen

*Five times: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father*

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**Ninth Day**  
**Intention ~ Chastity**

O God, Lover of innocent souls, Who gave to St. Dymphna the virtue of angelic purity which rendered her reserved in all her actions, so modest in her dress, so attentive in her conversation, so circumspect in her bearing that she shed her blood to preserve this precious virtue, we beseech Thee that Thou bestow upon us the virtue of chastity so that we may enjoy peace of conscience in this life and the pure eternal joys of heaven hereafter through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

*Five times: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father*