
Book of Prayers



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A Father's Prayer

This is the best dowry of hopes, wishes and prayers I would be able to offer:

- May God give you the grace of wit and wisdom to understand that rainbows are only the result of showers, dust, and hope.
- May you always have joy in the morning and trust in the evening and may your sorrows be short and without scars.
- May your lives have a spirit neither bent by belligerence nor broken by failure; may you simply love each other.
- May you share with each other spring flowers, dirty dishes, music, rain, death, mushrooms, a measure of boredom, strawberries, and God.
- May that God never make you immune to the wonderful afflictions of real love, making you instead farsighted to each other's faults, tongue-tied to criticism, and short of memory to petty hurts and slights.
- May God provide the confidence and serenity that comes only from the assurance of each other's fidelity and the tolerance, as years go by, of wrinkles and gray hairs, short tempers, curlers, and Monday mornings.
- May no one steal from you laughter at the top of the stairs or giggles and whispers in a dark room.
- May you keep a hunger for each other, the appetite to taste tomorrow, and deep knowledge of and devotion to your past, heritage and families.
- May you perpetuate trust, the radiation of vitality, kind answers to sharp questions and sharp humor to unkind attitudes.
- May your fights be fierce and short, and may each truce be warm and long and held in each other's arms before the sun comes up.
- May you walk with wise men, sing loud songs at late hours, share secrets, have healthy children, and provide smiles for lonesome strangers and prayers for those without hope.
- May you never forget small things; smiles, birthdays, holding hands, family, old friends, the neglected, and the simplicity of saying please and thank you.
- May you keep a warm, generous, and happy house where love is the insulation and God is present. May your children be friends of God's child, Jesus.
- May your union bring a smile to the face of the Holy Spirit and may He live in your daily tasks, hopes, and aspirations.

Athlete's Prayer

- God, let me play well but fairly.
- Help me to learn something that matters once the game is over.
- Let competition make me strong but never hostile.
- Always let me help my opponent up.
- Never catch me rejoicing in the adversity of others.
- If I know victory, allow me to be happy; if I am denied, keep me from envy.
- Remind me that sports are just games.
- If through athletics I set an example, let it be a good one.

Bless Our Marriage

Dear God, You have defined my desire: to be of immeasurable value to my spouse. Guide me in the ways that lead to this richness in relationship, and be glorified in my every effort. I want to honor my spouse--and you--through my behavior. How can I do that today? Please show me and empower me. Amen.

For All Students and Teachers

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom: Enlighten by thy Holy Spirit those who teach and those who learn, that, rejoicing in the knowledge of thy truth, they may worship you and serve you from generation to generation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

For Times of Fear

Almighty God, the Refuge of all that are distressed, grant unto us that, in all trouble of this our mortal life, we may flee to the knowledge of Thy lovingkindness and tender mercy; that so, sheltering ourselves therein, the storms of life may pass over us, and not shake the peace of God that is within us. Whatsoever this life may bring us, grant that it may never take from us the full faith that Thou art our Father. Grant us Thy light, that we may have life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. - George Dawson

Give Us Courage

Almighty God, whose beloved Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption: Give us courage to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Help Us Remember

Heavenly Father, Help us remember that the jerk who cut us off in traffic last night is a single mother who worked nine hours that day and is rushing home to cook dinner, help with homework, do the laundry and spend a few precious moments with her children.

Help us to remember that the pierced, tattooed, disinterested young man who can't make change correctly is a worried 19-year-old college student, balancing his apprehension over final exams with his fear of not getting his student loans for next semester.

Remind us, Lord, that the scary looking bum, begging for money in the same spot every day (who really ought to get a job!) is a slave to addictions that we can only imagine in our worst nightmares.

Help us to remember that the old couple walking annoyingly slow through the store aisles and blocking our shopping progress are savoring this moment, knowing that, based on the biopsy report she got back last week, this will be the last year that they go shopping together.

Heavenly Father, remind us each day that, of all the gifts you give us, the greatest gift is love. It is not enough to share that love with those we hold dear. Open our hearts not to just those who are close to us, but to all humanity. Let us be slow to judge and quick to forgive, show patience, empathy and love.

Irish Prayer against Evil

Three things are of the evil one:

An evil eye;
An evil tongue;
An evil mind.

Three things are of God:

The merciful word,
The singing word,
And the good word.

May the power of these three holy things be on all men and women of Erin for evermore.

Lead Me to Peace

Lead me from death to life, from falsehood to truth.

Lead me from despair to hope, from fear to trust.

Lead me from hate to love, from war to peace.

Let peace fill my heart, my world, my universe. Amen.

Luther's Morning Prayer

My Heavenly Father, I thank You, through Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, that You kept me safe from all evil and danger last night. Save me, I pray, today as well, from every evil and sin, so that all I do and the way that I live will please you. I put myself in your care, body and soul and all that I have. Let Your holy Angels be with me, so that the evil enemy will not gain power over me. Amen.

Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love,

Where there is injury, pardon

Where there is doubt, faith,

Where there is despair, hope,

Where there is darkness, light,

Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console,
not so much to be understood as to understand, not so much to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
it is in dying that we awake to eternal life.

- St. Francis of Assisi

Make Me Strong in Spirit

Make me strong in spirit,

Courageous in action,

Gentle of heart,

Let me act in wisdom,

Conquer my fear and doubt,

Discover my own hidden gifts,

Meet others with compassion,

Be a source of healing energies,

And face each day with hope and joy.

Morning Prayer

O Lord, grant that my heart may be truly cleansed and filled with Thy Holy Spirit, and that I may arise to serve Thee, and lie down to sleep in entire confidence in Thee, and submission to Thy will, ready for life or for death. Let me live for the day, not overcharged with worldly cares, but feeling that my treasure is not here, and desiring truly to be joined to Thee in Thy heavenly kingdom, and to those who are already gone to Thee. O Lord, save me from sin, and guide me with Thy Spirit, and keep me in faithful obedience to Thee, through Jesus Christ Thy Son, our Lord. - Rev. Thomas Arnold (1795-1842)

Morning Prayer 2

Dear Lord, so far I've done all right. I haven't gossiped, haven't lost my temper,

haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or overindulgent. I'm really glad about that.

But in a few minutes, God, I'm going to get out of bed. And from then on, I'm going to need a lot more help.

New Year's Blessing

May you get a clean bill of health from your dentist, your ophthalmologist, your psychiatrist, your cardiologist, your urologist, your proctologist, your gynecologist, your podiatrist, your plumber, and the IRS.

May your hair, your teeth, your face-lift, your love handles, and your stocks never fall, and may your blood pressure, your triglycerides, your cholesterol, your white blood count, your weight, and your property assessments never increase.

May you be sensitive to the needs of others and may you create within yourself a balance of your own needs.

May you laugh at yourself and realize if you were supposed to touch your toes while exercising, the Lord would have placed them further up, and may you realize the reason so many people take up jogging is to hear heavy breathing again.

May what you see in the mirror delight you and what others see in you delight them.

May someone love you enough to accept and forgive your faults and be blind to your blemishes, and tell the whole world about your virtues.

May you live in a world at peace, with an awareness of the beauty of every sunset, every flower, every child's smile, and every wonderful astonishing beat of your own heart.
If by laughter I can cause you to wipe one tear from your cheek, that is my only reward-- the government takes everything else!
Above all, may you continue to smile, may your life be filled with laughter, and may you never forget the words found in the Book of Proverbs, "A gloomy spirit rots the bones; but a merry heart is like good medicine."

Night Prayer of a Wife and Mother

Lord, bless the man with whom I sleep And in Your constant care him keep.
Bless our children as they grow, Keep them safe from head to toe.
Bless all those in heaven with You. Give them the peace and rest they're due.
Bless all my family and my friends. Help them with means to their good ends.
And Lord, please bless me with sleep divine To mend and soothe a weary mind. Amen.

Online Students Prayer for Guidance

Let me not wander in vain throughout the Internet.
Let me not labor in vain on confusing and complicated assignments.
Let me not mingle with unimportant or unnecessary data.
Let me not run down interesting but irrelevant rabbit trails.
Let me not leave the company of the flexible and teachable.
Let me not fly into anger when I am frayed and frustrated.
Let me not stray off the path of excellence and encouragement.
Let me not worry about future assignments before finishing present ones.
Give me the wisdom to print the syllabus and refer to it weekly.
Give me the discipline to not put off until tomorrow, what I should do today.
Give me the courage to ask questions by email before it is too late.
Give me the charity to treat others as I want to be treated.
And help me to pass this course!

Pastor Wright's Prayer

When Minister Joe Wright was asked to open the new session of the Kansas Senate, everyone was expecting the usual generalities, but this is what they heard:

Heavenly Father, we come before you today to ask your forgiveness and to seek your direction and guidance. We know Your Word says, 'Woe to those who call evil good,' but that is exactly what we have done.
We have lost our spiritual equilibrium and reversed our values.
We confess that we have ridiculed the absolute truth of Your Word and call it Pluralism.
We have exploited the poor and called it the lottery.
We have rewarded laziness and called it welfare.
We have killed our unborn and called it choice.
We have shot abortionists and called it justifiable.
We have neglected to discipline our children and called it building self esteem.
We have abused power and called it politics.
We have coveted our neighbor's possessions and called it ambition.
We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it freedom of expression.
We have ridiculed the time-honored values of our forefathers and called it enlightenment.
Search us, Oh, God, and know our hearts today; cleanse us from every sin and set us free.
Guide and bless these men and women who have been sent to direct us to the center of Your will and to openly ask these things in the name of Your Son, the living Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen!

The response was immediate. A number of legislators walked out during the prayer in protest. In 6 short weeks, Central Christian Church, where Rev. Wright is pastor, logged more than 5,000 phone calls with only 47 of those calls responding negatively. The church is now receiving international requests for copies of this prayer from India, Africa and Korea. Commentator Paul Harvey aired this prayer on his radio program, The Rest of the Story; and received a larger response to this program than any other he has ever aired.

With the Lord's help, may this prayer sweep over our nation and wholeheartedly become our desire so that we again can be called one nation under God; If you don't stand for something, you will fall for everything;

Prayer for Children's Values

God help us to weave a tapestry of love and not hate in our children, a spirit of tolerance and caring, a dedication to freedom for all and not just some. God help us to sow seeds of peace and justice in our children's hearts today.

Prayer for Forgiveness

Forgive me my sins, O Lord; forgive me the sins of my youth and the sins of mine age, the sins of my soul and the sins of my body, my secret and my whispering sins, the sins I have done to please myself and the sins I have done to please others. Forgive those sins which I know, and the sins which I know not; forgive them, O Lord, forgive them all of Thy great goodness. Amen

Prayer for Friends

You have created us to live in community, O God of love; bless our friends who provide us with the grace and love of an extended family.

Endow them with the riches of your blessings: good health, sight, and mobility, that they may enjoy the wonders of your creation and share their delight with others.

Bless them with keen minds and compassionate hearts that they may create a better life for all.

Guard them from injustice, oppression, and evil that they may know freedom and hope lifelong; in their waking and in their sleeping, in their laughter and in their tears.

Surround them with your love until the end of their days; and so bring them to eternal life in peace. Through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Prayer for God's Guidance

God be in my head, and in my understanding;

God be in mine 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 mine end, and at my departing.

Prayer for Guidance

Let me not wander in vain.

Let me not labor in vain.

Let me not mingle with the prejudiced.

Let me not leave the company of the virtuous.

Let me not fly into anger.

Let me not stray off the path of goodness.

Let me not seek for this day or for the morrow.

Give me such a wealth, O Almighty!

Prayer for the Armed Forces

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace, strengthen them in their trials and temptations, give them courage to face the perils which beset them, and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Humility

Incline us O God! to think humbly of ourselves, to examination of our own conduct and motivation, to consider our fellowmen with kindness, and to receive all they say and do with the charity which we would desire from them ourselves.

Prayer for Healing

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servant (name), and give your power of healing to those who minister to *his* needs, that *he* may be strengthened in his weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayer for Meaningful Work

Loving God, you made us co-creators in the process of your creation, blessing us with wisdom, reason, creativity, and skill. Bless all who seek meaningful employment that they may provide for the well-being of their families. Let those who have more than they need for life's necessities be moved to use their wealth to create new opportunities for others. Let those who have skills be open to sharing the riches of their knowledge with those who seek the opportunity to learn. Let us all learn from one another, for you have blessed every human being with a gift for the benefit of the common good. And thereby enable us by the power of your Holy Spirit to build up the body of Christ on this earth that your name be proclaimed and blessed through the good work of all; in Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Prayer for Young People

God our Father, you see your children growing up in an unsteady 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 a chance 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. Amen.

Prayer of Gratitude for God's Gifts

For this new morning and its light,
 For rest and shelter of the night,
 For health and food, for love and friends,
 For every gift His goodness sends
 We thank you, gracious Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Repentance

Merciful God, we have sinned in what we have thought and said,
 in the wrong we have done and in the good we have not done.
 We have sinned in ignorance: we have sinned in weakness:
 we have sinned through our own deliberate fault.
 We are truly sorry. We repent and turn to you.
 Forgive us, for our Savior Christ's sake, and renew our lives to the glory of Your Name.

Prayer of Submission

Lord, I know not what I ought to ask of Thee; Thou only knowest what I need; Thou lovest me better than I know how to love myself. O Father! Give to Thy child that which he himself knows not how to ask. I dare not ask either for crosses or consolations; I simply present myself before Thee, I open my heart to Thee. Behold my needs which I know not myself; see and do according to Thy tender mercy. Smite, or heal; depress me, or raise me up; I adore all Thy purposes without knowing them; I am silent; I offer myself in sacrifice; I yield myself to Thee; I would have no other desire than to accomplish Thy will. Teach me to pray. Pray Thyself in me. —Francois de Salignac de la Mothe-Fénelon

Prayer of Saint John Chrysostom

According to the Hours of the Day and Night
 O Lord, deprive me not of Thy heavenly blessings;
 O Lord, deliver me from eternal torment;
 O Lord, if I have sinned in my mind or thought, in word deed, forgive me.
 O Lord, deliver me from every ignorance and heedlessness, from pettiness of the soul and stony hardness of heart;
 O Lord, deliver me from every temptation;
 O Lord, enlighten my heart darkened by evil desires;
 O Lord, I, being a human being, have sinned; do Thou, being God, forgive me in Thy loving kindness, for Thou knowest the weakness of my soul.
 O Lord, send down Thy grace to help me, that I may glorify Thy holy Name;

O Lord Jesus Christ, inscribe me, Thy servant, in the Book of Life, and grant me a blessed end;
O Lord my God, even if I have done nothing good in Thy sight, yet grant me, according to Thy grace, that I may make a start in doing good.
O Lord, sprinkle on my heart the dew of Thy grace;
O Lord of heaven and earth, remember me, Thy sinful servant, cold of heart and impure, in Thy Kingdom.
O Lord, receive me in repentance;
O Lord, leave me not;
O Lord, save me from temptation;
O Lord, grant me pure thoughts;
O Lord, grant me tears of repentance, remembrance of death, and the sense of peace;
O Lord, grant me mindfulness to confess my sins;
O Lord, grant me humility, charity, and obedience;
O Lord, grant me tolerance, magnanimity, and gentleness;
O Lord, implant in me the root of all blessings: the fear of Thee in my heart;
O Lord, vouchsafe that I may love Thee with all my heart and soul, and that I may obey in all things Thy will;
O Lord, shield me from evil persons and devils and passions and all other lawless matters;
O Lord, Who knowest Thy creation and that which Thou hast willed for it; may Thy will also be fulfilled in me, a sinner, for Thou art blessed forevermore. Amen.

Prayer of St. Patrick

I arise today through the strength of heaven;
Light of the sun,
Splendor of fire,
Speed of lightning,
Swiftness of the wind,
Depth of the sea,
Stability of the earth,
Firmness of the rock.
I arise today through God's strength to pilot me;
God's might to uphold me,
God's wisdom to guide me,
God's eye to look before me,
God's ear to hear me,
God's word to speak for me,
God's hand to guard me,
God's way to lie before me,
God's shield to protect me,
God's hosts to save me
Afar and anear,
Alone or in a multitude.
Christ shield me today against wounding
Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me,
Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ on my right, Christ on my left,
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down,
Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
Christ in the eye that sees me,
Christ in the ear that hears me.
I arise today through the mighty strength
Of the Lord of creation.

Prayer of Thanks to Jesus

Oh Christ Jesus, Our Lord Our God, Our Holy Redeemer, Our Savior.
I thank you for this day, for your infinite Love, Your forgiveness of sin, Your Crucifixion,
Our Redemption and Salvation. For Your saving Grace, and all your gifts of Love. Amen.

Prayer of the Military Wife

Dear God, I am proud to be wed to one who defends freedom and peace. My challenges are many and I pray for your love and guidance to meet them. Special to me are the symbols representing my religion, country, community, and home. I pray for the wisdom and grace to be true to their meanings. You are the symbol of my religious beliefs and the source of my strength. Because my life is full of change, I cherish the solid and constant spiritual foundation that you provide. Help me Lord, to be an example of your teachings. My national flag represents freedom. Let me never forget, or take for granted, the hope it shows to the world. Bless those who have made sacrifices for freedom. Please grant us your continued blessings, increased strength and infinite guidance, as we live to your honor and glory. Amen.

Prayer to Do Good

Forgive me, most gracious Lord and Father, if this day I have done or said anything to increase the pain of the world.
Pardon the unkind word, the impatient gesture, the hard and selfish deed, the failure to show sympathy and kindly help where I had the opportunity, but missed it.
And enable me so to live that I may daily do something to lessen the tide of human sorrow, and add to the sum of human happiness.

--F. B. Meyer

Prayer to Give Aid

May I become at all times, both now and forever
A protector for those without protection
A guide for those who have lost their way
A ship for those with oceans to cross
A bridge for those with rivers to cross
A sanctuary for those in danger
A lamp for those without light
A place of refuge for those who lack shelter
And a servant to all in need.

Prayer to Live With Grace

May we discover through pain and torment,
the strength to live with grace and humor.
May we discover through doubt and anguish,
the strength to live with dignity and holiness.
May we discover through suffering and fear,
the strength to move toward healing.
May it come to pass that we be restored to health and to vigor.
May Life grant us wellness of body, spirit, and mind.
And if this cannot be so, may we find in this transformation and passage
moments of meaning, opportunities for love
and the deep and gracious calm that comes
when we allow ourselves to move on.

Put Courage into My Heart

Lord, put courage into my heart, and take away all that may hinder me serving you.
Free my tongue to proclaim your goodness, that all may understand me.
Give me friends to advise and help me, that by working together our efforts may bear abundant fruit. And, above all, let me constantly remember that all my actions are in vain unless they are guided by your hand.

Salvation Prayer

God, I recognize that I have not lived my life for You up until now. I have been living for myself and that is wrong. I need You in my life; I want You in my life.

I acknowledge the completed work of Your Son Jesus Christ in giving His life for me on the cross at Calvary, and I long to receive the forgiveness you have made freely available to me through this sacrifice. Come into my life now, Lord. Take up residence in my heart and be my king, my Lord, and my Savior.

From this day forward, I will no longer be controlled by sin, or the desire to please myself, but I will follow You all the days of my life. Those days are in Your hands. I ask this in Jesus' precious and holy Name. Amen.

Sentence Prayers

God, show me where I am.

Stir in me a fire that the world cannot explain.

Single Woman's Prayer

Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray for a man who's not a creep.

One who's handsome, smart and strong, Who's not afraid to admit when he is wrong.

One who thinks before he speaks. When he promises to call, he doesn't wait six weeks.

I pray that he is gainfully employed, Won't lose his cool when he's annoyed.

Pulls out my chair and opens my door, Massages my back and begs to do more.

Oh send me a man who will make love to my mind. Know what to say when I ask "How fat is my behind?"

One who'll make love till my body's a' itchin.' He brings me a sandwich too, when he goes to the kitchen.

I pray that this man will love me to no end, And never compare me to my best friend.

Thank you in advance and now I'll just wait, For I know you will send him before it's too late.

Amen.

Spouses' Prayer for Each Other

Lord Jesus, grant that I and my spouse may have a true and understanding love for each other.

Grant that we may both be filled with faith and trust.

Give us the grace to live with each other in peace and harmony.

May we always bear with one another's weaknesses and grow from each other's strengths.

Help us to forgive one another's failings and grant us patience, kindness, cheerfulness and the spirit of placing the well-being of one another ahead of self.

May the love that brought us together grow and mature with each passing year.

Bring us both ever closer to You through our love for each other.

Let our love grow to perfection. Amen.

Spouses' Prayer

O Lord, omnipotent and eternal God, we give you thanks and we bless your holy name. You created man and woman in your image and blessed their union, so that each would be for the other a help and support. Remember us today. Protect us and grant that our love may be in the image of the devotion and love of Christ for his Church. Grant us a long and fruitful life together, in joy and in peace, so that, through your Son and in the Holy Spirit, our hearts may always rise to you in praise and goods works.

Steer the Ship of My Life

Steer the ship of my life, good Lord, to your quiet harbor, where I can be safe from the storms of sin and conflict. Show me the course I should take. Renew in me the gift of discernment, so that I can always see the right direction in which I should go. And give me the strength and the courage to choose the right course, even when the sea is rough and the waves are high, knowing that through enduring hardship and danger in your name we shall find comfort and peace. —Basil of Caesarea (c. 329-379)

Teach Us to Love

O God, perfect us in love, that we may conquer all selfishness and hatred of others; fill our hearts with Thy joy, and shed abroad in them Thy peace which passeth understanding; that so those murmurings and disputings to which we are too prone may be overcome. Make us long-suffering and gentle, and thus subdue our hastiness and angry tempers, and grant that we may bring forth the blessed fruits of the Spirit, to Thy praise and glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

--Rev. Henry Alford (1810-1871)

The Blessing of Unanswered Prayers

I asked for strength that I might achieve;
I was made weak that I might learn humbly to obey.
I asked for health that I might do greater things;
I was given infirmity that I might do better things.
I asked for riches that I might be happy;
I was given poverty that I might be wise.
I asked for power that I might have the praise of men;
I was given weakness that I might feel the need of God.
I asked for all things that I might enjoy life;
I was given life that I might enjoy all things.
I got nothing that I had asked for, but everything that I had hoped for.
Almost despite myself my unspoken prayers were answered;
I am, among all men, most richly blessed.

--Unknown Confederate soldier

The Eternity of God's Love

O Lord, you have made us very small, and we bring our years to an end like a tale that is told. Help us to remember that beyond our brief day is the eternity of your love. --Reinhold Niebuhr

The Fruits of Suffering

Lord, remember not only the men of good will, but also those of ill will. But do not remember all the suffering they have inflicted upon us. Remember rather the fruits we have brought, thanks to this suffering: our comradeship, our loyalty, our humility, the courage, the generosity, the greatness of heart that has grown out of this. And when they come to judgment, let all the fruits we have borne be their forgiveness.

Source: Found on a scrap of paper at the liberation of Ravensbruck Concentration Camp in Germany

The Lord Be Our Defender

May God the Father bless us, may Christ take care of us, the Holy Spirit enlighten us all the days of our life. O Lord, be our defender and keeper of body and soul, both now and for ever, to the ages of ages. --St. Ethelwold

Thy Word for a Light

Lord, thou hast given us thy Word for a light to shine upon our path; grant us so to meditate on that Word, and to follow its teaching, that we may find in it the light that shines more and more until the perfect day; through Jesus Christ our Lord. --Jerome (c. 342 - 420)

Watch, O Lord

Watch, O Lord, with those who wake, or watch, or weep tonight,
and give your angels and saints charge over those who sleep.
Tend your sick ones, O Lord Christ. Rest your weary ones.
Bless your dying ones. Soothe your suffering ones.
Pity your afflicted ones. Shield your joyous ones.
And all for your love's sake. Amen. --St. Augustine

Wedding Blessing

May your love grow like a beautiful tree, sending roots deep and branches high, with new beauty every season of your life together.

May you dare to dream dreams not yet dreamt.

May you find constant reward and challenge as you pursue the ongoing adventure of learning who you are and where you want to go.

May you always have a special sense of your mission in life together, and may you never tire of the endless possibilities of exploring your shared existence.

Workday Prayer

Lord Jesus, as I enter this workplace, I bring Your presence with me. I speak Your peace, Your grace, and Your perfect order into the atmosphere of this office. I acknowledge Your Lordship over all that will be spoken, thought, decided and accomplished within these walls.

Lord Jesus, I thank You for the gifts You have deposited in me. I do not take them lightly, but commit to using them responsibly and well. Give me a fresh supply of truth and beauty; on which to draw as I do my job. Anoint my creativity, my ideas, my energy so that even my smallest task may bring You honor.

Lord, when I am confused, guide me. When I am weary, energize me. When I am burned out, infuse me with the light of Your Holy Spirit. May the work that I do and the way I do it, bring hope, life, and courage to all that I come in contact with today.

And Oh Lord, even in this day's most stressful moment, may I rest in You. In the name of Jesus my Savior I pray. Amen.

Worker's Prayer

Lord, I stand before my place of work and spread my tools before me. Grant your blessings on my tools that I might use them to serve You.

Master Craftsman, grant your blessings upon me, that my work might bring beauty to all the world and all who live in it.

Orderer of Chaos, grant that all that I do might be in accord with Your will, so that, by doing my work, I might do Your work.

Help me, O Father, to know what is right and to do only that.