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# PETITIONS, INTERCESSIONS, AND THANKSGIVINGS

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## PEACE AMONG THE NATIONS

Almighty God, heavenly Father, guide the nations of the world into ways of justice and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness, that they may become the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (165)

## PEACE

O God, it is your will to hold both heaven and earth in a single peace. Let the design of your great love shine on the waste of our wraths and sorrows, and give peace to your Church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (166)

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may move every human heart, that the barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease, and that, with our divisions healed, we might live in justice and peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (167)

## THE VARIETY OF RACES AND CULTURES

O God, you created all people in your image. We thank you for the astonishing variety of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship, and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (168)

## OUR COUNTRY

Almighty God, you have given us this good land as our heritage. Make us always remember your generosity and constantly do your will. Bless our land with honest industry, truthful education, and an honorable way of life. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil course of action. Make us who came from many nations with many different languages a united people. Defend our liberties and give those whom we have entrusted with the authority of government the spirit of wisdom, that there might be justice and peace in our land. When times are prosperous, let our hearts be thankful; and, in troubled times, do not let our trust in you fail. We ask all this through Jesus Christ our Lord. (169)

## STATE/PROVINCIAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, bless those who hold office in the government [of this *state/province/city/town/\_\_\_\_\_*], that they may do their work in a spirit of wisdom, kindness, and justice. Help them use their authority to serve faithfully and to promote the general welfare, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (170)

## RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP

Lord, keep this nation under your care. Bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth. Help us elect trustworthy leaders, contribute to wise decisions for the general welfare, and thus serve you faithfully in our generation to the honor of your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. (171)

## THOSE IN CIVIL AUTHORITY

O Lord our governor, your glory shines throughout the world. We commend our nation to your merciful care, that we may live securely in peace and may be guided by your providence. Give all in authority the wisdom and strength to know your will and to do it. Help them remember that they are called to serve the people as lovers of truth and justice; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (172)

## COURTS OF JUSTICE

Almighty God, you sit in judgment to declare what is just and right. Bless the courts and the magistrates in our land. Give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, that they may perceive the truth and administer the law impartially as instruments of your divine will. We pray in the name of him who will come to be our judge, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (173)

## CITIES

Heavenly Father, in your Word you have given us a vision of that holy city to which the nations of the world bring their glory. Look upon and visit the cities of the earth. Renew the ties of mutual regard which form our civic life. Send us honest and able leaders. Help us to eliminate poverty, prejudice, and oppression, that peace may prevail with righteousness, and justice with order, and that men and women from various cultures and with differing talents may find with one another the fulfillment of their humanity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (174)

## TOWNS AND RURAL AREAS

God, our creator, you have ordered seedtime and harvest, sunshine and rain. Grant that all the people of our nation may give thanks to you for food, drink, and all that sustains life; may honor the land and water from which these good things come; and may respect those who labor to produce them; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (175)

## THE NEIGHBORHOOD

O Lord, our creator, by your holy prophet you taught your ancient people to seek the welfare of the cities in which they lived. We commend our neighborhood to your care, that it might be kept free from social strife and decay. Give us strength of purpose and concern for others, that we may create here a community of justice and peace where your will may be done; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (176)

## THE HUMAN FAMILY

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son. Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and, through our struggle and confusion, work to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (177)

## COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ dignified our labor by sharing our toil. Be with your people where they work; make those who carry on the industries and commerce of this land responsive to your will; and to all of us, give pride in what we do and a just return for our labor; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (178)

## THE UNEMPLOYED

Heavenly Father, we remember before you those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work. Guide the people of this land so to use our wealth and resources that all persons may find suitable and fulfilling employment and receive just payment for their labor; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (179)

## OUR ENEMIES

O God, the Lord of all, your Son commanded us to love our enemies and to pray for them. Lead us from prejudice to truth; deliver us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and enable us to stand before you, reconciled through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (180)

## THE POOR AND THE NEGLECTED

Almighty and most merciful God, we call to mind before you all those whom it would be easy to forget: the homeless, the destitute, the sick, the aged, and all who have none to care for them. Help us to heal those who are broken in body or spirit, and to turn their sorrow into joy. Grant this, Father, for the love of your Son, who for our sake became poor, Jesus Christ our Lord. (181)

## THE OPPRESSED

Look with pity, O heavenly Father, upon the people in this land who live with injustice, terror, disease, and death as their constant companions. Have mercy upon us. Help us to eliminate cruelty to these our neighbors. Strengthen those who spend their lives establishing equal protection of the law and equal opportunities for all. And grant that every one of us may enjoy a fair portion of the abundance of this land; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (182)

## THE PROPER USE OF WEALTH

Almighty God, all that we possess is from your loving hand. Give us grace that we may honor you with all we own, always remembering the account we must one day give to Jesus Christ our Lord. (183)

## SCHOOLS

O Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities [and especially \_\_\_\_\_], that they may be lively places for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (184)

## **AGRICULTURE**

Almighty God, we thank you for making the fruitful earth produce what is needed for life. Bless those who work in the fields; give us favorable weather; and grant that we may all share the fruits of the earth, rejoicing in your goodness; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (185)

## **PRISONS AND CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

Lord Jesus, for our sake you were condemned as a criminal. Visit our jails and prisons with your pity and judgment. Remember all prisoners and bring the guilty to repentance and amendment of life according to your will, and give them hope for their future. When any are held unjustly, bring them release; forgive us and teach us to improve our justice. Remember those who work in these institutions; keep them humane and compassionate; and save them from becoming brutal or callous. And since what we do for those in prison, O Lord, we do for you, lead us to improve their lot. All this we ask for your mercy's sake. (186)

## **THOSE WHO SUFFER FOR THE SAKE OF CONSCIENCE**

God of love and strength, your Son forgave his enemies while he was suffering shame and death. Strengthen those who suffer for the sake of conscience. When they are accused, save them from speaking in hate; when they are rejected, save them from bitterness; when they are imprisoned, save them from despair. To us, your servants, give grace to respect their witness and to discern the truth, that our society may be cleansed and strengthened. This we ask for the sake of our merciful and righteous judge, Jesus Christ our Lord. (187)

## **USE OF LEISURE**

O God, give us times of refreshment and peace in the course of this busy life. Grant that we may so use our leisure to rebuild our bodies and renew our minds that our spirits may be opened to the goodness of your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (188)

## **THE CHURCH**

Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son our Savior. (189)

## **SPREAD OF THE GOSPEL**

O God, increase the faith and energy of your Church to desire and work for the salvation of all people, that they might be freed from sin and that hope be renewed in many hearts, to the increase of the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (190)

## **MISSIONS**

Merciful Father, your kindness caused the light of the Gospel to shine among us. Extend your mercy now, we pray, to all the people of the world who do not have hope in Jesus Christ, that your salvation may be made known to them also and that all hearts would turn to you; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. (191)

## THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Lord God of our salvation, it is your will that all people might come to you through your Son Jesus Christ. Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection. We pray in his name. (192)

## THE SAINTS

We give thanks to you, O Lord our God, for all your servants and witnesses of time past: for Abraham, the father of believers, and for Sarah, his wife; for Moses, the lawgiver, and Aaron, the priest; for Miriam and Joshua, Deborah and Gideon, Samuel and Hannah, his mother; for Isaiah and all the prophets; for Mary, the mother of our Lord; for Peter and Paul and all the apostles; for Mary, Martha, and Mary Magdalene; for Stephen, the first martyr, and all the saints and martyrs in every time and in every land. In your mercy, give us, as you gave them, the hope of salvation and the promise of eternal life; through the first-born from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord. (193)

## MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock. Inspire all pastors to preach your Word diligently and your people to receive it willingly, that finally we may receive the crown of eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (194)

## THE ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT OR PASTOR

Almighty God, giver of all good gifts: Look on your Church with grace and guide the minds of those who shall choose a *pastor/president* for this \_\_\_\_\_, that we may receive a faithful servant who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (195)

## DEACONESSES AND DEACONS

O God, through the ages you have called *women/men* to the diaconate in your Church. Let your blessing rest now on all who answer that call. Grant them understanding of the Gospel, sincerity of purpose, diligence in ministry, and the beauty of life in Christ, that many people will be served and your name be glorified; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (196)

## CHURCH MUSICIANS AND ARTISTS

God of majesty, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be with your servants who make art and music for your people, that with joy we on earth may glimpse your beauty, and bring us to the fulfillment of that hope of perfection which will be ours as we stand before your unveiled glory. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. (197)

## TEACHERS

O God of wisdom, in your goodness you provide faithful teachers for your Church. By your Holy Spirit give all teachers insight into your Word, holy lives as examples to us all, and the courage to know and do the truth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (198)

## **RENEWAL**

Almighty God, by our baptism into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, you turn us from the old life of sin. Grant that we who are reborn to new life in him may live in righteousness and holiness all our days, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (199)

## **RENEWAL**

Almighty God, grant that we, who have been redeemed from the old life of sin by our baptism into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, may be renewed in your Holy Spirit to live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (200)

## **GRACE TO RECEIVE THE WORD**

Blessed Lord, you speak to us through the Holy Scriptures. Grant that we may hear, read, respect, learn, and make them our own in such a way that the enduring benefit and comfort of the Word will help us grasp and hold the blessed hope of everlasting life, given us through our Savior Jesus Christ. (201)

## **ENLIGHTENMENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Lord God, you taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending them the light of your Holy Spirit. Grant that we, by your Spirit, may have a right judgment in all things and evermore rejoice in his holy counsel; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (202)

## **SELF-DEDICATION**

Almighty God, draw our hearts to you, guide our minds, fill our imaginations, control our wills, so that we may be wholly yours. Use us as you will, always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (203)

## **TRUSTFULNESS**

O most loving Father, you want us to give thanks for all things, to fear nothing except losing you, and to lay all our cares on you, knowing that you care for us. Protect us from faithless fears and worldly anxieties, and grant that no clouds in this mortal life may hide from us the light of your immortal love shown to us in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (204)

## **BEFORE WORSHIP**

Almighty God, you pour out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and supplication. Deliver us, as we come into your presence, from cold hearts and wandering thoughts, that with steady minds and burning zeal we may worship you in spirit and in truth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (205)

## **BEFORE WORSHIP**

Bless us, O God, with a reverent sense of your presence, that we may be at peace and may worship you with all our mind and spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (206)

## **BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION**

O Jesus, our great high priest, be present with us as you were present with your disciples and make yourself known to us in the breaking of bread. (207)

## BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION

We do not presume to come to your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and so to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. (208)

## AFTER HOLY COMMUNION

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever. (209)

## AFTER WORSHIP

Almighty God, grant that the words we have heard this day with our ears may be grafted onto our hearts through your grace, that they may produce in us the fruit of a good life, to the praise and honor of your name, through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. (210)

## ANSWER TO PRAYER

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not or, in our blindness, cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (211)

## ANSWER TO PRAYER

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you, and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his name, you will be in the midst of them. Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us, granting us, in this world, knowledge of your truth and, in the age to come, life everlasting. (212)

## A PRAYER ATTRIBUTED TO ST. FRANCIS

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and

it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. (213)

## **GENERAL THANKSGIVING**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but also in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. (214)

## **HARVEST OF LANDS AND WATERS**

O gracious Father, when you open your hand you satisfy the desire of every living thing. Bless the land and waters, and give the world a plentiful harvest; let your Spirit go forth to renew the face of the earth. As you show us your love and kindness in the bounty of the land and sea, save us from selfish use of your gifts, so that men and women everywhere may give you thanks; through Jesus our Lord. (215)

## **CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

Almighty God, in giving us dominion over things on earth, you made us fellow workers in your creation. Give us wisdom and reverence to use the resources of nature, so that no one may suffer from our abuse of them, and that generations yet to come may continue to praise you for your bounty; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (216)

## **THANKS FOR THE HARVEST**

Most gracious God, according to your wisdom the deep waters are opened up and clouds drop gentle moisture. We praise you for the return of planting and harvest seasons, for the fertility of the soil, for the harvesting of the crops, and for all other blessings which you in your generosity pour on this nation and people. Give us a full understanding of your mercy, and lives which will be respectful, holy, and obedient to you throughout all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (217)

## **IN TIME OF SCARCE RAINFALL**

O God, giver and sustainer of life, in this time of need send us the gentle rain, so that we may receive the fruits of the earth for our benefit and for your praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (218)

## **DANGERS OF ABUNDANCE**

O God, in your love you have given us gifts which our forebears neither knew nor dreamed of. Mercifully grant that we may not be so occupied with material things that we forget the things which are spiritual and thus, even though we have gained the whole world, lose our souls; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (219)

## **GUIDANCE**

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with your most gracious favor and further us with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name and finally, by your mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (220)



## GENERAL INTERCESSION

Watch, dear Lord, with those who wake or watch or weep, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, rest the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous. In your love, give us all this, through Jesus Christ our Lord. (221)

## PROTECTION THROUGH LIFE

O Lord, mercifully assist us in our supplications and prayers. Direct the lives of your servants toward the goal of everlasting salvation, that, surrounded by all the changes and uncertainties of life, we may be defended by your gracious and ready help in Jesus Christ our Lord. (222)

## THOSE IN AFFLICTION

Almighty and everlasting God, comfort of the sad and strength to those who suffer: Let the prayers of your children who are in any trouble rise to you. To everyone in distress grant mercy, grant relief, grant refreshment; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (223)

## THOSE IN MENTAL DISTRESS

Heavenly Father, have mercy on all your children who live in mental distress. Restore them to strength of mind and cheerfulness of spirit, and give them health and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (224)

## THOSE IN TROUBLE OR BEREAVEMENT

O merciful Father, you teach us in your holy Word that you do not willingly afflict or grieve your children. Look with pity on the sorrows of \_\_\_\_\_<sup>name</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, your servant, for whom we pray. Remember *him/her*, O Lord, in mercy. Strengthen *him/her* in patience, comfort *him/her* with the memory of your goodness, let your presence shine on *him/her*, and give *him/her* peace through Jesus Christ our Lord. (225)

## RECOVERY FROM SICKNESS

O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully hear our prayers and grant to your servant, \_\_\_\_\_<sup>name</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, the help of your power, that *his/her* sickness may be turned into health and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ. (226)

## THOSE SUFFERING FROM ADDICTION

O blessed Jesus, you ministered to all who came to you. Look with compassion upon all who through addiction have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of your unfailing mercy; remove the fears that attack them; strengthen them in the work of their recovery; and to those who care for them, give patient understanding and persevering love; for your mercy's sake. (227)

## RESTORATION OF HEALTH

Almighty and gracious God, we give thanks that you have restored the health of your servant, \_\_\_\_\_<sup>name</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, on whose behalf we bless and praise your name. Grant that *he/she* may continue the mission you have given *him/her* in this world and also share in eternal glory at the appearing of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (228)

## THE AGED

O Lord God, look with mercy on all whose increasing years bring them isolation, distress, or weakness. Provide for them homes of dignity and peace; give them understanding helpers and the willingness to accept help; and, as their strength diminishes, increase their faith and their assurance of your love. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. (229)

## FAMILIES

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you set the solitary in families. We commend to your care all the homes where your people live. Keep them, we pray, free from bitterness, from the thirst for personal victory, and from pride in self. Fill them with faith, virtue, knowledge, moderation, patience, and godliness. Knit together in enduring affection those who have become one in marriage. Let children and parents have full respect for one another; and light the fire of kindness among us all, that we may show affection for each other; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (230)

## BIRTH OF A CHILD

Heavenly Father, you sent your own Son into this world as the child of Mary and Joseph. We thank you for the life of this child, \_\_\_\_\_<sup>name</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, entrusted to our care. Help us to remember that we are all your children, and so to love and nurture *him/her* that *he/she* may attain to that full stature intended for *him/her* in your eternal kingdom; for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord. (231)

## THE CARE OF CHILDREN

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children. As we bring them up, give us calm strength and patient wisdom, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. (232)

## YOUNG PERSONS

God our Father, you see your children growing up in an uncertain and confusing world. Show them that your ways give more life than the ways of the world, and that following you is better than chasing after selfish goals. Help them to take failure, not as a measure of their worth, but as an opportunity for a new start. Give them strength to hold their faith in you and to keep alive their joy in your creation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. (233)

## THOSE WHO LIVE ALONE

Almighty God, grant that those who live alone may not be lonely in their solitude, but may find fulfillment in loving you and their neighbors as they follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ our Lord. (234)

## REMEMBRANCE OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

With reverence and affection we remember before you, O everlasting God, all our departed friends and relatives. Keep us in union with them here through faith and love toward you, that hereafter we may enter into your presence and be numbered with those who serve you and look upon your face in glory everlasting, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (235)

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Almighty God, giver of all things, with gladness we give thanks for all your goodness. We bless you for the love which has created and which sustains us from day to day. We praise you for the gift of your Son our Savior, through whom you have made known your will and grace. We thank you for the Holy Spirit, the comforter; for your holy Church; for the means of grace; for the lives of all faithful and good people; and for the hope of the life to come. Help us to treasure in our hearts all that our Lord has done for us, and enable us to show our thankfulness by lives that are wholly given to your service.

### **C Hear us, good Lord.**

Save and defend your whole Church, purchased with the precious blood of Christ. Give it pastors and ministers filled with your Spirit, and strengthen it through the Word and the holy sacraments. Make it perfect in love and in all good works, and establish it in the faith delivered to the saints. Sanctify and unite your people in all the world, that one holy Church may bear witness to you, the creator and redeemer of all.

### **C Hear us, good Lord.**

Give your wisdom and heavenly grace to all pastors and to those who hold office in your Church, that, by their faithful service, faith may abound and your kingdom increase.

### **C Hear us, good Lord.**

Send the light of your truth into all the earth. Raise up faithful servants of Christ to labor in the Gospel both at home and in distant lands.

### **C Hear us, good Lord.**

In your mercy strengthen the younger churches and support them in times of trial. Make them steadfast, abounding in the work of the Lord, and let their faith and zeal for the Gospel refresh and renew the witness of your people everywhere.

### **C Hear us, good Lord.**

Preserve our nation in justice and honor, that we may lead a peaceable life of integrity. Grant health and favor to all who bear office in our land

*(Canada) especially to Her Gracious Majesty, the Queen; the Governor General; the Prime Minister and the Parliament; the Government of this Province and all who have authority over us*

*(USA) especially to the President of the United States, the Governor of this State, and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws*

and help them to serve this people according to your holy will.

### **C Hear us, good Lord.**

Take from us all hatred and prejudice, give us the spirit of love, and dispose our days in your peace. Prosper the labors of those who take counsel for the nations of the world, that mutual understanding and common endeavor may be increased among all peoples.

### **C Hear us, good Lord.**

Bless the schools of the Church and all colleges, universities, and centers of research and those who teach in them. Bestow your wisdom in such measure that people may

serve you in Church and state and that our common life may be conformed to the rule of your truth and justice.

**C Hear us, good Lord.**

Sanctify our homes with your presence and joy. Keep our children in the covenant of their baptism and enable their parents to rear them in a life of faith and devotion. By the spirit of affection and service unite the members of all families, that they may show your praise in our land and in all the world.

**C Hear us, good Lord.**

Let your blessing rest upon the seedtime and harvest, the commerce and industry, the leisure and rest, the arts and culture of our people. Take under your special protection those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and be with all who lay their hands to any useful task. Give them just rewards for their labor and the knowledge that their work is good in your sight.

**C Hear us, good Lord.**

*Special supplications, intercessions, and thanksgivings may be made.*

Comfort with the grace of your Holy Spirit all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those to whom death draws near. Bring consolation to those in sorrow or mourning. And to all grant a measure of your love, taking them into your tender care.

**C Hear us, good Lord.**

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you in your Church on earth, who now rest from their labors [especially those most dear to us, whom we name in our hearts before you]. Keep us in fellowship with all your saints, and bring us at last to the joy of your heavenly kingdom.

**C Hear us, good Lord.**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of him who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

**C Amen**