

## **Reflection: 14 Holy Helpers Novena Against Coronavirus**

**March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 by Fr. Emmanuel Subaar**

My brothers and sisters, today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Annunciation. In addition to the 14 Holy Helpers Novena Against Coronavirus, you can say a decade of the Rosary to have the courage to say “Yes” to God and His plans for you like Mary. I will begin this novena prayer tonight, but days are not restrictive, you can begin any day and time that is convenient for you. I have provided lists of the 14 Holy Saints and the Novena Prayer below.

I would like to explain briefly about the 14 Holy Helpers Novena Against Coronavirus. These 14 great saints were patrons and patronesses of various diseases and maladies. During the Black Death in Europe from 1346 to 1349, the faithful turned to their intercession before the throne of God. Some of these saints like St. Blaise still have their feast in the Roman calendar while we have scant information about the lives of others, yet their intercession is powerful against deadly diseases.

The 14 Holy Helpers are:

- St. Achatius: May 8<sup>th</sup>—Headaches
- St. Barbara: Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>—Fever—Sudden death
- St. Blaise: Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>—Ills of the throat
- St. Catherine of Alexandria: Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>—Sudden death
- St. Christopher: July 25<sup>th</sup>—Plagues—Sudden death
- St. Cyriacus: Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>—Temptations
- St. Dennis: Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>—Headaches

- St. Erasmus (Elmo): June 2nd—Abdominal maladies
- St. Eustachius (Eustace): Sep. 20th—Family trouble
- St. George: Apr. 23rd—Protection of domestic animals
- St. Giles (Aegidius): Sep. 1st—Plagues—Good Confession
- St. Margaret of Antioch: July 20th—Safe childbirth
- St. Pantaleone: July 27th—Physicians
- St. Vitus (St. Guy): June 15th—Epilepsy

**Novena Prayer (pray each day for nine days)**

O Fourteen Holy Helpers, select friends of God, I honor thee as mighty intercessors, and come with filial confidence to thee in my needs, for the relief of which I have undertaken to make in this novena.

Help me by thy intercession to placate God's divine and just wrath, which I have provoked by my many sins, and aid me in amending my life and doing penance.

Because you persevered till death, you gained the crown of eternal life.

Remember the dangers that surround us in this vale of tears, especially the pandemic of coronavirus, and intercede for us in all our needs and adversities.

*(Mention your intention here)*

Great princes of heaven, Holy Helpers, who sacrificed to God all your earthly possessions, wealth, preferment, and even life, and who now are crowned in heaven in the secure enjoyment of eternal bliss and glory, have compassion on

me, a poor sinner in this vale of tears, and obtain for me from God, for Whom you gave up all things and Who loves you as His servants, the strength to bear patiently all the trials of this life, to overcome all temptations, and to persevere in God's service to the end, that one day I too may be received into your company, to praise and glorify Him, the supreme Lord, Whose beatific vision you enjoy, and Whom you praise and glorify forever. Amen.