NOVENA PRAYER TO SAINTS ANNE & JOACHIM

Good parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary, grandparents of our Savior, Jesus Christ, When life seems barren<mark>, help us t</mark>o trust in God's mercy. When we are confused, help us to find the way to God. When we are lost in the desert, lead us to those whom God has called us to love. When our marriage seems lifeless, show us the eternal youth of the Lord. When we are selfish, teach us to cling only to that which lasts. When we are afraid, help us to trust in God. When we are ashamed, remind us that we are God's children. When we sin, lead us to do God's will. You who know God's will for husband and wife, help us to live chastely. You who know God's will for th<mark>e family,</mark> keep all families close to you. You who suffered without children, intercede for all infertile couples. You who trusted in God's will, help us to respect God's gift of fertility. You who gave birth to the Blessed Mother, inspire couples to be co-creators with God. You who taught the Mother of God, teach us to nurture children in holy instruction. You whose hearts trusted in God, hear our prayers for grandparents and grandchildren in kinship care.

Pray with us for the m<mark>inistry of</mark> Catholic family life.

Pray with us for the mini<mark>stry of N</mark>atural Family Planning.

Pray with us for all who give their time, talent, and treasure to this good work.

Hail Mary . . . Ou<mark>r Father .</mark> . . Glory be . . .

God of our fathers, you gave Saints Anne and Joachim the privilege of being the parents of Mary, the mother of your incarnate Son. May their prayers help us to attain the salvation you have promised to your people. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.