

SPECIAL PRAYERS

St Patrick's Prayer

Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me.

Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of those who love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.
Amen.

based on St Augustine's Prayer

Almighty God,
you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless
till they find their rest in you.
Teach us to offer ourselves to your service,
that here we may have your peace
and in the world to come may see you face to face;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen.

Universal Prayer for Peace *from Iona Abbey*

O God, lead us from death to life,
from falsehood to truth.
Lead us from despair to hope,
from fear to trust.
Lead us from hate to love,
from war to peace.
Let peace fill our hearts,
our world, our universe. Amen.

Thanksgiving *(from Common Worship)*

Blessed are you, sovereign God, gentle and merciful,
creator of heaven and earth.
Your word brought light out of darkness.
In Jesus Christ you proclaim good news to the poor,
liberty to captives, sight to the blind
and freedom for the oppressed.
Daily your Spirit renews the face of the earth,
bringing life and health, wholeness and peace.
In the renewal of our lives
you make known your heavenly glory.
Blessed are you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed are you for ever. Amen.

Prayer of St Ignatius Loyola (1491 – 1556)

Teach us, good Lord,
To serve you as you deserve;
To give and not to count the cost;
To fight and not to heed the wounds;
To labour and not to ask for any reward,
Save that of knowing that we do your will.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Mary Stewart (1876 – 1943)

Keep us, O God, from all pettiness.
Let us be large in thought, in word, in deed.
Let us be done with fault-finding
and leave off all self-seeking.
May we put away all pretence
and meet each other face to face,
without self-pity and without prejudice.
May we never be hasty in judgement,
and always be generous.
Let us always take time for all things,
And make us to grow calm, serene, and gentle.
Teach us to put into action our better impulses
to be straightforward and unafraid.
Grant that we may realise that it is the little things of life that create differences,
that in the big things of life, we are as one.
And, O Lord God, let us not forget to be kind! Amen.

Prayer of St Richard (*Bishop of Chichester 1244 – 1253*)

Thanks be to you, our Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits which you have given us,
for all the pains and insults which you have borne for us.
Most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother,
may we know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly,
day by day. Amen.

Dedication

Father,
pour out your Spirit on your people
and grant us
a new vision of your glory,
a new experience of your power,
a new faithfulness to your Word,
and a new consecration to your service;
that your love may grow among us,
and your kingdom come;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Reinhold Niebuhr (1892 – 1971)

God, grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change;
courage to change the things I can;
and wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time;
enjoying one moment at a time;
accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;
taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world
as it is, not as I would have it;
trusting that he will make all things right
if I surrender to his will;
that I may be reasonably happy in this life
and supremely happy with him
forever in the next. Amen.

The Methodist Covenant Prayer

I am no longer my own but yours.

Put me to what you will,
rank me with whom you will;
put me to doing,
put me to suffering;
let me be employed for you,
or laid aside for you,
exalted for you,
or brought low for you;
let me be full,
let me be empty,
let me have all things,
let me have nothing:
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things
to your pleasure and disposal.
And now, glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours. So be it.
And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven.
Amen.

Dedication

Father,
pour out your Spirit on your people
and grant us
a new vision of your glory,
a new experience of your power,
a new faithfulness to your Word,
and a new consecration to your service;
that your love may grow among us,
and your kingdom come;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

from the Sarum Primers

God be in my head,
and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes,
and in my looking;
God be in my mouth,
and in my speaking;
God be in my heart,
and in my thinking;
God be at my end,
and at my departing.
Amen.

Collect for the 3rd Sunday of Lent

Almighty God,
whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross,
may find it none other than the way of life and peace;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for the 3rd Sunday of Easter

Almighty Father,
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples
with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such knowledge of your presence with us,
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for the 5th Sunday after Trinity

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.