

OCCASIONAL
PRAYERS

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THE CHURCH

I. FOR THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably upon thy whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; and by the tranquil operation of thy providence, carry out the work of man's salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being renewed unto the perfection of him through whom all things were made, thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

2. FOR THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

William Laud

O gracious Father, we humbly beseech thee for thy holy Catholic Church; that thou wouldst be pleased to fill it with all truth, in all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, establish it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord. **Amen.**

3. FOR THE UNITY OF THE CHURCH

O Lord Jesus Christ, who saidst unto thine Apostles, Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; Regard not our sins, but the faith of thy Church; and grant to it that peace and unity which is according to thy will, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

4. FOR THE UNITY OF ALL CHRISTIAN PEOPLE

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace; Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions. Take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatsoever else may hinder us from godly union and concord: that as there is but one Body and one Spirit, and one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

5. FOR THE SPIRIT OF PRAYER

O Almighty God, who pourest out upon all who desire it the spirit of grace and of supplication: Deliver us, when we draw near to thee, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship thee in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

6. FOR A PROVINCE OR DIOCESE

O God, who by thy grace hath called us in *this Diocese* to a good and godly fellowship of faith; we beseech thee to bless our Bishop(s) *N.*, and other clergy, and all our people. Grant that thy Word may be truly preached and truly heard, thy Sacraments faithfully administered and faithfully received. By thy Spirit, fashion our lives according to the example of thy Son, and grant that we may show the power of thy love to all among whom we live; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

7. FOR A PROVINCIAL OR DIOCESAN CONVENTION OR SYNOD

Almighty and everlasting God, who by thy Holy Spirit didst preside in the Council of the blessed Apostles, and hast promised, through thy Son Jesus Christ, to be with thy Church to the end of the world; We beseech thee to be with the Council of thy Church [here] assembled in thy Name and Presence. Save us from all error, ignorance, pride, and prejudice; and of thy great mercy vouchsafe, we beseech thee, so to direct, sanctify, and govern us in our work, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, that the comfortable Gospel of Christ may be truly preached, truly received, and truly followed, in all places, to the breaking down the kingdom of sin, Satan, and death; till at length the whole of thy dispersed sheep, being gathered into one fold, shall become partakers of everlasting life; through the merits and death of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

8. FOR A PROVINCIAL OR DIOCESAN CONVENTION OR SYNOD

Gracious and everliving Father, who hast given the Holy Ghost to abide with us for ever: Bless, we pray, with the Holy Spirit's grace and presence, the Bishop(s), Priests, Deacons, and all the Laity who assemble in thy Name; that thy Church, being preserved in true faith and godly discipline, may fulfill the will of him who loved her and gave himself for her, thy Son Jesus Christ our Savior; who now liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

9. FOR VESTRY AND CHURCH MEETINGS

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel [in _____] for the renewal and mission of thy Church. Teach us in all things first to seek thy honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

10. FOR THE SELECTION OF A BISHOP OR OTHER MINISTER

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously upon thy Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a *Bishop* for this *Diocese* that we may receive a faithful pastor who will preach the Gospel, care for thy people, equip us for ministry, and lead us forth in fulfillment of the Great Commission; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

11. FOR THE LOCAL CONGREGATION

O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faithful: Sanctify this *Congregation* by thine abiding presence. Bless those who minister in holy things. Enlighten the minds of thy people more and more with the light of the everlasting Gospel. Bring erring souls into the knowledge of God our Savior; and those who are walking in the way of life, keep steadfast unto the end. Give patience to the sick and afflicted, and renew them in body and soul. Guard from forgetfulness of thee those who are strong and prosperous. Increase in us thy manifold gifts of grace, and make us all to be fruitful in good works; O blessed Spirit, whom with the Father and the Son together we worship and glorify, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

12. FOR THE LOCAL CONGREGATION

Almighty and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully hear our prayers, and grant that in this *Congregation* the pure Word of God may be preached and the Sacraments duly administered. Strengthen and confirm the faithful; protect and guide the children; visit and relieve the sick; turn and soften the wicked; arouse the careless; recover the fallen; restore the penitent. Remove all hindrances to the advancement of thy truth; and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within the fold of thy holy Church, to the honor

and glory of thy blessed Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

13. FOR VOCATIONS TO ORDAINED MINISTRY

O Lord Jesus, who art the Good Shepherd that careth for thy flock: We beseech thee to bestow upon thy Church the gifts of the Holy Spirit in abundance, and to raise up from among us faithful and able persons called to the ministries of Deacon, Priest, and Bishop. Inspire them to spend and be spent for the sake of the Gospel, and make them holy and loving servants and shepherds of the flock for whom thou didst shed thy most precious blood. Grant this for the sake of thy love. **Amen.**

See also the Ember Day Collects on page 634

14. FOR CHURCH MUSICIANS AND ARTISTS

O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be ever present with thy servants upon earth who seek through art and music to perfect the praises of thy people. Grant them even now true glimpses of thy beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

15. FOR MONASTIC ORDERS AND VOCATIONS

O Lord Jesus Christ, who didst become poor for our sake that we might be made rich through thy poverty: Guide and sanctify, we beseech thee, those whom thou callest to follow thee in poverty, chastity, and obedience; that by their prayer and service they may enrich thy Church, and by their life and worship may glorify thy Name; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

16. FOR THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

O God, who hast made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on the face of the whole earth, and didst send thy blessed Son to preach peace to them that are far off and to them that are nigh; Grant that all men everywhere may seek after thee and find thee. Bring the nations into thy fold, pour out thy Spirit upon all flesh, and hasten thy kingdom; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

17. FOR THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

O God, our heavenly Father, who didst manifest thy love by sending thine only-begotten Son into the world, that all might live through him: Pour out thy Spirit upon thy Church, that we may fulfill his command to preach the Gospel to all people. Send forth laborers into thy harvest; defend them in all dangers and temptations; and hasten the time when the fullness of the nations shall be gathered in, and faithful Israel shall be saved; through thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

See also the Prayers for Mission in Morning and Evening Prayer on pages 24, 25 & 51

18. FOR MISSIONARY SOCIETIES

O Lord Jesus, who didst command us to make disciples of all nations: Bless all those who work together for the spread of the Gospel [especially _____]; make them faithful and true witnesses to proclaim thy glorious Name. Send down the grace of the Holy Spirit upon all thy people, that we may give cheerfully of our substance for the evangelization of the world, and that the light of your truth may shine brightly in every place. Hear us, O merciful Savior, who with the Father and the Holy Ghost livest and reignest, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

19. FOR ALL MISSIONARIES

O God, who willest that all men should be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth: Prosper, we pray thee, all those who labor in the Gospel at home and in distant lands [particularly _____]; protect them in all perils, and support them in loneliness and in the hour of trial; give them thy grace to bear faithful witness unto thee; and endue them with burning zeal and love, that they may turn many to righteousness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

20. FOR A SPIRIT OF EVANGELISM

Almighty God our Savior, who desireth that none should perish, and hast taught us through thy Son that there is great joy in heaven over every sinner who repents: Grant that our hearts may grieve this lost and broken world and may thy Holy Spirit work through our words, deeds, and prayers, that the lost may be found and the dead made quick, and that all thy redeemed may rejoice around thy throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CREATION

21. FOR JOY IN GOD'S CREATION

O heavenly Father, who hast filled the world with beauty: Open our eyes to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works; that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, we may learn to serve thee with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

22. FOR STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION

O merciful Creator, whose hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us, we beseech thee, ever thankful for thy loving providence; and grant that we,

remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of thy bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

23. FOR THE HARVEST OF LANDS AND WATERS

O gracious Father, who openest wide thine hand and fillest all things living with plenteousness; Vouchsafe to bless the lands and multiply the harvests of the world. Let thy breath go forth that it may renew the face of the earth. Show thy loving-kindness, that our land may bring forth her increase; and so fill us with good things that the poor and needy may give thanks unto thy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

See also Prayer 48 and the Rogation Day Collects on page 635

24. FOR RAIN

O God, heavenly Father, who by thy Son Jesus Christ hast promised to all those who seek thy kingdom, and the righteousness thereof, all things necessary to their bodily sustenance; Send us, we beseech thee, in this our necessity, such moderate rain and showers, that we may receive the fruits of the earth to our comfort, and to thy honor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

25. IN TIME OF SCARCITY AND FAMINE

O God, our heavenly Father, who by thy blessed Son hast taught us to ask our daily bread of thee: Behold, we beseech thee, the afflictions of thy people, and send *us* swift aid in *our* time of need. Increase the fruits of the earth by thy heavenly benediction, and grant that that we, receiving thy gifts with thankful hearts, may use them to thy great glory, for the relief of

those in need, and for our own health; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

26. IN TIMES OF NATURAL DISASTER

Almighty God, who by thy Word hast laid the foundations of the earth, set the bounds of the sea, and stilled the wind and waves: We beseech thee to surround us with thy grace and peace, and preserve us through this *storm* [*or* _____]. By thy Spirit, lift up those who have fallen, strengthen those who work to rescue or rebuild, and fill us with the hope of thy new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE NATION

27. FOR THE PEACE OF THE WORLD

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad thy Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

28. FOR THE PEACE OF THE WORLD

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed: Kindle, we pray thee, in the hearts of all men the true love of peace, and guide with thy pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquility thy kingdom may go forward, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

29. FOR COURTS OF JUSTICE

Almighty God, who sittest in the throne judging right; We humbly beseech thee to bless the courts of justice and the magistrates in all this land; and give unto them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, that they may discern the truth and impartially administer the law in the fear of thee alone; through him who shall come to be our judge, thy Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

30. FOR CIVIL AUTHORITIES

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, send down upon those who hold public office [especially _____] the spirit of wisdom, charity, and justice; that with steadfast purpose they may faithfully serve in their offices to promote the well-being of all people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

31. FOR AN ELECTION

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide and direct, we humbly pray, the minds of all those who are called to elect fit persons to serve [in _____]. Grant that in the exercise of *our* choice *we* may promote thy glory, and the welfare of this *nation*. This we ask for the sake of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

32. FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES

Almighty God, we commend to thy gracious care and keeping all the men and women in our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with thy heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of thine abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

33. FOR OUR ENEMIES

O Savior of the world, our Redeemer, whose love embraces all mankind, we hear thy prayer from the Cross: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Forgive, O Lord, those who have poured out the innocent blood and caused suffering in the world. May our prayers be for them a ministry of reconciliation. We ask it in thine own Name. **Amen.**

Specific to Canada

34. FOR THE SOVEREIGN

Almighty and everlasting God, we are taught by thy Holy Word, that the hearts of Kings are in thy rule and governance, and that thou dost dispose and turn them as it seemeth best to thy godly wisdom: We humbly beseech thee so to dispose and govern the heart of *N.* thy Servant, our *Queen* and Governor, that, in all *her* thoughts, words, and works, *she* may ever seek thy honour and glory, and study to preserve thy people committed to *her* charge, in wealth, peace, and godliness: Grant this, O merciful Father, for thy dear Son's sake, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

35. FOR THE ROYAL FAMILY

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, we humbly beseech thee to bless our most gracious Sovereign, *Queen N.*, [*here may be named other members of the Royal Family*] and all the Royal Family: Endue them with thy Holy Spirit; enrich them with thy heavenly grace; prosper them with all happiness; and bring them to thine everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

36. FOR THE PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA,
LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS, AND THE PREMIERS
OF THE PROVINCES

Lord of all power and mercy, we beseech thee to assist with thy favour the Governor General and Prime Minister, and the Lieutenant Governors and Premiers of the Provinces. Cause them, we pray thee, to walk before thee in truth and righteousness, and to fulfil their office to thy glory and the public good; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Specific to the United States or Mexico

37. FOR THE PRESIDENT AND ALL IN CIVIL AUTHORITY

O Lord our Governor, whose glory is in all the world; We commend this nation to thy merciful care, that being guided by thy providence, we may dwell secure in thy peace. Grant to the President of this Nation, the Governor of this State [*or* Commonwealth], and to all in Authority, wisdom and strength to know and to do thy will. Fill them with the love of truth and righteousness; and make them ever mindful of their calling to serve this people in thy fear; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

38. FOR CONGRESS OR A STATE LEGISLATURE

O God, the fountain of wisdom, whose statutes are good and gracious and whose law is truth; We beseech thee so to guide and bless our Senators and Representatives assembled in Congress [*or* the Legislature of this State, Commonwealth, *etc.*], that it may ordain for our governance only such things as please thee, to the glory of thy Name and the welfare of the people; through Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

39. FOR OUR NATION

Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure conduct. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom, in thy Name, we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all of which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SOCIETY

40. FOR ALL SORTS AND CONDITIONS OF MEN

O God, the creator and preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that thou wouldest be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for thy holy Church universal, that it may be so guided and governed by thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to thy fatherly goodness all those who are in any ways afflicted or distressed, in mind, body, or estate, [especially those for whom our prayers are desired]; that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them according to their several necessities, giving them patience under their sufferings,

and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen.**

41. FOR CITIES, TOWNS, AND OTHER COMMUNITIES

O Heavenly Father, who sent thy Son among us to proclaim the kingdom of God in cities, towns, villages, and lonely places. Behold and visit, we beseech thee, the community of _____. Renew the bonds of charity that uphold our civic life. Send us honest and able leaders. Deliver us from poverty, prejudice, and oppression, that peace may prevail with righteousness, and justice with mercy. And at the last, bring us to thy Holy City, the new Jerusalem, where we shall know perfect unity and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

42. FOR THE HUMAN FAMILY

O God, who hast made us in thine own image, and who hast redeemed us through thy Son Jesus Christ: Look with compassion upon the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish thy purposes on earth; that, in thy good time, all nations and races may serve thee in harmony around thy heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

43. FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Almighty God, who hast created man in thine own image; Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil, and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice among men and nations, to the glory of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

44. IN TIMES OF SOCIAL CONFLICT OR DISTRESS

Increase, O God, the spirit of neighborliness among us, that in peril we may uphold one another, in suffering tend to one another, and in homelessness, loneliness, or exile befriend one another. Grant us brave and enduring hearts that we may strengthen one another, until the disciplines and testing of these days are ended, and thou again giveth us peace in our time; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

45. FOR THOSE WHO SERVE OTHERS

O Lord our heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served, but to serve: We beseech thee to bless all those who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others [especially _____]; endue them with wisdom, patience, and courage, that they may strengthen the weak and raise up them that fall, and, being inspired by thy love, may worthily minister to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the sake of him who laid down his life for us, thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

46. FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

O Lord Jesus Christ, who in thy earthly life didst share our toil and hallow our labor: We beseech thee to guide those who maintain the commerce and industries of this land, and give to all who labor pride in their work, a just reward, and joy both in supplying need and in serving thee; who livest and reignest with the Father, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

47. FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

O Heavenly Father, we remember before thee those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work. Guide the people of this

land so to use our public and private wealth that all may find suitable and fulfilling employment, and receive just payment for their labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

48. FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMING

Almighty God, we thank thee for making the earth fruitful, so that it may produce what is needed to sustain our life: Bless those who work in the fields; give us seasonable weather; and grant that we may all share the fruits of the earth, rejoicing in thy goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

See also Prayer 23 and the Rogation Day Collects on page 635

49. FOR SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, AND UNIVERSITIES

Almighty God, by thy gift alone cometh wisdom and understanding: We beseech thee with thy gracious favor to behold our universities, colleges, and schools, [especially _____,] that knowledge may be increased among us, and all good learning flourish and abound. Bless all who teach and all who learn; and grant that in humility of heart they may ever look unto thee, who art the fountain of all wisdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

50. FOR THE MEDICAL PROFESSIONS

Almighty God, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ went about doing good, and healing all manner of sickness and disease among the people: Continue, we beseech thee, this his gracious work among us [especially in _____]; cheer, heal, and sanctify the sick; grant to the physicians, surgeons, and nurses wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience; and send down thy blessing upon all who labor to prevent suffering and to forward thy purposes of love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

51. FOR THOSE WHO INFORM PUBLIC OPINION

Almighty God, whose truth endureth from age to age: Direct in our time, we beseech thee, those who speak where many listen and write what many read; that they may speak thy truth to make the heart of this people wise, its mind discerning, and its will righteous; to the honor of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THOSE IN NEED

52. FOR THOSE WE LOVE

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us [especially _____] to thy never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come; knowing that thou art doing for *them* better things than we can desire or pray; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

See also Additional Prayers in Family Prayer on pages 76–78

53. FOR THOSE WHO TRAVEL

O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel [especially _____]; surround *them* with thy loving care; protect *them* from every danger; and bring *them* in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

54. FOR THE ABSENT

O God, whose fatherly care reacheth to the uttermost parts of the earth: We humbly beseech thee graciously to behold and bless those whom we love, now absent from us [especially _____]. Defend them from all dangers of soul and body, and grant that both they and we, drawing nearer to thee, may be bound together by thy love, in the communion of thy Holy

Ghost and in the fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

55. FOR THOSE WHO LIVE ALONE

Almighty God, whose Son had nowhere to lay his head: Grant that those who live alone [especially _____] may not be lonely in their solitude, but that, following in his steps, they may find fulfillment in loving thee and their neighbors; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

56. FOR THE ELDERLY

Look with mercy, O God our Father, on all whose increasing years bring them weakness, distress, or isolation [especially _____]. Provide for them homes of dignity and peace; give *them* understanding helpers, and the willingness to accept help; and, as *their* strength diminishes, increase *their* faith and *their* assurance of thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

57. FOR THOSE WITH CHRONIC DISEASE

O heavenly Father, who art the sustainer of our life and source of our hope: Comfort and relieve all who endure long-term illness or persistent handicap [especially _____]. Give thy grace unto all who minister to their needs, that *they* may be strengthened in *their* weakness and have confidence in thy loving care; through him who knoweth our weakness and hath shared our sorrows, even Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

58. FOR A PERSON IN TROUBLE OR BEREAVEMENT

O merciful Father, who hath taught us in thy holy Word that thou dost not willingly afflict or grieve the children of men: Look with pity on the sorrows of thy servant *N*. Remember *him*, O Lord, in mercy; nourish *his* soul with patience; comfort *him*

with a sense of thy goodness; lift up thy countenance upon *him*; and give *him* peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

59. FOR THE DISCOURAGED AND DOWNCAST

O God, almighty and merciful, who healest those that are broken in heart, and turnest the sadness of the sorrowful to joy: Let thy fatherly goodness be upon all whom thou hast made. Remember in pity such as are this day destitute, homeless, or forgotten of their fellow-men. Bless the congregation of thy poor. Uplift those who are cast down. Mightily befriend innocent sufferers, and sanctify to them the endurance of their wrongs. Cheer with hope all the discouraged and downcast, and by thy heavenly grace preserve from falling those whose poverty tempteth them to sin; though they be troubled on every side, suffer them not to be distressed; though they be perplexed, save them from despair. Grant this, O Lord, for the love of him, who for our sakes became poor, thy Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

60. FOR PRISONERS

O God, who sparest when we deserve punishment, and in thy wrath rememberest mercy: We humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, to comfort and succor all prisoners [especially those who are condemned to die]. Give them a right understanding of themselves, and of thy promises; that, trusting wholly in thy mercy, they may not place their confidence anywhere but in thee. Relieve the distressed, protect the innocent, awaken the guilty; and forasmuch as thou alone bringest light out of darkness, and good out of evil, grant to these thy servants, that by the power of thy Holy Spirit they may be set free from the chains of sin, and may be brought to newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

61. FOR THE RECOVERY OF A SICK PERSON

Almighty and immortal God, the giver of life and health: We beseech thee to hear our prayers for thy servant *N.*, that by thy blessing upon *him* and upon those who minister to *him* of thy healing gifts, *he* may be restored, according to thy gracious will, to health of body and mind, and give thanks to thee in thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

See also Additional Prayers in The Rites of Healing on pages 231–235

62. FOR THOSE AFFLICTED WITH MENTAL SUFFERING

Almighty God, whose Son took upon himself the afflictions of thy people: Regard with thy tender compassion those suffering from anxiety, depression, or mental illness [especially _____]; bear *their* sorrows and *their* cares; supply all *their* needs; help *them* to put *their* whole trust and confidence in thee; and restore *them* to strength of mind and cheerfulness of spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

63. FOR THOSE IN BONDAGE TO ADDICTION

O blessed Lord, who didst minister unto all them that came to thee: Look with compassion, we beseech thee, upon those who through addiction have lost their health and freedom [especially _____]. Restore to *them* the assurance of thine unfailing mercy; remove from *them* the fears that beset *them*; strengthen *them* in the work of their recovery; and to those who minister to *them*, give patient understanding and persevering love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

64. FOR THE UNREPENTANT

Merciful God, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness, and live; and through

thine only Son hast revealed thyself as the God who pardons iniquity: Have mercy upon the unrepentant and those who do not believe [especially ____]. Awaken in *them*, by thy Word and Holy Spirit, a deep sense of *their* sinfulness and peril. Take from *them* all ignorance, hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word. Grant *them* to know and feel that there is no other Name under heaven given among men by which *they* must be saved, but only the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. And so bring *them* home and number *them* among thy children, that *they* may be thine for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

FAMILY AND PERSONAL LIFE

65. FOR FAMILIES

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who settest the solitary in families: We commend to thy continual care the homes in which thy people dwell. Put far from them, we beseech thee, every root of bitterness, the desire of vainglory, and the pride of life. Fill them with faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, and godliness. Knit together in constant affection those who, in holy wedlock, have been made one flesh; turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to the fathers; and so enkindle fervent charity among us all, that we be evermore kindly affectioned with brotherly love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

See also Additional Prayers in Family Prayer on pages 76–78

66. FOR THE CARE OF CHILDREN

Almighty God, heavenly Father, who hast blessed us with the joy and care of children; Give us light and strength so to train

them, that they may love whatsoever things are true and pure and lovely and of good report, following the example of their Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

67. FOR A BIRTHDAY

O God, our times are in thy hand: Look with favor, we beseech thee, on thy servant *N.* as *he* begins another year. Grant that *he* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his* trust in thy goodness all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

68. FOR A CHILD, OR FOR A BIRTHDAY

Watch over thy child *N.*, O Lord, as *his* days increase; bless *him* and guide *him*, and keep *him* unspotted from the world. Strengthen *him* when *he* stands; comfort *him* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *him* up if *he* fall; and in *his* heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

69. FOR A MARRIAGE OR ANNIVERSARY

O God, who hast so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send thy blessing upon these thy servants [as they begin another year], that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

70. FOR INNER RENEWAL THROUGH THE WORD

Most merciful Father, who hast granted unto us the rich and precious jewel of thy holy Word: Assist us with thy Spirit, that the same Word may be written in our hearts to our everlasting comfort, to reform us, to renew us according to thine own image, to build us up and edify us into the perfect dwelling place of thy Christ, sanctifying and increasing in us all heavenly virtues; grant this, O heavenly Father, for the sake of the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

71. FOR CHRIST TO BE FORMED IN US

Lord Jesus, Master Carpenter of Nazareth, who on the Cross through wood and nails hath wrought our full salvation: Wield well thy tools in this, thy workshop, that we who come to thee rough-hewn may be fashioned into a truer beauty by thy hand; who livest and reignest with the Father, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

72. FOR KNOWING AND LOVING GOD

O God, who art the light of the minds that know thee, the life of the souls that love thee, and the strength of the wills that serve thee: Help us so to know thee that we may truly love thee, and so to love thee that we may fully serve thee, whom to serve is perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

73. A PRAYER OF SELF-DEDICATION

William Temple

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to thee, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly thine, utterly dedicated unto thee; and then use us, we pray thee, as thou wilt, and always to thy glory and the welfare of thy people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

74. FOR DESIRING GOD

Francis Xavier

O God, grant that we may desire thee, and desiring thee seek thee, and seeking thee find thee, and finding thee be satisfied in thee for ever. **Amen.**

75. FOR HOLY THOUGHT

O God, without whose beauty and goodness our souls are unfed, without whose truth our reason withers: Consecrate our lives to thy will, giving us such purity of heart, such depth of faith, and such steadfastness of purpose, that in time we may come to think thine own thoughts after thee; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

76. FOR GUIDANCE

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy Name, and finally by thy mercy obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

77. FOR GUIDANCE

O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light riseth up in darkness for the godly: Grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what thou wouldest have us do, that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices; that in thy light we may see light, and in thy straight path we may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

78. TO PLEASE GOD RATHER THAN MEN *Thomas à Kempis*

Our God, in whom we trust: Strengthen us not to regard overmuch who is for us or who is against us, but to see to it that we be with thee in everything we do. **Amen.**

79. FOR MERCY

Almighty God, who hast not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities: Grant that we, who for our evil deeds deserve to be punished, by the might of thy grace may mercifully be relieved; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

80. FOR TRUSTFULNESS IN TIMES OF WORRY
AND ANXIETY

O most loving Father, who willest us to give thanks for all things, to dread nothing but the loss of thee, and to cast all our care on thee, who carest for us: Preserve us from faithless fears and worldly anxieties, and grant that no clouds of this mortal life may hide from us the light of that love which is immortal, and which thou hast manifested unto us in thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

81. FOR HELP TO BEAR BEREAVEMENT

O heavenly Father, help us to trust our loved ones to thy care. When sorrow darkens our lives, help us to look up to thee, remembering the cloud of witnesses by which we are encompassed, and grant that we on earth, rejoicing ever in thy presence, may share with them the rest and peace which thy presence gives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

82. FOR QUIET CONFIDENCE

O God of peace, who hast taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and in confidence shall be our strength: By the might of thy Spirit lift us, we pray thee, to thy presence, where we may be still and know that thou art God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Throughout the Day

83. IN THE MORNING

Almighty God, who alone gavest us the breath of life, and alone canst keep alive in us the holy desires thou dost impart: We beseech thee, for thy compassion's sake, to sanctify all our thoughts and endeavors; that we may neither begin an action without a pure intention nor continue it without thy blessing. And grant that, having the eyes of the mind opened to behold things invisible and unseen, we may in heart be inspired by thy wisdom, and in work be upheld by thy strength, and in the end be accepted of thee as thy faithful servants; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

See also Morning Prayer (pages 10-26) and Family Prayer (pages 67-68)

84. GRACE AT MEALS

Blessed art thou, O Lord God, King of the Universe, for that thou dost give us food and drink to sustain our lives and make our hearts glad; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

See also Additional Prayers in Family Prayer on page 78.

85. IN THE EVENING

John Henry Newman

O Lord, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in thy mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. **Amen.**

See also Evening Prayer (pages 41-53), Compline (pages 57-65), and Family Prayer (pages 71-74)

86. FOR SLEEP

O Father, in thy mercy dispel the darkness of this night, and let thy servant sleep in peace, that at the dawn of a new day *he* may wake with joy in thy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PERSONAL DEVOTION

87. FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PEACE OF GOD

In the Tradition of Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is error, truth; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. **Amen.**

88. FOR DAILY GROWTH

Richard of Chichester

Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ, for all the pains and insults thou hast borne for me, and all the benefits thou hast given me. O most merciful Redeemer, Friend, and Brother: Grant that I may see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly, day by day. **Amen.**

89. FOR SEEKING GOD

Anselm of Canterbury

Teach me to seek thee, and as I seek thee, show thyself to me; for I cannot seek thee unless thou showest me how, and I will never find thee unless thou dost show thyself to me. Let me seek thee by desiring thee, and desire thee by seeking thee; let me find thee by loving thee, and love thee in finding thee. **Amen.**

90. FOR GRACE TO SEEK GOD IN EVERY WAY *Benedict of Nursia*

Gracious and holy Father, vouchsafe unto me intellect to understand thee, reason to discern thee, diligence to seek thee, wisdom to find thee, a spirit to know thee, a heart to meditate upon thee, ears to hear thee, eyes to see thee, a tongue to proclaim thee, a way of life pleasing unto thee, patience to wait for thee, and perseverance to look for thee. Grant me a perfect end, thy holy presence, a blessed resurrection, and life everlasting. **Amen.**

91. FOR SUBMISSION TO GOD'S WILL *Joseph Mercier*

O Holy Spirit, beloved of my soul, I adore thee. Enlighten me, guide me, strengthen me, console me. Direct me in mine endeavors; give me thine orders. I promise to submit myself to all that thou desirest of me and to accept all that thou permittest to happen to me. Let me only know thy will. **Amen.**

92. FOR SATISFACTION IN CHRIST *Julian of Norwich*

O God, of thy goodness, give me thyself, for thou art enough to me, and I may nothing ask that is less than may be full worship to thee; and if I ask for anything less, I shall always be in want, but only in thee have I all. **Amen.**

93. A COVENANT PRAYER *John Wesley*

I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. **Amen.**

94. FOR A VIRTUOUS HEART

Thomas Aquinas

Give me, O Lord, a steadfast heart, which no unworthy thought can drag down; an unconquered heart, which no tribulation can wear out; an upright heart, which no unworthy purpose can tempt aside. Bestow upon me understanding to know thee, diligence to seek thee, wisdom to find thee, and faithfulness that finally may embrace thee. **Amen.**

95. IN TIMES OF SUFFERING OR WEAKNESS

Dear Lord and Savior Jesus Christ: I hold up all my weakness to thy strength, my failure to thy faithfulness, my sinfulness to thy perfection, my loneliness to thy compassion, my little pains to thy great agony on the Cross. I pray that thou wouldst cleanse me, strengthen me, guide me, so that in all ways my life may be lived as thou wouldst have it lived, without cowardice and for thee alone. Show me how to live in true humility, true contrition, and true love. **Amen.**

96. FOR UNION WITH CHRIST

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ, inebriate me. Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me. O good Jesu, hear me. Within thy wounds hide me. Suffer me not to be separated from thee. From the wicked foe defend me. In the hour of my death call me, and bid me come to thee, that with thy saints I may praise thee for ever and ever. **Amen.**

AT TIMES OF PRAYER AND WORSHIP

97. PREPARATION FOR PERSONAL PRAYER

O Holy Spirit, breath of God and fire of love, I cannot pray without thine aid: Kindle in me the fire of thy love, and illumine me with thy light; that with a steadfast will and holy thoughts I may approach the Father in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ my Lord, who reigneth with thee and the Father in union eternal. **Amen.**

98. FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF PRAYER

O Heavenly Father, who hast promised to hear the petitions of those who ask in the Name of thy Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as thou dost know and love us in thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

99. FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF PRAYER

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of thy people; in the multitude of thy mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to thee for help; for thou art gracious, O lover of souls, and unto thee we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, world without end. **Amen.**

100. FOR THE ANSWERING OF PRAYER

Almighty God, who hast promised to hear the petitions of those who ask in the Name of thy Son: We beseech thee mercifully to incline thine ear to us who have now made our prayers and supplications unto thee; and grant that those things which we have asked faithfully according to thy will, may effectually be obtained, to the relief of our necessity, and to the setting forth of thy glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

101. BEFORE THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Blessed Lord, who hast caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

102. ON SUNDAYS

O God, who makest us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of thy Son our Lord: Grant us this day such blessing through our worship of thee, that the days to come may be spent in thy favor; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

103. PREPARATION FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP

Guide and direct us, O Lord, always and everywhere with thy holy light, that we may discern with clear vision thy presence among us, and partake with worthy intention of thy divine mysteries; for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord. **Amen.**

104. BEFORE RECEIVING COMMUNION

Be present, be present, O Jesus, our great High Priest, as thou wast present with thy disciples, and be known unto us in the breaking of Bread; who livest and reignest with the Father, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

105. AFTER RECEIVING COMMUNION

O Lord Jesus Christ, who in a wonderful Sacrament hast left unto us a memorial of thy passion: Grant us, we beseech thee, so to venerate the sacred mysteries of thy Body and Blood, that we may ever perceive within ourselves the fruit of thy redemption; who livest and reignest with the Father, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

106. FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Dear Jesus, I believe that thou art truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love thee above all things, and I desire to possess thee within my soul. And since I cannot now receive thee sacramentally, I beseech thee to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself unto thee, together with all thy faithful people [gathered around every altar of thy Church], and I embrace thee with all the affections of my soul. Never permit me to be separated from thee. **Amen.**

107. AFTER COMMUNION

Liturgy of St. Basil

Finished and perfected is the mystery of thy dispensation unto us, O Christ our God: For we have beheld the likeness of thy death, we have seen thy resurrection in the breaking of the Bread, and we have partaken of thine inexhaustible and divine delights, of which do thou make us worthy, both now and in thy kingdom and unto the ages of ages. **Amen.**

108. AFTER PUBLIC WORSHIP

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that the words which we have heard this day outwardly with our ears may, through thy grace, be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honor and praise of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

DEATH, THE DEPARTED, AND
THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS

109. FOR WATCHFULNESS

Lancelot Andrewes

Thou, who with thine own mouth hast told us that at midnight the bridegroom shall come: Grant that the cry, "The bridegroom cometh!" may sound evermore in our ears, that so we be never unprepared to meet him, or forgetful of the souls for whom he died, for whom we watch and pray. And save us, O Lord. **Amen.**

110. FOR JOY AT THE END OF LIFE

Miles Coverdale

O Jesus, be mindful of thy promise; think upon us thy servants; and when we shall depart hence, speak unto our souls these loving words; "Today shalt thou be with me in joy." O Lord Jesus Christ, remember us thy servants that trust in thee, when our tongues cannot speak, when the sight of our eyes faileth, and when our ears are stopped. Let our souls always rejoice in thee, and be joyful of thy salvation, which thou through thy death hast purchased for us. **Amen.**

111. FOR AN ANNIVERSARY OF ONE DEPARTED

Almighty God, we remember this day before thee thy faithful servant *N.*, and we beseech thee that, having opened unto *him* the gates of larger life, thou wilt receive *him* more and more into thy joyful service; that *he* may win, with thee and thy servants everywhere, the eternal victory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

112. THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS

O God of the spirits of all flesh, we praise and magnify thy holy Name for all thy servants who have finished their course in thy

faith and fear [especially thy servant *N.*]; and we beseech thee that, encouraged by their examples, we also may be found meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; through the merits of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

113. THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS

O eternal Lord God, who dost hold all souls in life: Shed forth upon thy whole Church in Paradise and on earth the bright beams of thy light and heavenly comfort; and grant that we, following the good example of those who have loved and served thee here and are now at rest, may enter with them into the fullness of thine unending joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

114. FOR ALL FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Almighty God, with whom do live the spirits of them that depart hence in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful, after they are delivered from the burden of the flesh, are in joy and felicity: We praise and magnify thy holy Name for all thy servants who have finished their course in thy faith and fear; at the general Resurrection in the last day, we and all who are members of the mystical body of thy Son may be set on his right hand, and hear that his most joyful voice: “Come, ye blessed children of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world.” Grant this, we beseech thee, O merciful Father, through Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Redeemer. **Amen.**

See also Additional Prayers in Burial of the Dead on pages 263–265

115. FOR THE COMING OF GOD'S KINGDOM

Hasten, O Father, the coming of thy kingdom; and grant that we thy servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold thy Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

T H A N K S G I V I N G S

116. A LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Let us give thanks unto God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us:

For the beauty and wonder of thy creation, in earth and sky and sea,

We thank thee, O Lord.

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,

We thank thee, O Lord.

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,

We thank thee, O Lord.

For health and strength to work, and time to rest and worship,

We thank thee, O Lord.

For all who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

We thank thee, O Lord.

For all who earnestly seek after truth, and all who labor for justice,

We thank thee, O Lord.

For all that is good and gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

We thank thee, O Lord.

For the communion of saints, in all times and places,

We thank thee, O Lord.

Above all, we give thee thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;

**To him be praise and glory, with thee, O Father,
and the Holy Ghost, world without end. Amen**

See also the General Thanksgiving on page 25 and A Litany of Thanksgiving for a Church on page 539

117. A THANKSGIVING PRAYER

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that thou hast done for us. We thank thee for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love. We thank thee for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side. We thank thee for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us. We thank thee also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on thee alone. Above all, we thank thee for thy Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of thy kingdom. Grant us the gift of thy Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to thee in all things. **Amen.**

118. FOR THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Almighty God, who didst send thy Son Jesus Christ to reconcile the world to thyself: We praise and bless thee for those whom thou hast sent in the power of the Spirit to preach the Gospel to all nations. We thank thee that in all parts of the earth a community of love has been gathered together by their prayers and labors,

and that in every place thy servants call upon thy Name; for the kingdom and the power and the glory are thine for ever. **Amen.**

119. FOR THE HARVEST

Most gracious God, by whose knowledge the depths are broken up and the clouds drop down the dew: We yield thee hearty thanks and praise for the return of seedtime and harvest, for the increase of the ground and the gathering in of its fruits, and for all the other blessings of thy merciful providence bestowed upon this nation and people. And, we beseech thee, give us a just sense of these great mercies, such as may appear in our lives by a humble, holy, and obedient walking before thee all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost be all honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

120. FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

We give thee thanks, most gracious God, for the beauty of earth and sky and sea; for the richness of mountains, plains, and rivers; for the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers. We praise thee for these good gifts, and pray that we may safeguard them for our posterity. Grant that we may continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of thine abundant creation, to the honor and glory of thy Name, world without end. **Amen.**

121. FOR THE DIVERSITY OF RACES AND CULTURES

O God, who didst create all peoples in thine image: We thank thee for the diversity of races and cultures in this world. Show us thy presence in those who differ from us, and enrich our lives with their fellowship, until our knowledge of thy love is made perfect in our love for all thy children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

122. FOR MILITARY VETERANS

O Judge of the nations, we thank thee with grateful hearts for the men and women of our country who in the day of decision ventured much for the liberties we now enjoy. Grant that we may not rest until all the people of this land share the benefits of true freedom and gladly accept its disciplines. This we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

123. FOR DELIVERANCE FROM PERIL

Almighty God, who art a strong tower of defense unto thy servants in the time of trouble: We yield thee praise and hearty thanks for our deliverance from the dangers which lately encompassed us [and for thy gracious gift of peace]. We confess that it is thy goodness alone that hath preserved us; and we beseech thee still to continue thy mercies towards us, that we may always acknowledge thee as our Savior and mighty Deliverer; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

124. FOR THE RESTORATION OF HEALTH

Almighty God and heavenly Father, we bless and praise thy Name on behalf of thy servant *N.*, and we give thee humble thanks that thou hast been pleased to deliver *him* from sickness. Grant, O gracious Father, that by thy help *he* may live in this world according to thy will, and be made a partaker of everlasting glory in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

125. FOR THE SAINTS AND FAITHFUL DEPARTED

We give thanks to thee, O Lord our God, for all thy servants and witnesses of time past: for Abraham, the father of believers, and Sarah his wife; for Moses, the lawgiver, and Aaron, the

priest; for Miriam and Joshua, Deborah and Gideon, and Samuel, with Hannah his mother; for Isaiah and all the prophets; for the Blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of our Lord; for Saints Peter and Paul and all the apostles; for Saints Mary and Martha, and Mary Magdalene; for Saint Stephen, the first martyr, and all the martyrs and saints in every age and in every land. In thy mercy, O Lord our God, give us, as thou gavest to them, the hope of salvation and the promise of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the first-born of many from the dead. Amen.

A R I T E F O R
A D M I S S I O N O F
C A T E C H U M E N S

To be a Christian - An Anglican Catechism

This form is to be used for adults, or older children who are able to answer for themselves, at the beginning of a course of instruction in the teachings of the Church. It is to be used in preparation for Holy Baptism or, if those seeking admission were baptized as infants, for Confirmation.

GREETING

On the day appointed, the person(s) to be received as Catechumen(s) are brought by their sponsors to the church and remain by the principal door until the Gospel has been proclaimed.

The Celebrant greets them at the door.

Celebrant What is thy hope?

Catechumens **New life in Christ.**

Catechumens What dost thou desire of God and of this congregation?

People **That I may grow in faith, hope, and love.**

Then the Celebrant says,