

## IMAGES OF CHRIST AS A CHILD

\*The Child Jesus was first portrayed on His own in works of art in the early 14th century. The oldest statues come from Germany and are probably connected with the visionary milieu in convents. Various attributes are to be found in the Child's hands: the right hand is usually raised in blessing, while the left hand holds a bird, an orb, a book, a cross, or a bunch of grapes, (a reference to the Eucharist). In the Middle Ages statues of the Infant Jesus were made of wood, while in Baroque times various other materials, including wax, ivory, and bronze, were used as well. The Baroque statues are very often dressed in robes.

\*(excerpted from pragjesu.info)



\*\*In 1995, while visiting the Sanctuary of the Divino Nino Jesus in Bogata, Columbia, Mother Angelica (EWTN) received a vision while praying before a small statue of the Divine Child Jesus. The statue came to life and said to her: *"Build Me a Temple, and I will help those who help you."* On December 19, 1999 The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament of Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Hanceville AL was consecrated. El Divino Nino, as Mother likes to refer to Him, is a beautiful little image of the Christ child, dressed in a tunic, with a happy smile on His face and with His arms thrown up as if He is waiting for a hug.

\*\*\*(excerpted from cullman.al.us)

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR GRACES RECEIVED FROM THE INFANT JESUS**

\*\*\**I* prostrate myself before Thy holy image,  
O most gracious Infant Jesus,  
To offer my most fervent thanks for the blessings  
Thou hast bestowed on me.  
I shall incessantly praise Thy ineffable mercy  
and confess that Thou alone are my God,  
my helper, and my protector.  
Henceforth my entire confidence shall be placed in Thee!  
Everywhere I will proclaim aloud Thy mercy  
and generosity, so that Thy great love  
and the great deeds which Thou perform through  
this miraculous image may be acknowledged by all.  
May devotion to Thy holy infancy increase  
more and more in the hearts of all Christians,  
and may all who experience Thy assistance  
persevere with me in showing unceasing gratitude  
to Thy most holy infancy,  
to which be praise and glory forever. Amen

\*\*\*(excerpted from marypages.com)

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## ***Novena and Devotions to the Miraculous Infant Jesus of Prague***



***" The more you honor Me  
the more I will bless you."***

## *History and Devotions to the Infant Jesus of Prague*

**\*Devotion** to the Infant Jesus of Prague is devotion to the Child Jesus. It is the veneration of the Son of God, who in the form of an infant chose a stable for a palace, a manger for a cradle, and shepherds for worshipers. Our Savior grants special graces to all who venerate His sacred Infancy.

The image of the Child Jesus known as the “Infant Jesus of Prague” was in reality of Spanish origin. In the 17th Century, this beautiful statue was brought by a Spanish princess to Bohemia and presented to a Carmelite monastery. For many years this statue has been enshrined on a side altar in the Church of Our Lady of Victory in the City of Prague. It is of wax, and is about nineteen inches high. It is clothed in a royal mantle, and has a beautiful jeweled crown on its head. Its right hand is raised in blessing; its left holds a globe signifying sovereignty.

So many graces have been received by those who invoke the Divine Child before the original statue that it has been called “The Miraculous Infant Jesus of Prague.” We read the following in an old book printed in Kempt: “All who approach the miraculous statue and pray with confidence receive assistance in danger, consolation in sorrows, aid in poverty, comfort in anxiety, light in spiritual darkness, streams of grace in dryness of soul, health in sickness, and hope in despair”. \*(excerpted from cfnews.org)

**\*\*The Church of Our Lady of Victory** became one of the most famous, and popular shrines in the world. In 1739 the Carmelites of the Austrian Province made the spread of the devotion a part of their apostolate. The popularity of the little King of Prague spread to other countries in the eighteenth century. Pope Leo XIII confirmed the Sodality of the Infant of Prague in 1896 and granted many indulgences to the devotion. Pope St. Pius X unified an organizing membership into a confraternity under the guidance of the Carmelites which increased the spread of the devotion in our own century. Church authorities have canonically established a United States National shrine to the Infant Jesus of Prague at Prague, Oklahoma.

\*\* (excerpted from the book “A Handbook of Catholic Sacramentals,” by Ann Ball)

## *NOVENA PRAYER TO THE INFANT OF PRAGUE*

**\*O** Dearest Jesus, tenderly loving us, Thy blessings upon us!  
Though I am not worthy that Thou should behold me with love,  
I feel myself drawn to Thee,  
O dear Infant Jesus, because Thou gladly pardon me  
and exercise Thy almighty power over me.  
So many who turned with confidence to Thee have  
received graces and had their petitions granted.  
Look upon me as I kneel in spirit before  
Thy miraculous image on Thine altar in Prague  
and lay open my heart to Thee,  
with its prayers, petitions and hopes.  
Especially .....I enclose in Thy loving Heart.  
Govern me and do with me and mine according to  
Thy holy will, for I know that in  
Thy Divine wisdom and love  
Thou will ordain everything for the best.  
Almighty, gracious Infant Jesus,  
do not withdraw Thy hand from us,  
but protect and bless us forever. Amen  
\*(excerpted from Catholic Family News)

### **\*\*Special Prayer to the Infant Jesus**

O Infant Jesus,  
I form the belief that I shall be granted  
forgiveness of sins and place it into the  
hands of Your most Holy Mother Mary;  
I commend myself to all and every Holy Mass that  
is celebrated this day and all over the globe,  
and I offer all this on behalf of the  
poor souls of purgatory. Amen

**\*\*Through** prayer we humbly ask the Holy Infant to wean us of our need to control our family, friends and own personal lives as He teaches us to surrender all things to His will.  
With trust and faith in His words:  
**“Ask and you shall Receive, Knock and the door shall Open”**, we actively place our needs in His little hands in the hope that He will continue to show us what it means to be more like Him.

\*\* (excerpted from marypages.com)

