

Year of Mercy - A Selection of Prayers

Prayer of Pope Francis for the Jubilee

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father,
and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.
Show us your face and we will be saved.
Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew
from being enslaved by money;
the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness
only in created things;
made Peter weep after his betrayal,
and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.
Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us,
the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman:
"If you knew the gift of God!"

You are the visible face of the invisible Father,
of the God who manifests his power above all
by forgiveness and mercy:
let the Church be your visible face in the world,
its Lord risen and glorified.
You willed that your ministers would also be clothed
in weakness in order that they may feel compassion
for those in ignorance and error:
let everyone who approaches them feel sought after,
loved, and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing,
so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord,
and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm,
may bring good news to the poor,
proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed,
and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this of you, Lord Jesus,
through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy;
you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit
for ever and ever. Amen.

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Hail, Holy Queen (Salve Regina)

Hail, holy queen, Mother of Mercy,
Hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope.
To you we cry, the children of Eve;
To you we send up our sighs,
Mourning and weeping in this land of exile.
Turn, then, most gracious advocate,
Your eyes of mercy towards us;
Lead us home at last
And show us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus;
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Prayers in Common Use ©Liturgy Brisbane 2008

Mary

Mary, mother of Jesus,
give me your heart,
so beautiful, so pure, so immaculate,
so full of love and humility;
make me capable of receiving Jesus in the bread of life.
of loving him as you have loved him and have served him,
in the poor garments of the poorest of the poor. Amen.

Bl Mother Teresa of Calcutta quoted in *Mother of Mercy* © St Pauls 2010

Psalm 103 A Psalm of David

- 1 Bless the LORD, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless his holy name!
- 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,
- 3 who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,
- 4 who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
- 5 who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- 6 The LORD works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.
- 7 He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.
- 8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- 9 He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor requite us according to our iniquities.
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
- 12 as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
- 13 As a father pities his children, so the LORD pities those who fear him.
- 14 For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.
- 15 As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field;
- 16 for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.
- 17 But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children,
- 18 to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments.
- 19 The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.
- 20 Bless the LORD, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, hearkening to the voice of his word!
- 21 Bless the LORD, all his hosts, his ministers that do his will!
- 22 Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!

Revised Standard Version of the Bible quoted in *The Psalms of Mercy Pastoral Resources for Living the Jubilee* ©Our Sunday Visitor 2015

Prayer for Opening of the Jubilee Holy Door

Blessed are you, Lord, holy Father,
who sent your Son into the world
to gather all men and women,
wounded and scattered by sin,
into one body through the shedding of his blood.

You appointed him both shepherd and gate for the sheep,
so that whoever enters may be saved,
and whoever comes in and goes out
will find pasture for eternal life.

Grant that your faithful may pass through this gate,
and be welcomed into your presence,
so that they may experience, O Father, your abundant mercy.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrating Mercy Pastoral Resources for Living the Jubilee ©Our Sunday Visitor 2015 pp.77-78

A Prayer for Our Earth

All-powerful God,
you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace,
that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth,
so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace. Amen.

Pope Francis: *On Care for Our Common Home* – An Encyclical Letter on Ecology
and Climate © St Pauls 2015

The Song of Zechariah (Benedictus)

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who has come to his people and set them free.

The Lord has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of his servant David.

Through the holy prophets, God promised of old
to save us from the hands of all who hate us.
to show mercy to our forebears,
and to remember his holy covenant.

This is the oath God swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies.
free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous before him,
all the days of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
to give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Prayers in Common Use ©Liturgy Brisbane 2008

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

The Roman Missal English Edition ©Catholic Truth Society 2011

Prayers from the Saints

Lord Jesus,
in your mercy heal us
in your love and tenderness remake us
in your compassion bring grace and forgiveness,
for the beauty of heaven, may your love prepare us.

St. Anselm (1033-1109)

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, have mercy upon me a sinner
The Jesus Prayer (anonymous)

God of all pilgrim people, you raise up women and men to meet the
needs of every age. In Mary MacKillop, we celebrate a journey of
deep love and sensitivity to your will. Like her, may we learn to grow
in appreciation of the fullness of your love and the depth of your
mystery. Help us to transform the ordinariness of our lives as we
reach out to others through the daily challenges of our journey
towards you. Amen

Prayer inspired by St Mary of the Cross MacKillop ©Sisters of St Joseph found
at: <http://www.sosj.org.au/spirituality/>

GOD OF PEACE

ADVENT – DAY 3

Opening Prayer

Now is the hour to wake from sleep.

Let us prepare the way of the Lord and wait with watchful patience.
Emmanuel, God with us, come into our lives.

Intercessions

God of peace, teach us your ways, that we may renounce whatever
separates us from you and from our brothers and sisters:

God of peace, teach us your ways.

That nations torn by racial and ethnic animosities, by class or religious
prejudices, will find a way to embrace peace with justice:

God of peace, teach us your ways.

That those who profit from the manufacture and sale of armaments
will convert their efforts to peacetime uses:

God of peace, teach us your ways.

That families and communities divided by suspicion and old hurts will
find their way to reconciliation:

God of peace, teach us your ways.

That young people who resort to violence will learn peaceful means
of resolving differences:

God of peace, teach us your ways.

That all who oppress and abuse others, in the family or workplace,
will come to repentance:

God of peace, teach us your ways.

That we may all learn to be peacemakers:

God of peace, teach us your ways.

Prayer

Ruler of Nations and Prince of Peace, you know the secrets of all
hearts. Teach us to love one another, to forgive all injuries, to bear
wrongs patiently, and so to walk in your path. We make this prayer
confident of your everlasting love for us. Amen.

Closing

The Lord comes, mandating justice for the poor. Amen.

The Lord comes, urging forgiveness and peace on earth. Amen.

The Lord comes, desiring gentle compassion toward all. Amen.

Intercessions of Mercy: Prayers for Parish Meetings and Liturgies (eResource)
Sisters of Mercy of the America www.thepastoralcenter.com/ap202.html