

# *Ministry of Praise*



*Autumn... So many  
shades of gold  
as the earth  
prepares to rest*

God of the seasons, there is a time  
for everything;  
There is a time for dying and a time  
for rising.  
We need courage to enter into the  
transformation process.

God of autumn, the trees are saying goodbye  
to their green, letting go of what has been.  
We, too, have our moments of surrender, with  
all their insecurity and risk.  
Help us to let go when we need to do so.

God of fallen leaves lying in colored patterns  
on the ground, our lives  
have their own patterns.  
As we see the patterns of our own growth,  
may we learn from them.

God of misty days and harvest moon nights,  
there is always the dimension of mystery and  
wonder in our lives.  
We always need to recognize your power-  
filled presence.  
May we gain strength from this.

God of harvest wagons and fields of ripened  
grain, many gifts of growth lie within the  
season of our surrender.  
We must wait for harvest in faith and hope.  
Grant us patience when we do not see the  
blessings.



God of geese going south for another season,  
your wisdom enables us to know what needs  
to be left behind  
and what needs to be carried into the future.  
We yearn for insight and vision.

God of flowers touched with frost.  
May your love keep our hearts from growing  
cold in the empty seasons.

God of life, you believe in us, you enrich us,  
you entrust us with the freedom  
to choose life.  
For all this, we are grateful. Amen.

# The Holy Cross

On Sept. 14, the Church celebrates the feast of the Triumph of the Cross. We honor the Cross of Jesus, the sign of our salvation. This Cross has become the universal image of Christian belief. As Catholics, we make the Sign of the Cross, a symbol of what we believe. Said reverently, it is a prayer in itself.

*We adore you O Christ  
and we bless you.  
By your Holy Cross you have  
redeemed the world.  
We fall silent before the mystery  
of your great love.  
Help us to lovingly accept the  
crosses in our own lives.*

**Jesus we give thanks,  
that by your wounds  
we were healed.  
Jesus, we give thanks  
that by your cross we are  
freed from sin.  
Jesus, we give thanks that  
by your sacrificial love, we  
are born to eternal life.  
Amen.**

***In the name  
of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.***

May we be patient in times of sorrow and suffering. Amen.  
May we be strengthened by the example of Mary. Amen.

Mary, Mother of Sorrows, pray for us.



## The Seven Sorrows of Mary

### The Prophecy of Simeon

(Luke 2:33-35)

### The Flight into Egypt

(Matt 3:13-15)

### The Loss of the Child Jesus

(Luke 2:41-52)

### The Meeting of Jesus and Mary on the way to Calvary

(John:19-17)

### The Crucifixion and Death of Jesus

(John 19:25-30)

### Jesus is taken down from the Cross

(Psalms 22: 15) (John 19:31-37)

### The Burial of Jesus

(John 38:42)

Loving Jesus, as your mother stood beneath the cross, the words of Simeon were fulfilled and her heart was pierced through with sorrow. We pray this day for all people in their times of suffering; may they be blessed with courage. Give them hope in the promise of resurrection. Amen.

## *Our Needs, Worries and Concerns*

*Calling on the mercy of the Father,  
we turn to Him with our intentions:*

† **Lord, by your cross you have redeemed the world. In hope, we pray:**  
Saving God, hear us.

† **Fashion our hearts in ways of compassion and courage as we  
participate in the saving work of Jesus:** Saving God, hear us.

† **Inspire Pope Francis in his efforts to pastorally address the needs of  
families:** Saving God, hear us.

† **Bless Tyler Koester as he makes his Simple Profession to the  
Dominican Friars of St. Joseph:** Saving God, hear us.

† **May you prosper fruitful dialogue for justice and establish your peace in  
every land:** Saving God, hear us.

† **Strengthen those who are in recovery from addiction:** Saving God,  
hear us.

† **Give courage and discernment to those faced with making important  
decisions:** Saving God, hear us.

† **Restore order and peace to lands ravaged by war and political uprising:**  
Saving God, hear us.

† **Rescue those who are held captive through human trafficking, unjust  
punishment or kidnapping:** Saving God, hear us.

† **Help us to forgive and accept forgiveness:** Saving God, hear us.

† **For the sick, the hungry, orphans, widows and the homeless:** Saving  
God, hear us.

† **That on Catechetical Sunday all those engaged in the work of education  
in the Faith may be blessed:** Saving God, hear us.

† **Protect women and men in the military and strengthen their families:**  
Saving God, hear us.

† **Help us to show appreciation to farmers and gardeners and those who  
harvest our food:** Saving God, hear us.

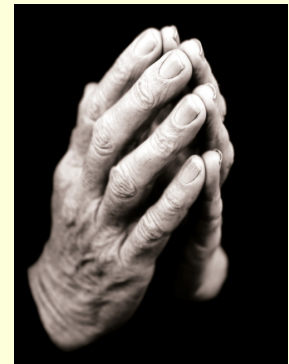
† **Receive the tears of those who mourn and give them comfort:** Saving  
God, hear us.

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*In You we take refuge, Saving God, with hope in the love you  
have shown from of old.*

### **Words by Pope Francis**

“The Church loves you!  
Be an active presence in  
the community, as living  
cells, as living stones.  
This is beautiful, a way  
of feeling that you are  
part of the church.”



### **Those Who Recently Found Eternal Rest:**

R. Jane Stallkamp  
David Brinkman  
James Holdgreve  
Donald Ditto  
Ruth M. Pohlman  
Doris Gerdeman  
Mary Ricker  
Douglas Croft  
Trent Closson  
Elizabeth Sendelbach  
Frank Spieles  
Whitlee Hughes  
Judy Allemeier  
Daniel Osting  
Pat Koester  
Elisha Weeden  
Ruth C. Pohlman  
Robert Schmit

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of work and the opportunity to work. May our efforts always be pure of heart, for the good of others and the glory of Your name. May those of us who are now retired remember that we still make a valuable contribution to our Church and our world by our prayers and deeds of charity.

Lord, there are many people in our nation who are in need of a steady job with sufficient wages to care for themselves and their families. Help these people remain diligent in their job search. Open the hearts of those responsible for hiring that they may carry out their work with compassion. May the unemployed in our nation find productive work that enables them to use their skills and



meet their economic needs. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

St. Joseph, patron of workers, pray for those who are searching for gainful employment. Amen.



## Patriot Day - Sept. 11

*"My soul continually thinks of it and is bowed down within me. But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning. Great is Your faithfulness."*  
(Lamentations 3:20-23)

Lord, it is with painful memories that we recall the attacks of Sept. 11. Thank you for the heroes that gave so sacrificially and help us to remember their courage and learn from them.

May the evil of that day cause us to work harder to do good on this earth and to bring light into the dark places. Heal all those who were crushed and broken. May they come to experience Your presence and know Your peace.

Mary, Queen of Peace, protect our nation and teach the world to become a peaceful people.

## Fall begins - Sept. 22

Loving God, thank you for the warm sunny days of summer and all the things we enjoyed.....visits from friends, cooking on the grill, family reunions, going to the lake, working in the garden, baseball games or just sitting under a shade tree. Now that the fall season is upon us, help us to embrace all that fall has to offer. Let us live with joy in the world You have given us, now and always. Amen.

***God is the perfect artist. Every brush stroke is purposed. Today, give thanks to God for his handiwork. Give God thanks for the lovely creation that is you.***

