



Season of Creation 2021 Prayer-Reflection Guide 3

September 15 – Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows



Our Lady of Sorrows, Villa Lante, Rome

Let's pray with Mary on the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.

From the moment she conceived Jesus to the moment when her Son Jesus was crucified and died on the cross, Our Lady pondered deeply and reflected on the will of God in her heart. Although such a life of the Blessed Virgin Mary is not well revealed in the Gospels, it was the image of a believer waiting for the light in the dark.

Today, the feast of Our lady of Sorrows, we are immersed in the decisive moment in the history of salvation where God saves us humans. It is a day to commemorate the Passion of the Mother with her Son who was crucified on the cross, and the suffering of Mary. Only a mother's heart can understand the pain of a mother full of sorrow. It is difficult for us human beings to express such a thing in any words. It is no exaggeration to say that Mary lived with pain from the moment she conceived Jesus.



Painting by Miriam Yu rscj

How do you think she could be obedient to God right in the middle of her pain?

United with the Mother, let us offer our prayers and ask for the grace to respond to the cries of the moment in our world and on our planet. In our own darkness, we need, like Our Lady, to be meek, not seeking power over the earth but reverence for it. We are meant to take care of the earth, not use it.

Jesus is showing a path of detachment. How lucky you are if you are not attached to the finite good of worldly power. J.R.R. Tolkien, the author of “The Lord of the Rings” trilogy, experienced it firsthand, the horror of the first World War, and witnessed those in the second. It’s no accident that in his great work, he proposed as the most tempting talisman precisely a ring of power. But when you are detached from worldly power, then you can follow the Will of God even if it means walking a path of extreme powerlessness. *“Meek, unaddicted to worldly power, you can become a conduit of true divine power to the world.”* (Bishop Robert Barron)

Since God is the Creator, God is that power through which all creatures are connected to one another. God is a gathering force, the unifier of all that He has made. Therefore, those who have fundamentally ordered their lives to God, become necessarily peacemakers, for they channel the metaphysical energy that links all things, and all people. One of the most recognizable signs of sanctity you can see in all the saints is the radiation of just this reconciling power. *“That’s why a peacemaker becomes, ipso facto, a child of God and therefore happy.”* (Bishop Robert Barron)

We believe Jesus wants to give us a generous heart that is free from worldly attachments.

*Do we really want to be detached
from worldly desires?*

*Is it possible to want to be detached
from secular power even when we don’t
recognize what we really want?*

*How do you think this honesty is
fundamentally related to saving
our planet?*



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Jesus, let us pray with Mary, and help us to fix our eyes on You today,
and see Your creation as You do

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