

# Ministry Praise

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK

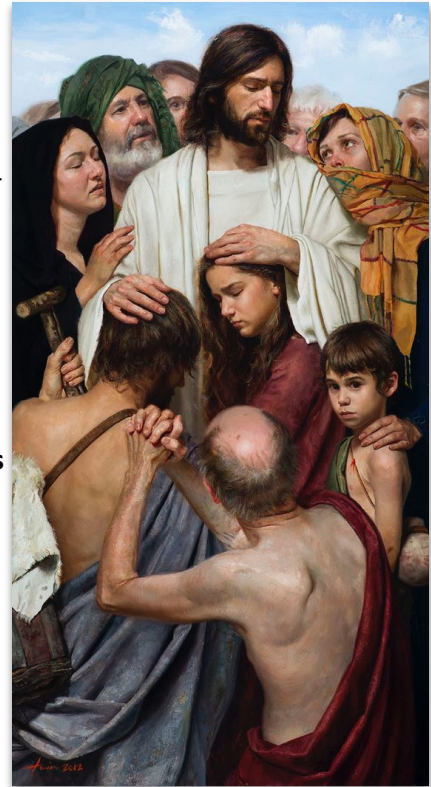
“And wherever HE went, into villages or cities, they laid the sick in marketplaces and begged Him that they might touch even the fringe of His cloak; and all who touched it were healed.” (Mark 6:56)

Jesus showed his love for the sick by visiting them, by touching them, by forgiving them and healing them. He encourages us to recognize Him in our sick brothers and sisters.

In 1992, Pope John Paul II instituted the WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK, to encourage people to pray for those who suffer from illness, and their caregivers. The Pope had been diagnosed with Parkinson’s a year before and it is considered that his own illness was impetus for the designation of this day. Pope Benedict XVI declared his decision to resign from his post as the Pope on this day in 2013. He cited his failing health as the reason.

February 11, the established day, is also the Catholic feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. This title was given to Mary in honor of the apparitions that were to have been seen in and around Lourdes, France by a young girl named Bernadette Soubirous, now St. Bernadette.

People around the world take the time to pray for the sick and for those who work very hard to alleviate the sufferings of the sick.



### A CAREGIVER’S PRAYER

Merciful God, we turn to You , asking that our prayers for others and for ourselves be heard.

O God, you call us to tend the sick and dying and to advocate for humane health care for all people;

*Resp: Give us compassionate hearts and willing hands.*

For nurses, home health workers and other professional caregivers; *Resp: Grace them with patience, gentleness and the gratitude of their clients.*

For family members, friends and all who care for those who are elderly, ill or impaired;

*Resp: Reward them, merciful Lord, for their faithful, generous service.*



May all caregivers strive to minister with competence and compassion.

**Amen**

*find respite and support in our communities of faith.*

May the mercy of God empower us to be merciful disciples. Amen.



## LITANY OF COMPASSION FOR THE SICK

We pray with special love and concern for all those who are ill or infirm, asking the Lord for his consoling grace to strengthen the sick in times of trial.

*Response: Lord, be close to give your comfort*

**When pain and distress are overwhelming:** *Lord, be close to give your comfort*

**When the healing process goes slower than hoped:** *Lord, be close to give your comfort*

**When terrified by treatments or therapy:** *Lord, be close to give your comfort*

**When worn out and weary:** *Lord, be close to give your comfort*

**When sickness makes it difficult to communicate:** *Lord, be close to give your comfort*

**When beset by worry or fretfulness:** *Lord, be close to give your comfort*

**When it's hard to rely on others for care:** *Lord, be close to give your comfort*

**When sickness is mistaken for punishment:** *Lord, be close to give your comfort*

**When loved ones are far away:** *Lord, be close to give your comfort*

**When it's difficult to sleep:** *Lord, be close to give your comfort*

**When there's loss of appetite:** *Lord, be close to give your comfort*

**When nobody seems to understand:** *Lord, be close to give your comfort*

**When medication seems to make things worse:** *Lord, be close to give your comfort.*

**When it becomes difficult to pray:** *Lord, be close to give your comfort*

**When all that's needed is a caring touch:** *Lord, be close to give your comfort*

**When weakness makes it impossible even to think:** *Lord, be close to give your comfort*

**When death draws near:** *Lord, be close to give your comfort*

**Most merciful Father, your beloved Son showed special compassion to lepers , tenderness to those long sick, and healing to the infirm laid before Him. We place before you all those who are ill and in need of healing grace. May the love and mercy of the Divine Physician raise up all who suffer from sickness and restore them to health and peace. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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# Our Needs, Worries and Concerns

*We turn to God our Father  
and offer Him our prayers:*

† That our parish community will grow in faith, hope and love during 2017, we pray: *Lord hear our prayer.*

† That many young people will respond to Christ’s call to follow Him in the consecrated life and the priesthood, we pray: *Lord hear our prayer.*

† For Pope Francis, that he continues to have the strength and stamina to confront the many obstacles in his path, we pray: *Lord hear our prayer.*

† That the members of the Catholic press will be faithful stewards who courageously advance the Gospel, we pray: *Lord hear our prayer.*

† That as the new governmental administration begins its work with a new president, they bring about peace and harmony in our country, we pray: *Lord hear our prayer.*

† That husbands and wives will be blessed with the grace to live their marriage with fidelity, holiness and joy, we pray: *Lord hear our prayer.*

† For those who must earn their living working in the colder conditions, we pray: *Lord hear our prayer.*

† For the homeless, especially the kids, that they might find shelter and some warm meals during the winter season, we pray: *Lord hear our prayer.*

† That generous people will step forward to financially support Covenant House and all the havens for needy children, we pray: *Lord hear our prayer.*

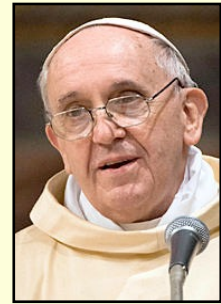
† For the victims of inclement weather, that they will receive the help they need, we pray: *Lord hear our prayer.*

† That those who must travel long distances for their jobs will travel safely, we pray: *Lord hear our prayer.*

† For the elderly, the lonely, the homebound, the neglected, and the grieving. Help us to help them however we are able, we pray: *Lord hear our prayer.*

† For the faithful departed. May they rest in peace in the heavenly Kingdom, we pray: *Lord hear our prayer.*

*Loving Father, be our fortress, our stronghold, our rock  
and our refuge.*



**Words by  
Pope Francis:**  
“Let us not rob  
others of hope;  
let us become  
bearers of  
hope.”



Lord, please watch  
over the students  
and adults from our  
parish marching in  
Washington, D.C.,  
as they display  
their belief in the  
sacred gift of life  
You give.

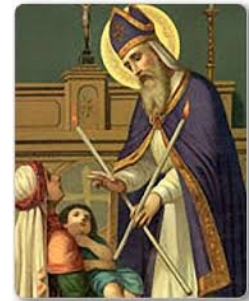


**Those Who  
Recently Found  
Eternal Rest**  
Emeline Hesseling

**FEBRUARY 3**

**On this day it is customary in many places to bless the throats of the faithful by having the priest or deacon place two blessed candles around a person’s throat and recite the following prayer:**

*“Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you free from every disease of the throat and from every other disease.” In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*



**ST. BLAISE**



***For Our Country***

**Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of the United States of America, Please help our country. Help us to return to what is decent, right and proper. Help us to return to respect for ourselves and others, to self-control and self-discipline, and especially, to a deep love for your Son and His teachings. Protect us from those who would destroy us from within. Pray for us and help us. Amen.**



***For Our School***

**God, our Father and Creator, be with us in our school. Help us to treasure your gift of life and treat one another with care. Come, Lord Jesus, and be with us. Guide our teachers, guide our parents and lead our students to recognize You in all people. Come Holy Spirit, and give us a vision for shaping a faith-filled future. Amen.**

***BLACK HISTORY MONTH***

Every February is a time to honor the lives and sacrifices of the men and women of African-American descent that helped to shape the United States. The following blessing offers all Christian backgrounds an opportunity to seek God’s healing and wisdom in all the divisions of this world.

**“God of peace, thank you for a society that honors the achievements and sacrifices of all people. This February, bless all who, in the spirit of Black History Month, seek to bring your world together rather than tear it apart. Thank you for all the lives that have been touched. Bless all your beloved children, Loving Father, and teach us to live together in peace, now and always. Amen.”**

***FEBRUARY 14 - VALENTINE’S DAY***

**“Love is patient and kind. It is not jealous or conceited or proud; love is not ill-mannered or selfish or irritable; love does not keep a record of wrongs; love is not happy with evil, but is happy with the truth. Love never gives up; and its faith, hope and patience never fail.”**

(1 Cor. 13: 4-7)



# 60 SECONDS WITH GOD

## Everyday ways to Connect

### THE ALARM CLOCK ALLELUIA

As your alarm goes off, repeat the psalm: "This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad." Commit to living in gratitude for the day.



### TELEPHONE THANKSGIVING

Let your telephone remind you of life's blessings. Every time it rings, recall something good in your life and say a brief prayer of thanks. If it's been "one of those days" say thanks anyway because sometimes we learn the most from life's challenges.

### LUNCHTIME COMMUNION

For at least one minute, eat slowly and deliberately. Notice the taste and texture of each bite---the crunch of celery, the chewiness of whole wheat bread, the smooth sweetness of ice cream---and give thanks for the incredible abundance of food in this country. Ask for blessings on all those who provide food and those who are hungry.



### THE GAS PUMP MINUTE

As you pump gas, visualize God's spirit flowing into you, filling you with enough holy energy to do God's will for the rest of the day. What is that will? In every religion, it's the same: We are called to love one another.



### GRACE BEFORE MEALS

Marc and his family say grace before meals even if they're at a restaurant. "We think it's important to keep God first, and giving thanks three times a day reminds us of that."



### THE STOPLIGHT ACT OF CONTRITION

Instead of giving in to impatience and frustration, the next time you are stopped at a red light, use the moment to think about your day. Have you been rude, gotten angry, or in any other way not lived up to the best that is in you? Before you step on the gas again, say a prayerful "I'm sorry."



### NIGHTTIME TAPS

Relax into sleep with the TAPS prayer. Offer Thanksgiving for the day's blessings; show Adoration for the Creator, Petition for your needs and those of your loved ones and express Sorrow if in any way you hurt another. Sleep well.

## LENTEN ALERT

Just as living out our Baptism brings us the happiness of knowing our path to our Loving God, Lent is designed to bring us closer to Him who created us. We follow Jesus' way through passion and death to Resurrection. Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are the guideposts to help us. With faith, trust and gratitude we endeavor to get our hearts ready to contemplate the mysteries of Jesus' death and resurrection. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 1, 2017.

*"Blessed are they who observe his decrees, who seek Him with all their heart." (Psalm 119:4-5)*

### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

The Lenten season marks the time of intense preparation for those men and women who will become full members of our faith community at Easter. May we pray for them and extend a hand in welcome to:

#### **CATECHUMENS**

**(To be baptized)**

Justin Burnett  
Austin Pruett  
Brittney Siefker  
Cody Lundy  
Courtney Klausung

#### **CANDIDATES**

**(for full Communion)**

Kristin Gable  
Thomas Rode  
Andrew Wagner  
Emily Rayer

*Heavenly Father, send your blessings on those who are preparing for the Easter Sacraments. As they share their stories, give them the courage and strength to respond to God's call. Send your Spirit to calm their fears, increase their faith and bless their sponsors who are their support. Blessings on all who are helping them to prepare.*

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**Merciful Father, bless our observance of Lent so that we will live as your holy children.**

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.....

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