



*You shall love the LORD your GOD with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.*
*Mk 12:30*

# BLESS MY FAMILY
# BLESS MY CHURCH

**St. Michael Center for the Blessed Virgin Mary**

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St. Michael the Archangel defend us in the day of battle!

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## SAINTS PERPETUA AND FELICITY *March 7th*

https://saintmichaelusa.org/0307perpetuaandfelicity

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## Saints Perpetua and Felicity



*In her diary, Perpetua describes her period of captivity: "What a day of horror! Terrible heat, owing to the crowds! Rough treatment by the soldiers! To crown all, I was tormented with anxiety for my baby…. Such anxieties I suffered for many days, but I obtained leave for my baby to remain in the prison with me, and being relieved of my trouble and anxiety for him, I at once recovered my health, and my prison became a palace to me and I would rather have been there than anywhere else."*

*Despite threats of persecution and death, Perpetua, Felicity–a slavewoman and expectant mother–and three companions, Revocatus, Secundulus and Saturninus, refused to renounce their Christian faith. For their unwillingness, all were sent to the public games in the amphitheatre. There Perpetua and Felicity were beheaded, and the others killed by beasts. Felicity gave birth to a daughter a few days before the games commenced. Perpetua's record of her trial and imprisonment ends the day before the games. "Of what was done in the games themselves, let him write who will." The diary was finished by an eyewitness.*

***Perpetua:** young, beautiful, well-educated, a noblewoman of Carthage in North Africa, mother of an infant son and chronicler of the persecution of the Christians by Emperor Septimius Severus.Perpetua's mother was a Christian and her father a pagan. He continually pleaded with her to deny her faith. She refused and was imprisoned at 22.*

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## Sts Perpetua and Felicity Prayer

Heavenly Father, your love enabled the saints Perpetua and Felicity courage to endure a cruel martyrdom. By their prayers, help us to develop in love of you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Saints Perpetua and Felicity Prayer

Blessed Saints Perpetua and Felicity, please watch over all mothers and children who are separated from each other because of war or persecution. Give special attention to mothers who are imprisoned and guide them to follow your example of faith and courage. Amen.

**NOVENA PRAYER**

Saints Felicity and Perpetua, your martyrdom was an act of bravery, which moved the Christians of your age and continues to move us today. Give all who invoke your names similar courage, fortitude, and faith to overcome timidity in witnessing to Christ in difficult circumstances. Amen

(Mention your request here…)

Our Father… Hail Mary… Glory Be…

**The Torchlighters: The Perpetua Story (2009) | Episode 7**

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YouTube https://youtu.be/cFMbuTbNDvc

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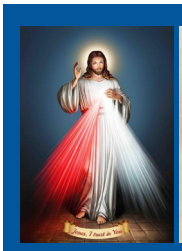
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## Sts Perpetua and Felicity Novena



O God, at the urging of whose love the Martyrs Saints Perpetua and Felicity defied their persecutors and overcame the torment of death, grant, we ask, by their prayers, that we may ever grow in your love.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**V.** You have crowned them with glory and honour, O Lord.

**R.** And have set them over the works of your hands.

Grant, we beseech you, O Lord our God, that we may venerate with unceasing devotion the triumphs of your holy Martyrs, Perpetua and Felicity; and although we cannot pay them the honour that is their due, may we at least present to them our humble homage. Amen.

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**Perpetua and Felicity**

YouTube https://youtu.be/j7O6WMU0Q7o

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**Perpetua: Early Church Martyr | Full Movie | Dr Rex Butler**

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YouTube https://youtu.be/kMNhNOZIxJw

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## Saints Perpetua and Felicity Martyrdom – 7th March

She walked into the Roman arena where the wild beasts awaited her. She trembled not from fear but from joy. Her name was Vibia Perpetua. She was just 22, a young mother singing hymns as the crowd jeered and a lion, leopard and wild cow encircled her.

One of the beasts attacked, hurling her to the ground. She covered an exposed thigh with her bloody robe to preserve her modesty and groped in the dust for her hair pin so she could fix her disheveled hair.

And when a Roman executioner approached Perpetua with a sword, her last words before collapsing were aimed at her Christian companions: “Stand fast in the faith, and love you all one another and do not let our sufferings be a stumbling block to you.”

History remembers Perpetua because she kept a diary during her imprisonment entitled “The Passion of Perpetua and Felicity” (Felicity was a pregnant slave girl arrested with Perpetua). Her diary is one of the rare and oldest-surviving documents written by a Christian woman. The emotion in the diary is almost unbearable. Perpetua describes the pain of leaving her infant son, who she was still nursing. She describes a prison visit from her weeping father, who kissed her hands while pleading with her to renounce her faith.

A narrator picks up the story in the diary after Perpetua was sent to her death. He wrote in the diary that Perpetua’s faith was so inspiring it caused the prison’s warden to convert. The narrator also describes Perpetua’s death. While she was imprisoned, Perpetua says God gave her visions to reassure her. After one, she wrote: “I understood that I should fight, not with beasts but against the devil.”

If only we were so wise!

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