

PRAYERS AND THANKSGIVINGS

UPON SEVERAL OCCASIONS

FOR USE AFTER THE PRAYER FOR THE PRESIDENT, AT
MORNING AND EVENING WORSHIP, AND
AT OTHER TIMES



PRAYERS

A Prayer for the Congress

¶ To be used during its Sessions.

MOST gracious God, we humbly beseech thee, as for the people of the United States in general, so especially for their Senate and Representatives in Congress assembled: That thou wouldest be pleased to direct and prosper all their consultations to the advancement of thy glory, the good of thy Church, the safety, honor, and welfare of thy people; That all things may be so ordered and settled by their endeavors, upon the best and surest foundations, that peace and happiness, truth and justice, religion and piety may be established among us for all generations. These and all other necessaries, we humbly beg in the Name and Mediation of Jesus Christ, our most blessed LORD and Saviour. *Amen.*

For Other Law-Making Bodies

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 the Legislature of this State, and all other legislative bodies, that they may ordain for our governance only such things as will please thee, to the welfare of the people, and the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

For Courts of Justice

ALMIGHTY God, whose judgments are true and right; We humbly beseech thee to bless and guide all Magistrates and Courts of Justice throughout our land; granting unto them knowledge and firmness; enduing them with 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 Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

*For the Army, the Navy, and the Air Forces
of Our Country*

ALMIGHTY God, the Strong Tower and Refuge of thy people; We entreat thy favor upon the officers and all who are enlisted in the service of defence of our country, upon land, and on the water, and in the air. Ever spare them from being ordered into a war of aggression or oppression. Use them, if need be, as thine instruments in the defence of our national life and liberty. But restrain, we beseech thee, the greed and wrath of man, that wars may cease in all the earth. Deepen in the hearts of our defenders the spirit of peace; and, for his sake, may they ever love and serve the Prince of Peace, our LORD and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

For Our Country

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage; We humbly beseech thee that we may prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor. Bless us with industry, prosperity, learning, and purity of life. Save us from discord and violence, from pride and arrogancy. Preserve us from public calamities, pestilence, and famine; from war, privy conspiracy, and rebellion; and especially from national sins and corruption. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with wisdom those in authority, that justice and peace may prevail. Make us strong and great in the fear of God, and in the love of righteousness, that, blessed of thee, we may be a blessing to all people. In prosperity fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in trouble suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

*For the Coming of Christ's Kingdom and
Universal Peace*

O ALMIGHTY Father, thou King eternal, immortal, invisible, thou only wise God our Saviour; Hasten, we beseech thee, the coming upon earth of the kingdom of thy Son, our LORD and Saviour Jesus Christ, and draw the whole world of mankind into willing obedience to his blessed reign. Overcome all his enemies, and bring low every power that is exalted against him. Cast out all the evil things which cause wars and fightings among

us, and let thy Spirit rule the hearts of men in righteousness and love. Repair the desolations of former days; rejoice the wilderness with beauty; and make glad the city with thy law. Establish every work that is founded on truth and equity, and fulfil all the good hopes and desires of thy people. Manifest thy will, Almighty Father, in the brotherhood of man, and bring in universal peace; through the victory of thy Son, Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

In Time of War and Tumults

O ALMIGHTY God, the supreme Governor of all things, whose power no creature is able to resist, to whom it belongeth justly to punish sinners, and to be merciful to those who truly repent; Save and deliver us, we humbly beseech thee, from the hands of our enemies; that we, being armed with thy defence, may be preserved evermore from all perils, to glorify thee, who art the only giver of all victory; through the merits of thy Son, Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

¶ Or this:

O LORD God of infinite mercy, we humbly beseech thee to look down with pity upon the nations now engaged in war. Reckon not against thy people their many iniquities, for from the lusts of our own hearts come wars and fightings amongst us. Look in compassion on those immediately exposed to peril, conflict, sickness, and death; comfort the prisoners, relieve the sufferings of the wounded, and show mercy to the dying. Tenderly regard those who

abide at home in fear, privation, and sorrow. Remove in thy good providence all causes and occasions of war; and of thy great goodness restore peace among the nations; through Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

For a Sick Person

O FATHER of mercies, and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need; We humbly beseech thee to behold, visit, and relieve thy sick *servant* (*N*), for whom our prayers are desired. Look upon *him* with the eyes of thy mercy; comfort *him* with a sense of thy goodness; preserve *him* from the temptations of the enemy; give *him* patience under *his* affliction; and, in thy good time, restore *him* to health, and enable *him* to lead the residue of *his* life in thy fear, and to thy glory. And grant that when this life is ended, through faith in thy dear Son, *he* may dwell with thee in life everlasting, for the sake of the same, our LORD and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

For a Sick Child

ALMIGHTY God, and merciful Father, thou who alone canst heal; Behold, we humbly beseech thee, with the eyes of thy mercy, the sick *child* for whom our prayers are desired. If it be thy good pleasure, deliver *him*, O LORD, from *his* bodily pain, and prolong *his* days here on earth; that *he* may live to thee, and be an instrument of thy glory. Grant this, O heavenly Father, for the love of thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

In Time of Great Sickness and Mortality

O MOST mighty and merciful God, to whom alone belong the issues of life and death; In this time of grievous sickness we flee unto thee for relief. Deliver us, we beseech thee, from our peril; give strength and skill to thy ministers of healing; bless the means of cure; and grant, that, perceiving how frail is our earthly life, we may apply our hearts unto that heavenly wisdom which leadeth to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

For a Person under Affliction

O MERCIFUL God, and heavenly Father, who hast taught us, in thy holy Word, that thou dost not willingly afflict or grieve the children of men; Look with pity, we beseech thee, upon the sorrows of thy *servant*, for whom our prayers are desired. Remember *him*, O LORD, in mercy; sanctify thy fatherly correction to *him*; endue *his* soul with patience under *his* affliction, and with resignation to thy blessed will; comfort *him* with a sense of thy goodness; lift up thy countenance upon *him* and give *him* peace; through Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

For Persons in Bereavement

O LORD Jesus Christ, who thyself didst weep beside the grave, and art touched with the feeling of our sorrows; Fulfil now thy promise that thou wilt not leave thy people comfortless, but wilt come to them. Reveal thyself unto thine afflicted servants, for whom

our prayers are desired, and cause them to hear thee saying, "I am the Resurrection and the Life." Help them, O LORD, to turn to thee with true discernment, and to abide in thee through living faith; that, finding now the comfort of thy presence, they may have also a sure confidence in thee for all that is to come: until the day break, and the shadows flee away. Hear us for thy great mercy's sake, O Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

For a Person or Persons Going to Sea

O ETERNAL God, who alone spreadest out the heavens, and rulest the raging of the sea; We commend to thy Almighty protection, thy *servant (N)*, for whose preservation on the great deep our prayers are desired. Guard *him*, we beseech thee, from the dangers of the sea, from sickness, from the violence of enemies, and from every evil to which *he* may be exposed. Conduct *him* in safety to the haven where *he* would be, with a grateful sense of thy mercies; through Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

*For a Person or Persons Traveling by Land or
by Air*

O ALMIGHTY God, who hast raised up the mountains and laid low the valleys, who hast marked the great highways of the earth, and dost direct the courses of the winds and clouds; With thy protecting care overshadow, guide, and guard, we beseech thee, those who travel by land or by air; and especially thy *servant (N)*, for whom our prayers are desired,

now traveling by air (*or*, by land). Protect *him* from sickness, from violence, from accident, and from all other perils to which *he* may be exposed. Conduct *him* safely to the haven where *he* would be, with a grateful sense of thy mercies; through Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

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. Give them a right understanding of themselves, and of thy warnings and promises, that they may put their confidence in thee, and in thee alone. Relieve the distressed, protect the innocent, and awaken the guilty. And, forasmuch as thou alone canst bring light out of darkness, and good out of evil, grant that thy grace may impel the guilty to seek that only Redeemer who can free their souls from the chains of sin; and this we beg for the sake of Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

For Those Who are about to be Confirmed

BLESS, we beseech thee, O heavenly Father, those who are soon to present themselves here, to make audible confession of thy Son, Jesus the Christ, as their Saviour and their LORD. May they ever be unswerving, and their confession true. Keep them ever obedient to thy holy will and commandments, and faithful in the communion of thy Church, and in thy service, to the glory of the great Head of the Church, our LORD Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

For Those Who are about to be Ordained

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who hast purchased to thyself an universal Church by the precious blood of thy dear Son; Mercifully look upon the same, and at this time so guide and govern the minds of thy servants the Bishops and Pastors of thy flock, that they may lay hands suddenly on no man, but faithfully and wisely make choice of fit persons, to serve in the Ministry of thy Church. And to those who shall be ordained to any holy function, give thy grace and heavenly benediction; That both by their life and doctrine they may show forth thy glory, and set forward the salvation of all men; through Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

For Pastors, or Ministers-in-Charge

O HOLY Jesus, who hast purchased to thyself an universal Church, and hast promised to be with thy Ministers to the end of the world; Be graciously pleased to bless the ministry and service of him who is appointed to offer the sacrifices of prayer and praise to thee in this house, which is called by thy Name. May the words of his mouth, and the meditation of his heart, be always acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, our Strength, and our Redeemer. *Amen.*

O LORD Jesus Christ, we beseech thee that the Ministers of thy Gospel, here and everywhere, may be true to their calling. Endue them with thy Holy Spirit, that they may remember the words of Holy Writ, that their understanding thereof may be enlight-

ened, and that their witness may be in truth and with power, to the salvation of sinners and the edifying of saints. May they rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments, and by their life and doctrine set forth thy true and lively Word. May they be to all men wholesome examples in faith, word, love, chastity, and fidelity; that so thy Name may be glorified, who art, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

For Ministers and People

MOST gracious God, the Giver of all good and perfect gifts; Give thy grace, we beseech thee, to all the Ministers of thy Word; and so replenish them with the truth of thy doctrine, and endue them with innocency of life, that they may faithfully serve before thee, to the glory of thy great Name, and the benefit of thy holy Church. And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, that with meek heart and due reverence they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Redeemer. *Amen.*

For the Increase of the Ministry

O ALMIGHTY God, look mercifully upon the world which thou hast redeemed by the blood of thy dear Son; and, by thy Holy Spirit, incline the hearts of many to dedicate themselves to the sacred Ministry of thy Church; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

For Congregations

○ ALMIGHTY God, who hast built thy Church upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief Corner-stone; Grant that by the operation of the Holy Ghost, all Christians may be so joined together in unity of spirit, and in the bond of peace, that they may be an holy temple, acceptable unto thee. And especially to this Congregation present, give the abundance of thy grace; That with one heart they may desire the prosperity of thy holy Church, and with one mouth may profess the faith once delivered to the saints. Defend them from the sins of heresy and schism; let not the foot of pride come nigh to hurt them, nor the hand of the ungodly to cast them down. And grant, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by thy governance, that thy Church may joyfully serve thee in all godly quietness; That so they may walk in the ways of truth and peace, and at last be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting; through thy merits, O blessed Jesus, thou gracious Bishop and Shepherd of our souls, who art, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

For Missions

○ 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.

Pour out thy Spirit upon all flesh, bring the nations into thy fold, and hasten the coming of thy kingdom; through the same thy Son, Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

For Missionaries

O LORD Jesus Christ, the Desire of all nations, who didst come down from heaven to seek and to save the lost; Grant thy blessing, we beseech thee, upon thy missionary servants who are carrying the light of thy Gospel to the dark places of the earth. Preserve them from every danger to which they may be exposed; from perils by land and sea, from persecution and pestilence, from discouragement in their labors, and from the devices of the adversary. May they see thy work prospering in their hands; and do thou hasten the time, O gracious Saviour, when the multitude of the heathen shall be gathered into thy fold, and when all in every land who neglect thy salvation shall be converted unto thee. And to thee, LORD Jesus, be the praise; unto whom, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

For Meetings of Ecclesiastical Bodies

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 this portion 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 thy fold, shall become partakers of everlasting life; through the merits and death of Jesus Christ our Saviour. *Amen.*

For the Unity of God's People

O GOD, the Father of our LORD Jesus Christ, our only Saviour, the Prince of Peace; Deliver thy Church, we beseech thee, from all prejudice and contention, 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 mind, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and love; through Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

For Youth, and Institutions of Learning

ALmighty God, the Author of all being, our only true Guide and Protector; Visit with thy blessing, we pray thee, our Church schools and seminaries of learning. Inspire the teachers with a proper sense of their solemn duties, and with grace and strength to fulfil

them. May our youth be trained up in thy nurture and admonition. Implant in their hearts that fear of the LORD which is the beginning of wisdom, and that faith which worketh by love and overcometh the world. Fill their memories with the words of thy Law. Open their understandings to the truth, as it is in Jesus; so that, made wise unto salvation, they may escape the pollutions of error and sin, and become strong in thy hands for the maintenance of pure and undefiled religion among men. Grant this, for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son, our Saviour. *Amen.*

For Schools and Colleges

THOU only wise God, our Saviour, with whom are all the treasures of heavenly understanding; Illuminate all schools and colleges and universities with the light that cometh from above; That those who teach may be taught of thee, and those who learn may be led by thy Spirit; and grant, that by the increase of knowledge thy truth may be confirmed, and thy glory manifested; through Jesus Christ, thy Living Word. *Amen.*

For Christian Education

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who hast committed to thy holy Church the care and nurture of thy children; Enlighten with thy wisdom those who teach and those who learn; that, rejoicing in the knowledge of thy truth, they may worship thee and serve thee from generation to generation; through Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

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.*

For Fair Weather

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, we humbly beseech thee, of thy great goodness, to restrain those immoderate rains, wherewith thou hast afflicted us; And we pray thee to send us such seasonable weather, that the earth may, in due time, yield her increase, for our use and benefit; and give us grace, that we may learn, by thy visitations, to amend our lives, and for thy clemency to give thee thanks and praise; through Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

In Time of Dearth and Famine

O GOD, heavenly Father, whose gift it is that the rain doth fall, and the earth bring forth her increase; Behold, we beseech thee, the afflictions of thy people; increase the fruits of the earth by thy heavenly benediction; and grant, that the scarcity and dearth which we now most justly suffer for our sins, may, through thy goodness, be mercifully turned into plenty; for the love of Jesus Christ our LORD, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer of Penitence

MOST merciful God, who art of purer eyes than to behold iniquity, and hast promised forgiveness to all those who confess and forsake their sins; We come before thee in an humble sense of our own unworthiness, acknowledging our manifold transgressions of thy righteous laws. But, O gracious Father, who desirest not the death of a sinner, look upon us, we beseech thee, in mercy, and forgive us all our transgressions. Make us deeply sensible of the great evil of them, and work in us an hearty contrition; that we may obtain forgiveness at thy hands, who art ever ready to receive humble and penitent sinners; for the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, our only Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

A Prayer for Forgiveness

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of thy great mercy hast promised forgiveness of sins to all those who, with hearty repentance and true faith, turn unto thee; Have mercy upon us; pardon and deliver us from all our sins; confirm and strengthen us in all goodness; and bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

A Prayer for Future Protection

ALMIGHTY God, by whose will we were created, by whose providence we have been sustained, and by whose mercy we have been called to the knowledge of eternal life; Vouchsafe unto us evermore thy preserving and protecting grace. Unto thee, the support of our

infancy, the help of our youth, and the guide of our advancing years, do we commit our lives for the time to come. In all our ways we acknowledge thee; and wilt thou direct our paths. In our prosperity, give us grace to use with moderation our several enjoyments, and a compassionate spirit for the wants of others. Save us from those temptations which might occasion our fall; and, in our adversity, impart unto us patience and strength. These blessings we ask in the Name of our only Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

COLLECTS

ASSIST us mercifully, O LORD, in these our supplications and prayers; and dispose the way of thy servants towards the attainment of everlasting salvation; that among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, they may ever be defended by thy most gracious and ready help; through Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that the words which we have heard this day, with our outward 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.*

DIRECT 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.*

O ALMIGHTY God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ; Grant us grace so to follow thy blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those unspeakable joys, which thou hast prepared for those who unfeignedly love thee; through Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY God, the Fountain of all wisdom, who knowest our necessities before we ask, and our ignorance in asking; We beseech thee to have compassion upon our infirmities; and those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask, vouchsafe to give us, for the worthiness of thy Son Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

BLESSED be thy Name, O LORD God, for that it hath pleased thee to have thy habitation among the sons of men, and to dwell in the midst of the assembly of the saints upon the earth; Bless, we beseech thee, the religious services of this day, and grant that in this place which is dedicated to thee, thy holy Name may be worshipped, and thy Gospel preached in truth and purity throughout all generations; through Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY God, who hast promised to hear the petitions of those who ask in thy Son's Name; We beseech thee mercifully to incline