



Composed by Pope Pius XII for the protection of youth, especially their perseverance in faith and purity. Great graces have been obtained by recitation of this Novena for Youth. Pray it once-a-day for nine days, at any convenient time of the day.

## NOVENA PRAYER FOR YOUTH

O HOLY VIRGIN, to whose feet we are led by our anxious uncertainty in our search for and attainment of what is true and good, invoking you by the sweet title of Mother of Good Counsel, we beseech you to come to our assistance, when, along the road of this life, the darkness of error and of evil conspires towards our ruin by leading our minds and our hearts astray.

O SEAT OF WISDOM and Star of the Sea, enlighten the doubtful and the erring, that they be not seduced by the false appearances of good; render them steadfast in the face of the hostile and corrupting influences of passion and of sin.

O MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL, obtain for us from your Divine Son a great love of virtue, and, in the hour of uncertainty and trial, the strength to embrace the way that leads to our salvation. If your hand sustains us, we shall walk unmolested along the path indicated to us by the life and words of Jesus, our Redeemer; and having followed freely and securely, even in the midst of this world's strife, the Sun of Truth and Justice under your maternal Star, we shall come to the enjoyment of full and eternal peace with you in the Heaven of salvation. Amen.

**OUR FATHER • HAIL MARY • GLORY BE**



**NOW OUR STORY TAKES US** across the Adriatic Sea to the country of Albania. In the previous decades, the Muslim Turkish army poured into Albania, burning and plundering as it went. Christian refugees flooded out of the country. Eventually only the town of Scutari in the north remained free. It was the home of the national Marian shrine, with its miraculous fresco of Our Lady, and a pilgrimage centre for all Albania.

Giorgio and De Sclavis, two men in Scutari, felt an enormous anguish over the imminent destruction and profanation of the Scutari shrine. They asked the Blessed Mother to help them save it.

That night, Our Lady visited the two men and let them know the miraculous fresco was going to leave for another country to escape profanation at the hands of the Turks. She requested them to follow it wherever it went.

Next morning, the two friends saw the famous picture detach itself from the wall on which it had hung for centuries. It hovered for a moment and was then wrapped in a white cloud.

The painting left the church and travelled slowly in the direction of the Adriatic Sea. Without stopping, the picture advanced over the waters of the sea while Giorgio and De Sclavis continued to follow, walking on the waves much like their Divine Master had done on Lake Gennesaret.

Two days later, the men reached the Italian coast. They continued following the miraculous picture until they could see the towers and domes of Rome. Upon reaching the gates of the

city, the cloud suddenly disappeared before their disappointed eyes.

Giorgio and De Sclavis searched Rome, going from church to church, asking everyone if they had seen a floating painting, until everyone agreed they were madmen.

Shortly however, strange news came to Rome: a picture of Our Lady had appeared in the sky over Genazzano to the sound of celestial music. The two Albanians rushed to Genazzano and found the image miraculously suspended in the air against the wall of a church, where it remains to this day.

Thus it was that Mary Most Holy, through the humble instrumentality of a pious Third Order Augustinian widow on one side of the Adriatic Sea, and two faithful Albanian men on the other, transported the fresco from Albania to Genazzano.

To this day it remains there, hovering in the air without any support, and continues to pour out torrents of graces under the invocation of Mother of Good Counsel.



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Phone: (02) 9715 2324

Email: [orders@fatima.org.au](mailto:orders@fatima.org.au)



Our Lady of  
**Good Counsel**

**GENAZZANO**

Australia Needs Fatima



# THE STORY

## of Our Lady of Good Counsel

GENAZZANO

A FEW MILES FROM ROME, lies the town of Genazzano — rich in history and blessed with the presence of a miraculous painting of the Blessed Virgin that has an amazing story.

The origins of Genazzano date back to the Roman emperors. Later, in the third century of Our Lord, a chapel was built there in honour of Our Lady of Good Counsel. As Genazzano became more populous the chapel became a well-known shrine.

But with the passing of years, the chapel of Our Lady of Good Counsel was surpassed by far more splendid churches and it became an abandoned ruin.

In 1356, Prince Pietro Colonna, lord of the town, assigned the tottering ruin and its parish to the Augustinian Friars so that the faithful would have pastoral assistance and repairs could be made on the old chapel. But financial difficulties prevented the restauration and the years passed by.

Then the holy Mother of God chose a pious widow, Petruccia de Nocera, to bring about the much-desired restoration.

Petruccia had been left a modest fortune on the death of her husband in 1436. Living alone,

she dedicated her time to prayer. It grieved her to see the deplorable state of the sacred chapel and she donated her small fortune to have it restored. She had only enough money to begin the work but she believed others would help once it commenced.

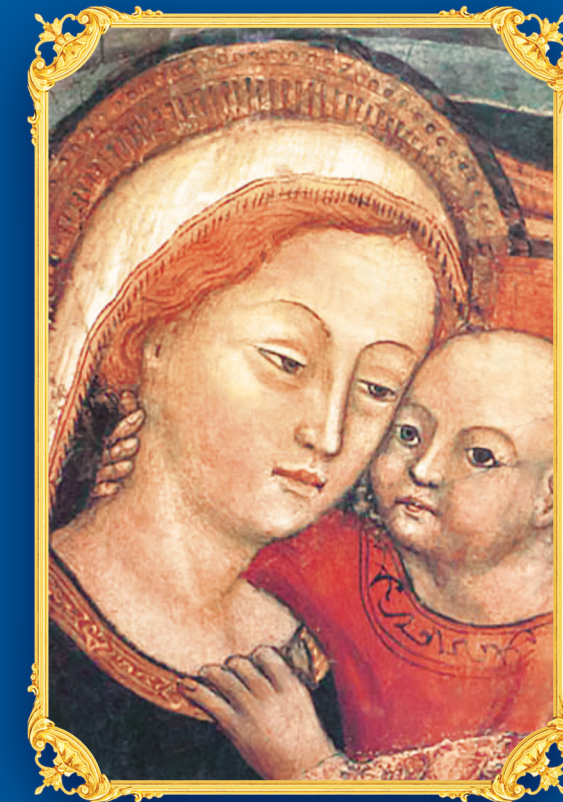
However, no one came forth to help, and to her dismay the building had hardly risen three feet when construction came to a halt. Her friends and neighbours ridiculed her and detractors accused her of imprudence. To all of them she would say: “My dear children, do not put too much importance on this apparent misfortune. I assure you that before my death the Blessed Virgin will finish the church begun by me.”

On the 25th April, 1467, the feast day of the city’s patron, Saint Mark, at four-o’clock in the afternoon, everyone heard the notes of a beautiful melody that seemed to come from Heaven. The people looked up and saw a luminous white cloud. The cloud descended on the church of the Mother of Good Counsel and poised over the wall of the unfinished chapel which Petruccia had started.

Suddenly, the bells of the old tower began to ring by themselves, and all the bells of the town rang miraculously in unison. The cloud gradually vanished, revealing a beautiful painting of Our Lady tenderly holding her Divine Son in her arms.

Almost immediately, the Virgin Mary began to cure the sick and grant countless graces.

News of this spread, attracting multitudes. Donations to restore the old chapel poured in.



**Novena**  
TO OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL  
*to protect our Youth*

Please turn over