

OBSERVATIONS ON INDULGENCES

Attention is called to the many indulgences which may be gained on every Sunday of the month. The first Sunday belongs to members of the Rosary Confraternity, the second to the Holy Name Society and the third to the Living Rosary Society, while the last is for all the faithful. Tertiaries who are members of these Societies should avail themselves of the numerous spiritual benefits attached to them.

The Usual Conditions

Indulgences are announced as obtainable "on the usual conditions"; that is, in order to gain an indulgence a person must be contrite, i. e., in the state of grace; must have an intention to gain the indulgence, and must perform the works enjoined. A virtual intention suffices, i. e., an intention once made, as in the morning, and not recalled.

To gain a plenary indulgence all affection for sin, even for venial sin, must be laid aside. Confession and Communion are required for a plenary indulgence. Any confession made during eight days before the day of the indulgence suffices for the gaining of indulgences in the meantime. Frequent communicants, i. e., those who receive Holy Communion at least five times a week (not four), do not need to confess specially for gaining indulgences. Holy Communion may be received on the day of the indulgence or on the eve, and suffices for all indulgences on that day or the next. The visits may be made before or after Holy Communion. When prayer is enjoined it is generally left to the individual's choice. Five Our Fathers and five Hail Mary's or one decade of the Rosary are considered sufficient. These ought to be distinct from the prayer for the Pope, but not necessarily so. The prayers must be vocal, i. e., pronounced by the lips.

The sick may be dispensed from Communion and visits by the confessor, who will add prayers or other works to be performed in addition to those contained in terms of the indulgence.

Tertiaries are urged to enroll themselves as Rosarians, that they may partake of the many indulgences proffered by the Rosary Society. Rosarians may gain a plenary indulgence daily, provided they say the fifteen decades of the Rosary within the natural day of twenty-four hours for the intention of the triumph of the Church, receive the sacraments and visit a public church or chapel.

The intention of the Pope is the object or favor that he seeks to obtain from God through the prayers of the faithful.

A person enrolled in the Rosary Confraternity and carrying his rosary with him, though not saying it, provided it have the Dominican blessing, gains an indulgence of 100 years and 100 quarantines daily. General absolution may be imparted by the confessor or by a priest so delegated, provided the formula is used.

Abbreviations

CC., usual conditions for gaining the indulgence.	Doct., Doctor of the Church.
BB. or Bl., Blesseds or Blessed.	MM., or M., martyrs or martyr.
Bp., bishop.	VV. or V., virgins or virgin.
C., confessor.	W., widow.