

Prayers for the Holidays and Other Occasions

Our Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the Power and the Glory forever and ever. Amen.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty, from there He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.

Act of Contrition

Oh my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of hell, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve with the help of Thy grace to confess my sins, to do penance and to amend my life. Amen.

Glory Be

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving Table Prayer

Oh gracious God, we give you thanks for your overflowing generosity to us. Thank you for the blessings of the food we eat and especially for the feast today. Thank you for our home and family and friends, especially for the presence of those gathered here. Thank you for our health, our work and our play. Please send help to those who are hungry, alone, sick and suffering war and violence. Open our hearts to your love. We ask your blessing through Christ your son. Amen.

Advent Prayer

Father in heaven, our hearts desire the warmth of Your love
and our minds are searching for the light of Your Word.
Increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love,
that the dawn of His coming may find us rejoicing in His presence and welcoming the light of His truth.
We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord. Amen.

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Christmas Prayer

Almighty God and Father of light, a child is born for us and a son is given to us. Your eternal Word leaped down from heaven in the silent watches of the night, and now your Church is filled with wonder at the nearness of her God. Open our hearts to receive his life and increase our vision with the rising of dawn that our lives may be filled with his glory and his peace, which lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

Blessing of a Christmas Tree

Heavenly Father, two thousand years ago, You brought Your Son, Jesus, into this world to teach us the power of love and sacrifice. As we raise this tree, we remember His birth and the meaning of His life for us. Bless this tree as a symbol of our celebration of Jesus' birth and our gratitude for His sacrifice. May the joy this tree brings and the gifts we place under it remind us of the many gifts You have given us. We ask Your blessings upon our loved ones this day and always. Amen.

Easter Prayer

Heavenly Father and God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. From the waters of death you raise us with him and renew your gift of life within us. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mother's Day Prayer

I thank you, creator of us all, for my mother. I thank you that she gave me life and nurtured me all those years. She gave me my faith, helping me to know you and to know Jesus and his ways. She taught me how to love and how to sacrifice for others. She taught me that it was okay to cry and to always tell the truth. Bless her with the graces she needs and which you want to give her today. Help her to feel precious in your eyes today and to know that I love her. Give her strength and courage, compassion and peace. Bless her this day with your love. Amen.

Father's Day Prayer

God our Father, in Your wisdom and love You made all things. Bless these men, that they may be strengthened as Christian fathers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honor them always with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing for a Meal

Bless us Oh Lord and these Thy gifts which we are about to receive from Thy bounty. Through Christ, Our Lord. Amen

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Prayer for the Sick and Elderly

All praise and glory are yours, Lord our God.
For You have called us to serve You and one another in love.
Bless our sick today so that they may bear their illness
in union with Jesus' sufferings and restore them quickly to health.
Bless those who have grown old in your service and give them courage and strength in their faith.
Lead us all to eternal glory. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You
and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer for Parents

Grant us, O Lord Jesus, to imitate faithfully the example of Your Holy Family
and to make our home another Nazareth.
May peace, love and happiness prevail.
Grant us the grace to be the parents we should be for our children.
Grant that our child may find solid support for their human dignity
and for their growth in truth and love within the embrace of our home.
When the time comes for each of us to go to the everlasting home You have prepared for us,
may Your glorious Mother and St. Joseph take us to You after the final grace of a happy death. Amen.

Prayer for Peace

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed,
kindle in the hearts of all men the true love of peace,
and guide with Your pure and peaceable wisdom those who make decisions for the nations of the earth;
that in tranquility Your kingdom may go forward till the earth be filled with the knowledge of Your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Inner Peace

Lord Jesus Christ, I'm upset and disturbed,
and I pray that You will grant me the grace of inner Peace.
As You commanded the storm winds at sea to be calm, command the storms in my life to be calmed.
Give me the patience I need to cope with the burdens and anxieties of my life.
Grant me the strength to better deal with my problems and the understanding
to be more tolerant and kind to others.
Teach me to seek after Your will which alone brings peace of mind and peace of heart. Amen.

Prayer for Parents for their Children

God, our Father, I thank You for the gift of my children and for the privilege and responsibility of being a parent,
for this is my way of holiness. May I regard each of my children as a sacred pledge of Your love and a beautiful sign
of Your confidence in me. Help me to pass on to my children our greatest treasures, faith in Your truths, hope in
Your goodness, love in Your Name for all. I entrust my children to Your loving care. Banish from our home any
bitterness or lack of forgiveness. Let us have time, deep concern, and a sense of sacrifice for one another.
Teach us never to be ashamed that we are, in name and in fact, a Catholic family striving to live in the way of Jesus,
Who is head of our home. Give us Your Holy Spirit to unite us throughout this life and let the circle of our family be
unbroken in the Kingdom of Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Prayer for Strength and Wisdom

Lord, give me strength and wisdom to live this day as I should. Give me strength to overcome every temptation which may come to me, to do well every task which is assigned to me, to shoulder every responsibility which is laid upon my shoulders. Give me wisdom to know when to speak and when to keep silent, to know when to act and when to refrain from action, to know when to speak my mind and when to hold my peace. Bring me to the end of this day in goodness, in happiness and in peace. Amen.