November 1, 2026 — January 31, 2027

Universal Prayers
(Prayers of the Faithful)



General Intercessions
Or
Universal Prayers (Prayers of the Faithful)

The norms governing "The Universal Prayer" are given in the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, nos. 69–71. Formulas helpful to the composition of these intercessions are offered in the following pages; the samples proposed depend heavily upon the Mass formularies for the respective Sundays and feasts. A more general series of intercessory petitions would be as follows:

Introductory Invitation:

> We have opened our hearts and minds to the wisdom of God in the Liturgy of the Word. Now let us turn to him humbly and sincerely with these common petitions:

For our Holy Father the Pope, for our (Arch)Bishop N., and all the pastors and priests of this (arch)diocese: that they be blessed with the zeal and courage to proclaim the values and the obligations of our holy religion, we pray to the Lord—

For our civil leaders and representatives on the national and local levels: that their laws and their lives be an inspiration to all citizens by reflecting right reason and divine revelation, we pray to the Lord—

For our youth in particular: that they be given the encouragement and the guidance to resist the immoral and sinful presence of current pagan culture, we pray to the Lord—

For the sick, the needy, the aged, and the lonely: that they be consoled spiritually by the gifts of grace and also receive care, aid, and loving concern from relatives, friends, and neighbors, we pray to the Lord—

For those who have died recently: that they may speedily attain the blessedness of heaven, we pray to the Lord—

For the personal intentions of each one here present . . ., we pray to the Lord—

Concluding Prayer

> God of mercy and compassion, bless us by granting these common petitions, for we plead to you in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE POPE'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTIONS

NOVEMBER—*For the proper use of wealth*

—Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service the common good and solidarity of those who have less.

DECEMBER—*For single-parent families*

—Let us pray for families experiencing the absence of a mother or father, that they may find support and accompaniment in the Church, and help and strength in the Faith during difficult times.

JANUARY—*That the power of prayer might be discovered*

—Let us pray that everyone in the Church might discover the power of prayer as a personal encounter with the Lord that transforms our hearts and the world.

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November 1, 2026

Solemnity of All Saints

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> As children of God, united in baptism through Christ in the communion of saints, we gather here today to offer these petitions to our loving God.

For church leaders: May they continue to encourage the faithful to model their lives after the saints, recalling their courage, fearlessness, and perseverance for the faith. We pray to the Lord—

For leaders in this country and throughout the world: May Christ himself intervene in all circumstances so that all God's children are treated humanely and with dignity. We pray to the Lord—

For all who feel unworthy of sainthood: May they remember that all are called to be saints, that sainthood does not require perfection, and that no one is out of reach of the mercy of God. We pray to the Lord—

For all gathered here today: May we remember to call on our friends, the saints in heaven, as we travel through this life toward our heavenly reward. We pray to the Lord—

For those who have died: May they now rest in God and know the fulfillment of God's transformation of all creation. We pray to the Lord—

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> Heavenly Father, through your great mercy, help us to continue to grow into the likeness of your Son so that we reflect his light to others and become ambassadors for your kingdom. We pray this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

November 2, 2026

The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls)

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> In gratitude for the time God granted us with those who are no longer with us, we voice these prayers with confident hope.

For leaders in the universal church, in this country, and in each parish of this (arch)diocese: We pray that they listen with the ears of their heart to those who mourn, tending to their corporal and spiritual needs in meaningful ways. We pray to the Lord—

For leaders throughout the world: We pray that they recognize peace as the solution and that they enact humane policies that uphold the dignity of each person. We pray to the Lord—

For those who mourn the death of a loved one: May they be comforted knowing that through Jesus, death is transformed to new life in Christ. We pray to the Lord—

For this church family: Let us pray for each other and extend help to those who continue to mourn or who may be entering the coming holiday season for the first time without a loved one. We pray to the Lord—

For those who have died: May they now rest in God, who never stops reconciling the world in love and transforming us into glory. We pray to the Lord—

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> Loving God, we humbly offer these prayers to you. Through your grace, help us to support our loved ones and all souls with our prayers, trusting in your love that never stops reaching out to those you created. We pray this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

November 8, 2026

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> Gathered here today, we ask God to grant us the perseverance and grace to reflect Christ's light to all we meet. In unity through the Holy Spirit, we offer these petitions.

For church leaders: May they help people develop an active, charitable faith that always seeks the greater good of the other and those in need. We pray to the Lord—

For leaders in this country and throughout the world: May they enact policies that help the poor, needy, and all who are vulnerable. We pray to the Lord—

For all who face darkness of any kind: May they see the light of Christ reflected in those who would help them. We pray to the Lord—

For all gathered here today: May they always look for Jesus in others and attend to the needs of all God's children in this country and throughout the world. We pray to the Lord—

For those who have died: May they know the eternal peace of Christ. We pray to the Lord—

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> Heavenly Father, help us to follow your Son more closely so that we always reflect his light to others. Grant us the courage and grace to serve as your hands and feet as we attend to the corporal and spiritual needs of all your children. We pray this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

November 15, 2026

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> United in gratitude for all the blessings God has granted us, we offer these petitions to our loving God.

For the church: May she always be an example of self-giving love and charity to all those who seek her assistance. We pray to the Lord—

For leaders in this country and throughout the world: May they advocate for policies that promote humane treatment of all God's children and wise stewardship of the earth's resources. We pray to the Lord—

For all who suffer from famine, poverty, and violence: May those in need find help, assistance, and relief from faithful servants who work to promote God's peace and charity. We pray to the Lord—

For all those gathered here today: May we be filled with God's mercy and always be inspired by Christ's self-emptying love to share their blessings and resources with others. We pray to the Lord—

For those who have died: May they now rest in God's abundant mercy. We pray to the Lord—

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> Father, we can never thank you enough for all the blessings you have bestowed on us. Grant us the grace to carry the spirit of generosity and charity wherever we go. Help us also to grant to others the same mercy and forgiveness you have shown us. We pray this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

November 22, 2026

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> Joined together in unity with Christ the King, we offer these petitions to the One who always hears our prayers and grants us courage to obey his commands.

For leaders of the universal church: May they shepherd the faithful so that they always choose God's law above all others. We pray to the Lord—

For leaders in this country: May they recognize the sovereignty of Christ the King and reflect that understanding in all ways. We pray to the Lord—

For all who hunger, thirst, or need shelter or clothing; for all who are sick and in prison: May they see the reflection of Christ in the people who seek to help them. We pray to the Lord—

For members of our church family gathered here today: May we always look to the saints and martyrs for courage to obey God's law no matter what the cost. We pray to the Lord—

For those who have died: May they now rest in the eternal kingdom, singing praise for God's goodness. We pray to the Lord—

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> Heavenly Father, thank you for sending us your Son. In this time of uncertainty, help us to remember Christ will always be king, and that the Son of Man will be the final judge. Help us to live for you a life of total self-giving. Grant us the wisdom and courage to always obey your commands. We pray this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

November 29, 2026

First Sunday of Advent

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> As we wait in hopeful expectation, we humbly offer these petitions.

For leaders of the universal church: May they help the faithful deepen their relationship with Christ during this Advent season through penance, almsgiving, and prayer. We pray to the Lord—

For leaders in this country and throughout the world: May they set aside the spirit of division and promote unity among all peoples. We pray to the Lord—

For those suffering from illness, addiction, loneliness, or any kind of darkness: May those who suffer experience the healing power and light of Christ. We pray to the Lord—

For all gathered here in this faith community: May we allow the Potter to shape us and mold us to whom he created us to be, not only in this season, but in every season. We pray to the Lord—

For those who have died: May they know eternal life with God, who prepared them for glory during their earthly journey. We pray to the Lord—

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> God, help us to slow down this season so we can prepare our hearts for your coming. Help us also to recognize his knock on the door of our hearts every day and to always answer "yes." We pray this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

December 6, 2026

Second Sunday of Advent

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> As we prepare the way of the Lord, let us bring our prayers before our loving God.

For the church, that we may proclaim the Good News with courage and compassion. We pray to the Lord—

For leaders of nations, that they may work for justice and peace. We pray to the Lord—

For those burdened by fear or despair, that they may find comfort and hope in God's mercy. We pray to the Lord—

For our community, that this Advent season deepens our commitment to holiness, reconciliation, and patient waiting. We pray to the Lord—

For those who have died, that they may see the salvation of God. We pray to the Lord—

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> Father, hear our prayers and prepare our hearts as we await new heavens and a new earth. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

December 8, 2026

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> With confidence in God who calls us to holiness, let us present our prayers of intercession.

For the church, that we may proclaim Christ with the same faith and courage as Mary. We pray to the Lord—

For leaders of nations, that they promote justice and peace for all people. We pray to the Lord—

For those struggling to trust God's plan, that they find strength in Mary's example. We pray to the Lord—

For our community, that we grow in holiness and openness to God's will. We pray to the Lord—

For the faithful departed, that they rejoice forever in God's presence. We pray to the Lord—

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> Eternal God, hear our prayers and help us, like Mary, to say "yes" to your will. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

December 13, 2026

Third Sunday of Advent

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> Rejoicing in the Lord who is near, let us bring our prayers before the One who does great things for us.

For the church: May we boldly proclaim the joy of the Gospel and testify to the Light in word and deed. We pray to the Lord—

For all who serve in ministry: May the Spirit of the Lord strengthen them to bring glad tidings to the poor and healing to the brokenhearted. We pray to the Lord—

For those burdened by despair: May they experience freedom and hope. We pray to the Lord—

For all preparing for Christmas: May homes be places of rest, joy, and welcome for and from Christ. We pray to the Lord—

For those who have died: May they rejoice in the presence of the Lord. We pray to the Lord—

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> God of joy and peace, hear our prayers and help us prepare the way for your Son with hearts full of hope. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

December 20, 2026

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> With hearts open to God's promise, let us bring our prayers for the life of the world.

For the church: May we proclaim the mystery revealed in Christ with joy and humility. We pray to the Lord—

For those discerning their vocation: May Mary's example of trust inspire all to say "yes" to God's call. We pray to the Lord—

For those who feel lonely: May they find living "dwelling places" of faith, hope, and love. We pray to the Lord—

For those preparing to welcome new life: May they find strength in God's promise. We pray to the Lord—

For all who have died: May they share in the eternal kingdom promised to David and fulfilled in Christ. We pray to the Lord—

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> Faithful God, you keep your promises from age to age. Hear our prayers and help us to welcome your Son with hearts ready to serve. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

December 25, 2026

The Nativity of the Lord

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> On this holy night (day), when we proclaim, "Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord," let us bring our prayers before God who is with us now.

For the church: May we joyfully announce that Christ is born today and lives among us always. We pray to the Lord—

For peace in our world: May the light of Christ shining today break through the darkness that divides and hurts. We pray to the Lord—

For those who feel burdened or afraid: May they hear the angel's message of "Do not be afraid" and find hope. We pray to the Lord—

For all communities of faith: May the grace of this season renew hearts and homes with love and unity. We pray to the Lord—

For our parish: May we live as people of the incarnation, carrying Christ's presence from this holy night into every day of our lives. We pray to the Lord—

For those who have died: That they rejoice in the eternal "today" of God's kingdom. We pray to the Lord—

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> God of light and glory, you make this night (day) holy.
> Hear our prayers and help us live in the joy of Christ's birth,
> now and always. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

December 27, 2026

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> Trusting in God's faithful love, let us bring our prayers before the Lord.

For the church: May it be a growing family of faith. We pray to the Lord—

For families experiencing conflict, separation, or pain: May God's healing love bring reconciliation and peace. We pray to the Lord—

For parents and guardians: May they find strength and patience in guiding their children, even in difficult times. We pray to the Lord—

For children and young people: May they grow in wisdom and know they are loved by God. We pray to the Lord—

For those who have no family or feel isolated: May they find communities of belonging and support. We pray to the Lord—

For our parish: May we learn to forgive, encourage, and care for one another as members of God's family. We pray to the Lord—

For those who have died: May they rejoice in the eternal family of heaven. We pray to the Lord—

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> Strong, loving God, you remember your covenant forever, and you bless us with the gift of family and community. Hear our prayers and help us to live in love and trust, following the example of the Holy Family. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

January 1, 2027

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> Trusting in God who always blesses us more than we ask and more than we realize, we have the confidence to lift up our prayers.

For Pope Leo and all church ministers, that they show us God's loving care for us, we pray—

For all to find Mary's loving care for everyone, especially the poor, homeless, and suffering, we pray—

For all of us to learn how to share with the poor and hungry and lonely, we pray—

For the young and the aged to know they are loved, we pray—

For the sick and the dying to know comfort and peace, we pray—

For those who have died, that they may rest in God's peace and rejoice with Mary and all the saints, we pray—

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> God our Father, we thank you for Mary, Mother of Jesus and our mother, too. May we always remember with gratitude the wondrous love you give us. We ask this in Jesus' name now and forever. Amen.

January 3, 2027

The Epiphany of the Lord

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> We bring our prayers to our Almighty God, whose Son is the true gift to all people.

That our Pope Leo and all church ministers lead us with peace and sincere caring, let us pray to the Lord—

That your people accept that we are all brothers and sisters of your loving Son, regardless of our nation, let us pray to the Lord—

That all your people who feel abandoned by fellow human beings come to know your profound love, let us pray to the Lord—

That the sick or dying are comforted by your love and their future joy, let us pray to the Lord—

That those who have died may live in eternal light, let us pray to the Lord—

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> Father, may your light fill our hearts with peace and love and enable us to understand and practice your love for all who need us. We ask this in faith through Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen.

January 10. 2027

The Baptism of the Lord

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> We come to God our Father in union with the Son, Jesus Christ, through whom we bring these petitions.

That Pope Leo and all church leaders be blessed with faith, hope, and trust, let us pray—

That we all grow in faithfulness to our baptismal commitment, let us pray—

That the needy in our parish, town, country, and world receive the help they need, let us pray—

That the youth in our parish grow in faith and trust, let us pray—

That our civil leaders guide our country justly, let us pray—

That those who have died may now rest in the fullness of life that we profess as a baptized people, let us pray—

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> God of majesty, lead us with your love that we may grow in faith, hope, and love. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

January 17, 2027

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> We come to our ever-loving Father, whose love never fails.
> In hope and trust we pray.

Open the hearts of Pope Leo and our bishops to show us how to live in hope and love, we pray—

Speak to the hearts of those who have the power to negotiate an end to war, we pray—

Open our hearts to help the needy with the food and clothing they need, we pray—

For those who are sick or dying and for those who care for them, we pray—

For those who have died and for those who are mourning, we pray—

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> God our Father, gifts without measure flow from your love. With grateful hearts we thank you and love you. May we always remain faithful to you through Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives forever and ever. Amen.

January 24, 2027

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> We bring our prayers to our Lord who announces the Good News and the time of fulfillment. Encouraged to make known our needs, we offer these prayers.

May Pope Leo and all church leaders show us the way and encourage us to hear your word, we pray—

May leaders of the world open their hearts and minds to the peace and care that all people need, we pray—

May we all do whatever we can to help the needy of our world have a better life, we pray—

May we open our hearts and minds to each other, we pray—

May those who have died be embraced at the heavenly banquet, we pray—

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> Father, you sent your beloved Son to teach us repentance and to help us become your beloved sons and daughters. Hear our prayer now and help us to do as you desire. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

January 31, 2027

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> Because God listens to us and truly hears us, we bring our needs to him.

For all church leaders to listen to their people with open hearts and minds, we pray—

For leaders of all nations to listen to their people and work for the good of all, we pray—

For all struggling with illness or mental anguish, that they find inner peace, we pray—

For all of us that we do our best to be true disciples of Christ and brothers and sisters of each other, we pray—

For those who have died, that they may rejoice eternally, praising God who has reached out to them in love, we pray—

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> God all powerful and all loving, hear our prayers and bless us with your loving care. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

For a Wedding

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> Confident in God's love, let us lift our prayers to God who draws us together.

For *(Name)* and *(Name)*, may their marriage draw them ever deeper into their baptismal life of discipleship, and fill them with joy and strength. We pray to the Lord—

For the church, may it know the joy that comes with greater unity and a mission of total self-giving. We pray to the Lord—

For those who are in positions of authority, may their hearts be softened by the needs of all people and by the wisdom that flows from our loving God. We pray the Lord—

For those who struggle and who feel cast aside, may they find support, strength, and belonging within the community of the church and the community of wider society. We pray to the Lord—

For the families and friends here today, and those who could not be present, may this celebration be a time of renewed connection and care. We pray to the Lord—

For our loved ones who have died and for us who mourn, may we rejoice together in the heavenly marriage feast of victorious love. We pray to the Lord—

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> God of love, hear the prayers we offer for this couple and for their marriage, and for all your people throughout the world. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

For a Funeral

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

Trusting in God's faithfulness and love, let us pray for *(Name)*, for ourselves, and for our world.

For *(Name)*, whose absence from us in life has broken our hearts, may *(he/she)* know God's full embrace in the heavenly banquet. We pray—

For the family and friends of *(Name)*, may the gifts that we have experienced in *(his/her)* life be for us an inspiration and challenge as we continue our own lifetime journeys. We pray—

For those who lead and those who serve this nation, for veterans and those in the military, for educators and health care professionals, may they be strengthened in their work and service. We pray—

For those who grieve without a community to support them, may they find the resources they need to sustain them in grief, and allow them to flourish. We pray—

For all who have died, those whose memories are deep in our hearts, and those whose stories we will never know, may they find eternal rest in God's love. We pray—

For this community of prayer, may we encounter God's presence in this liturgy, in our prayer, and in lives of goodness. We pray—

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Ever-faithful God, knowing that you hear our prayers, we ask you to embrace us with your love. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

For First Fridays

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

With confidence that our merciful God will answer our needs, we pray.

That Pope Leo and the other leaders of the Christian churches will be visible models of the love God has for all people, we pray to the Lord—

That the leaders of the nations will demonstrate the same care for their people as good shepherds do for their sheep, we pray to the Lord—

That our community will care for the homeless and needy in our midst in response to the blessings God has given us, we pray to the Lord—

That all who are ill will experience the love of God through our care given to them, we pray to the Lord—

That those who have died, especially _____ and _____, will be welcomed into the merciful embrace of God, we pray to the Lord—

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Ever-merciful Father, hear our prayers. Watch over your people. Inspire us to true service following in the steps of your beloved Son, whose heart was pierced for our salvation and forgiveness of our sin. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> Mary was a major role model in the Holy Family of Nazareth; she is the best of models for the church. Through her intercession let us gather together our needs and the needs of the whole church.

That Pope Leo and the leaders of the church follow the example of leadership set by Mary, we pray to the Lord—

That the leaders of the nations strive to be more like Mary in the way they settle disputes, we pray to the Lord—

That all people respect all life from the moment of conception to natural death, following the model of Mary, we pray to the Lord—

That each member of our community be cared for and nurtured in ways that follow the model of Mary and her family, we pray to the Lord—

That every faithfully departed member of our families and community, especially _____ and _____, be welcomed to eternal life to share in the joy that Mary experiences, we pray to the Lord—

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> Merciful God, you chose the Virgin Mary to be the mother of Jesus Christ, your only begotten Son. On the cross he gave her to us as our mother. Through her intercession, hear our prayers and be merciful to your children. We make this prayer through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Weekdays in Advent – 1

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> In this Eucharist we are privileged to "taste and see that the Lord is good," and it is good for us to make known our needs to our loving Lord.

For Pope Leo, and our (Arch)Bishop N., our pastor, and parish staff, that their work and prayer be blest and made profitable, we pray to the Lord—

For the leaders of our country, that their service to their people be generous and unselfish, we pray to the Lord—

For all of us worshiping here together, that our understanding and love of the Eucharist be deepened and strengthened, we pray to the Lord—

For teachers and students, that their time in school find them ready and eager for new adventures in learning and living, we pray to the Lord—

For the hungry, the homeless, and the unemployed, that we do all we can to give them the help they need, we pray to the Lord—

For the sick and the dying, and for those addicted to drugs and alcohol, that they receive the healing they need, we pray to the Lord—

For all who have died, especially _____ and _____, that they be raised up to the glory of God's kingdom, we pray to the Lord—

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> God of our faith, hope and love, bless us today and always. Increase in us the love we have for the gift of your Son Jesus who gives us his flesh to eat and his blood to drink. We ask this through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Weekdays in Advent – 2

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

Let us join our hearts and voices in prayer to the Lord:

For our Church and parish community, that we may always be the faithful "remnant" of the Lord's peace and justice, we pray to the Lord—

For Pope Leo, and our (Arch)Bishop N., and for all who serve the Church as pastors and teachers, that they may proclaim the coming reign of God to our broken world, we pray to the Lord—

For religious communities of men and women, for all who live vowed lives of poverty, chastity and obedience, that their single-hearted search for God may lead others to the joy of God's kingdom, we pray to the Lord—

For the nations and peoples of the world, that they may dedicate themselves to the work of peacemaking, we pray to the Lord—

For the poor and suffering, the abandoned and forgotten, and for those who serve them, that their humble witness to God's love will shame those who victimize them, we pray to the Lord—

For those who have died, especially _____ and _____, that they may inherit the reward of heaven awaiting them, we pray to the Lord—

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Hear our prayers for the needs of all people, O Lord. Send your Son to us that we might become a people who walk in the light, a people who seek your presence and joy in all things. We make our prayer in Jesus' name, both now and for ever. Amen.

For Weekdays in Advent – 3

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> Almighty God, our ever-loving Father, you desire all people to share in your divine life. You sent your Son to redeem us and the Spirit to sanctify us, hear our prayers.

For the Church, witness to the risen Christ, our victory over sin and death, let us pray to the Lord—

For peace in the world, which comes from the Lord and is known through the gospel, let us pray to the Lord—

For travelers and pilgrims, that they have a safe journey, let us pray to the Lord—

For separated families, may they be brought together in love and peace, let us pray to the Lord—

For all people to realize the God-given right to life from conception to natural death, let us pray to the Lord—

For all who have died, may they follow Jesus into the kingdom of light and peace, let us pray to the Lord—

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> All powerful God, in faith, hope and love we offer you praise and acknowledge our dependence on you. Hear the prayers of the people who look for the coming of your Son, Jesus. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Weekdays in Christmas – 1

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> In thanksgiving for being brought into the household of faith and made a part of the family of God through our baptism into Christ Jesus, let us pray to our heavenly Father, confident in God's promise to hear the prayers of his children.

That Leo, our Pope, N., our (Arch)Bishop, and all servants of the gospel may guide the church with the wisdom of caring mothers and fathers we pray to the Lord—

That the leaders of nations may reach out in peace to the poor and the outcast and bring an end to hunger, violence, and oppression, we pray to the Lord—

That our community of believers see themselves bound together as a holy family in the truth of the gospel through our works of charity, we pray to the Lord—

That those who have no family with them during the celebration of these holy days may find in us the care and support of brothers and sisters in Christ, we pray to the Lord—

That the sick and suffering may be renewed by the grace of the Word made flesh and may have their health and joy restored, we pray to the Lord—

That we may come to join the saints and all who have died and are at rest in God's mercy, in joyful celebration around the table in God's kingdom, we pray to the Lord—

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> Almighty God, you have formed a new family of believers through the incarnation of Jesus Christ. We give you thanks for his life among us. Send your Spirit among us to make that same holy life the center of our lives so that all our deeds shine forth with your love. We ask this in the name of your Son, our brother, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

For Weekdays in Christmas – 2

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

In thanksgiving, let us pray to our heavenly Father, confident in God's promise to hear our prayers.

That all the leaders of the Church may guide the Church with wisdom and understanding, we pray to the Lord—

That the leaders of nations always work for peace and to bring an end to hunger, violence, and oppression, we pray to the Lord—

That this community of believers be bound together as a holy family through our works of charity, we pray to the Lord—

That those who have no family with them during the celebration of these holy days may find in us the care and support of brothers and sisters in Christ, we pray to the Lord—

That all the sick and suffering be renewed by the grace of the Word made flesh and have their health and joy restored, we pray to the Lord—

That we join the saints and all who have died and are at rest in God's mercy in joyful celebration at the table in God's kingdom, we pray to the Lord—

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Almighty God, we give you thanks for the life of Jesus Christ among us. Send your Spirit to make us holy, so that all our deeds shine forth in your love. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

For Weekdays in Church Unity – 1

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

Jesus prayed that "they all may be one as you Father and I are one." Bringing our hopes and prayers for the Church we pray:

That the gospel of Christ may be the center of our life together as a Church and community, we pray to the Lord—

That all Churches and faith communities may find unity in the gospel of the Risen Christ, we pray to the Lord—

That Pope Leo, N our (Arch)Bishop and all ministers of the Church be compassionate "fishers" of souls for God, we pray to the Lord—

That the nations and peoples of the world may live in peace, working together to protect the dignity and rights of all, we pray to the Lord—

That those who walk in the darkness of illness, addiction, and abuse may see the "great light" of Christ, we pray to the Lord—

That the faithful who have died, especially _____ and _____, may "dwell forever in the house of the Lord," we pray to the Lord—

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Lord of light, dispel the darkness of our self-centeredness and ignorance. May these prayers we offer together be the first light of your presence in our homes and communities. We offer these prayers to you, O God, in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

For Weekdays in Church Unity – 2

Intercessory Prayers of the Faithful

> Jesus prayed that we may all be one. Following his example and in imitation of his prayer, we also pray for unity among all Christians.

For the Church founded upon the apostles, that it may always gather people in unity and truth, we pray to the Lord—

For leaders of the nations, that they may be inspired by Christian principles and lead all people to unity and peace, we pray to the Lord—

For gatherings of Christians from various traditions, that we may always come together in a spirit of acceptance and search for true unity, we pray to the Lord—

For the ministers and people of all traditions in our local community, that we may bind ourselves together as truly one in Christ, in prayer and action, we pray to the Lord—

For all who have died as children of God, sharing in one baptism, may they now share in the joy of life eternal, we pray to the Lord—

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> Eternal God, your Son Jesus taught if two of us agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted. In confidence and gathered in your name we make these prayers for unity through Jesus who is our Lord for ever and ever. Amen.