

Prayer - Pamphlets



RCIA Handouts:

Pages:

1. "Catholic Prayers" (3 Pamphlets)

2 – 15

Catholic Prayers



In the Morning

I adore you, my God, and I love you with all my heart. I thank you for having created me, made me a Christian, and kept me this night. I offer you my actions of this day: grant that they all may be according to your holy will and for your greater glory. Keep me from sin and all evil. May your grace be always with me and with all my dear ones. Amen.

At Night

I adore you, my God, and I love you with all my heart. I thank you for having created me, made me a Christian and kept me this day. Forgive me for whatever evil I have done today and accept my good intentions and actions. Take care of me while I sleep and deliver me from all danger. May your grace be always with me and with all my loved ones. Amen.

Prayer of Parents for Their Children

Lord God, I commend my children to you. I place them in your care and protection, hoping that they will grow day by day in love for you. May they lead a good life and bring comfort to you who are their Creator.

Consider, Lord, the world in which they will pass their life, its corruption and false allure. Be on the watch, dear Lord, to help and defend them. Lead them to the practice of virtue and the observance of your commandments. Make our lives holy also so that I may be an influential pattern for them.

I ask of you, from the bottom of my heart, your blessing on my children. I dedicate them to you, Lord; protect them as one protects the apple of his eye.

Keep them in the shadow of your wings. Arrange it so that I and they may come together in heaven and praise you, most loving Father, for you have taken care of my whole family. Amen.

To One's Guardian Angel

Hail, holy angel of God, guardian of my soul and body. By the sweet heart of Jesus, Son of God, for the love of him who created you and me, for the love of him who entrusted me at baptism, take me under your most faithful wing, so that with your help I may cross the treacherous stream of mortal life and happily arrive with you in heaven where we may gaze on the beauty of our sovereign God with delight. Amen.

Prayer of Repentance

O Lord,
You know how many and
how great are my failings.
You know how often I sin,
from day to day,
from hour to hour,
in what I do
and in what I fail to do.

O Lord my God,
I resolve no more to provoke You,
and to desire nothing more than You,
for You alone are truly lovable.
If I should offend You again,
Please grant me the strength
to find favor anew in Your eyes
and to lead a life more pleasing to You.
Amen.

Prayer to Praise the Holy Name of Jesus

O Triumphant Name,
O joy of Angels and of the just,
O fear of hell:
In You lies all
hope of pardon, grace, and glory.
O most sweet Name,
You give pardon to sinners.
You renew us,
fill our hearts with Divine delight,

and cast out our fears.

O Name full of grace,
through you
Your faithful gain insight
into great mysteries,
become aflame with Divine grace,
receive strength in their combats,
and are delivered from all evil. Amen.

Prayer to Love God Completely

Most loving Father,
You commanded me to love You
with all my heart and soul,
mind and strength.
But I am sure that I do not do so.
I know this by reflecting on how
I loved others:
I loved them to the point of rarely
forgetting them.
They were constantly present
to my memory,
my heart dwelt on them almost
all the time,
and their image ran through my head
in their presence as well as their absence.

O loving Father,
I regret to say I do not act this way
toward You.
I do not keep you in my memory,
nor do I have you present in my thoughts,
nor is my heart sufficiently
occupied with You.
As soon as the merest trifle
enters my head,
I drop you and lose sight of You.
As soon as the slightest whim
enters my heart,
I discard You and quickly forget You

So with the fervor of my being
I ask You grant me Your Holy Spirit
Who will deliver me from

this weakness of mine.
Your Holy Spirit will enable me
to love You
with all my heart and soul,
mind and strength,
for He is the origin of all true love. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

I thank you:
For the gift of life, and every
moment I live!
For my health, even though at
times I may have been ill,
or may have undergone serious
reverses and sufferings. So often
these and other crosses are
blessings in disguise.

I thank you:
For the world about me, such as the
glories of nature, the moon, the stars, the
flowers of the fields, the fruits of the
earth, the very air I breathe, the
refreshing rains, the glorious sunshine,
the seasons of the year.

I thank you:
For my parents, my relatives, my
treasured and trusted friends. Amen.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, into my soul
Make the virtues you so
generously gave me at Baptism
take root anew and grow in me.
Help me especially in the virtues you
know I need most.
Until now I have given so little
importance to your life in me,
but now all that has changed.
Help me to cooperate with your work
to make me a better person.
Fill me with your gifts and fruits
and be free to work in me. Amen.

Prayer before the Crucifix

Beloved and good Jesus, I kneel before you, and with fervent desire I ask you to impress on my heart lively sentiments of faith, hope, and charity, with true repentance for my sins and a firm purpose of amendment. With deep affection and grief I mentally contemplate your five most precious wounds, reflecting on the words that David, the prophet long ago spoke about you, my Jesus: "They have pierced my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones" (Ps 22:17-18). Amen.

Prayer of St. Francis

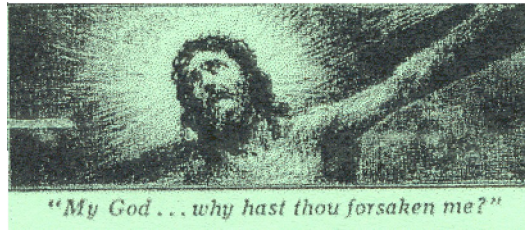
Lord, Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace:

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;
and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I 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 giving that we receive;
it is pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born
to eternal life. Amen.

Catholic Prayers



Act of Faith

O my God, I firmly believe that you are one God in three divine Persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; I believe that your divine Son became man and died for our sins, and that he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths which the holy Catholic Church teaches, because you revealed them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived. Amen.

Act of Hope

O my God, relying on your infinite goodness and promises, I hope to obtain pardon of my sins, the help of your grace, and life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

Act of Love

O my God, I love you above all things, with my whole heart and soul, because you are all good and worthy of all my love. I love my neighbor as myself for the love of you. I forgive all who have injured me and I ask pardon of all whom I have injured. Amen.

To Desire Nothing but God

Let me desire nothing else, let nothing else please me and cause me delight except my Creator and Redeemer, the one true God, who is the fullness of good, the true and supreme good who alone is merciful and gentle, delectable and sweet, who alone is holy, just, and true, who alone is kind, innocent, and pure, from whom and through whom is all pardon, all grace, and all glory of the penitent and the just, and of the blessed who rejoice together in heaven.

Therefore, let nothing hinder us, nothing separate us, and nothing come between us. Let me, wherever I am, in every place, at every hour, at every time of day,

believe truly and humbly and keep ever in my heart all love, honor, praise, blessing, glory, and exaltation for the Creator and Savior of all who believe in him and who is without beginning and without end, unchangeable, blessed, and totally desirable above all else forever. Amen.

For Lost Time

Late have I loved you, O beauty so ancient and so new. Too late have I loved you! You were within me when I had gone outside to seek you. Unlovely myself, I fell heedlessly upon all those lovely things you had made. And always you were with me, and I was not with you. And all these beauties that held me far from you would not have existed unless they had their being in you.

You called, you cried, you broke open my deafness. You blazed, you gleamed, you drove away my blindness. You sent your fragrance, and drew my breath, and I long for you.

I tasted, and now I hunger and thirst. You touched me, and now I burn with desire for your peace. Amen.

For Forgiveness of Sins

Forgive me, O Lord, my sins, the sins of my youth, and my present sins, the sins that my parents cast upon me, original sin, and the sins that I cast upon others in an ill example; actual sins which are manifest to all the world, and sins which I have so labored to hide from the world that now they are hid from my conscience, and my own memory. Forgive me my crying sins, and my whispering sins. Let me be but so blessed, and I shall envy no one's blessedness. Amen.

Prayer of Parents for Their Children

Lord God, I commend my children to you. I place them in your care and protection, hoping that they will grow day by day in love for you. May they lead a good life and bring comfort to you who are their Creator.

Consider, Lord, the world in which they will pass their life, its corruption and false allure. Be on the watch, dear Lord, to help and defend them. Lead them to the practice of virtue and the observance of your commandments. Make our lives holy also so that we may be an influential pattern for them.

We ask of you, from the bottom of our heart, your blessing on our children. I dedicate them to you, Lord; protect them as one protects the apple of his eye. Keep them in the shadow of your wings. Arrange it so that I and them may come

together in heaven and praise you, most loving Father, for you have taken care of our whole family. Amen.

For Reconciliation

May I be no one's enemy, and may I be the friend of that which is eternal and abides.

May I never quarrel with those nearest me and, if I do, may I be reconciled quickly.

May I love, seek, and attain only that which is good.

May I wish for the happiness of all and envy no one.

May I never rejoice in the ill-fortune of one who has wronged me.

May I win no victory that harms either me or my opponent.

May I reconcile friends who are angry with one another.

May I, to the extent of my power, give all needed help to my friends and all who are in want.

May I never fail a friend who is in danger.

May I respect myself. Amen.

Prayer for Love of Neighbor

Lord Jesus, you teach that the greatest of all virtues is love. I heartily ask for an expansion of love for my neighbor. Give me a love that is patient, long-suffering, kind and non-judgmental and, above all, not self-seeking, envious, or irritable.

Let my love take no notice of injury, real or imagined, and refuse to rejoice when injustice triumphs. Rather, let my love be joyful when truth prevails. Create in me a love that is always ready to make allowances and that trusts and hopes. May my love be kind, merciful, and forgiving in imitation of your Father's love for me. Amen.

Prayer for Lasting Repentance

I give you thanks, Lord, because you have not dealt with me as my sins deserved, but have judged me with surpassing mercy and call all my sins into the depths of the sea.

I would gladly melt into tears, until my sins were washed away and you would smile on me again! But my soul has become a waterless desert, my strength has dried up like clay in a kiln.

Look upon me and pity me, and make the waters of contrition flow to cleanse and heal my soul. Confirm the grace you have wrought in me; accept and welcome my confession and make good on all its defects.

Let me no more go astray after the empty joys of this life; for day follows day and year succeeds year, and behold, I make no progress. Turn your face toward me and be ever ready to hear the prayer of the unworthy servant. Do not regard my sins even if my offenses have earned damnation. You have the power to save me and receive me back again into your favor, my God and my Help! Amen.

For Patience

Lord Jesus, you are the model of patience and its reward. Urge me to patience and grant it to me. Your own example strengthens me in every conflict, and the reward of my endurance is the gift of your presence. Either way, you win me to yourself. Beckon me on, then; gladly let me follow, and yet even more gladly let me take joy in your presence. For if you are so good to those who seek, what will you not be to those who find? Amen.

Prayer to the Holy Name

O God, who appointed your only-begotten son to be the Savior of humankind and who commanded his name to be called Jesus, mercifully grant that I may enjoy the company of him in heaven, whose holy Name I venerate on earth. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,
that never was it known
that any one who fled to your protection,
implored your help or sought your intercession,
was left unaided.
Inspired with this confidence,
I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother;
To you I come,
before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful.
O Mother of the Word Incarnate,
despise not my petitions,
but in your mercy, hear and answer me. Amen.

Prayer to Unite with God's Will

My God, I do not know what may happen to me this day, but of one thing I am certain: that nothing will happen but what you may have foreseen and ordered from all eternity. I submit myself to your eternal plan and accept it with a willing heart. I unite myself to the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, my Savior. In his name, and through his merits, I ask of your patience in all my trials and disappointments, and a total submission to all that will happen to me according to your divine plan. Amen.

Catholic Prayers



Psalm 51 Psalm of Repentance

O Lord, do not reprove me in your anger or chastise me in Your wrath. Have pity on me, O Lord, for I am suffering affliction; heal me O Lord, for my body quivers in terror. My soul, too, is completely frightened; how long will You keep me waiting, O Lord?

Come to me, O Lord, and preserve my life; save me because of your kindness. For not one person among the dead remembers You; in the netherworld who offers You thanks? I am exhausted with my sighing; every night I flood my bed with tears; my couch is drenched because of my weeping. My eyes have grown dim with sorrow; they have become aged by all my enemies.

Depart from my presence, all you evildoers, for the Lord has paid heed to the sound of my weeping. The Lord has heard my prayer; the Lord has accepted my petition. All of my enemies shall be put to shame because of their utter terror; they shall retreat in utter shame.

God, lover of mercy and compassion, You bestow life and command death. Look upon Your Church covered with wounds and renew her by Your Son's Resurrection that she may praise You with a new song. Amen.

Prayer for Daily Neglects

Eternal Father, I offer You the Sacred Heart of Jesus, with all its love, all its sufferings and all its merits.

First, to make up for all the sins I have committed this day and during all my life ... GLORY BE TO THE FATHER

Second, to purify the good I have done poorly this day and during all my life ... GLORY BE TO THE FATHER

Third, to supply for the good I ought to have done, and that I have neglected this day and all my life ... GLORY BE TO THE FATHER ... Amen.

Prayer for God's Presence

Through every moment of this day:

Be with me, Lord.

Through every day of all this week:

Be with me, Lord.

Through every week of all this year:

Be with me, Lord.

Through every year of all this life:

Be with me, Lord.

So that when time is past, by grace I
may at last, be with you Lord.

God be in my head, and in my
understanding.

God be in my 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 my end and at my
departing.

Prayer of Repentance to God the Father

Almighty and merciful God, I thank you that once again you have welcomed me, your prodigal child, despite the many times I strayed from you. Because of your tender mercies I now offer the rest of my life to your service and renounce with my whole soul all the offences I have committed against you. I renew my baptismal promises and ask your grace that in the future I may remain close to you, never to leave you again. Amen.

Prayer of Repentance to God the Son

Incarnate Word of God, who in your flesh reconciled all people to the Father, and continue to reconcile all those who in heartfelt sorrow confess their sins, I thank you that your healing power has touched me, and cleansed me from the leprosy of sin. Mercifully direct all my thoughts, words and actions to the greater glory of the Father and be my model and help for the rest of my life so that I may persevere in your service and love. Amen.

Prayer of Repentance to God the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit, under who guidance and inspiration I have confessed my sins, supply in me whatever is lacking in sorrow for my sins or purity of intention. Grant that the absolution pronounced on earth may be ratified in heaven, so that confident of your dwelling in me as in a holy temple, I may never defile it again but use it as a house of prayer, thanksgiving and service. Amen.

Prayer for Patience

Grant me, Lord, an understanding heart that I may see into the heart of others, and know their strengths and weaknesses, their hopes and their sorrows, their efforts and their failures, their need for love and their need to love. Make me an instrument of comfort and hope.

Lord, teach me to respect people and to accept each person as unique and created by you. Help me, if I could see myself as others see me, perhaps I would be less critical and more understanding. Of your goodness, give me compassion for others and myself and never let me give up trying for the sake of your Son, who genuinely loved and cared for sinners and outcasts. Amen.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Breathe in me, Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy. Act in me, Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy. Draw my heart, Holy Spirit, that I love only what is holy. Strengthen me, Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy. Guard me, then, Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy. Amen.

St. Augustine

A Father's Prayer

Father, give me, like St. Joseph, a conscience sensitive to your holy will so that I may accept in my family those things which I do not understand. May I, like him, put the good of my wife and children above my own self interest and bring fulfillment the mysterious workings of your providence for my family. Amen.

A Mother's Prayer

Father, lover of life and of the human family, who cooperated with me in the birth of my child (children), be with me now and help me in my task of raising them up as children of your kingdom. May they give you constant praise and adoration and be a never-ending source of gratitude and thanksgiving. Amen.

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Prayer to Know Oneself

I thank you, Lord, for knowing me better than I know myself, and for letting me know myself better than others know me. Make me, I pray, better than they suppose, and forgive me for what they do not know. Lord Jesus, eternal word of the Father, who brought the words of the gospel, grant me through them, to know you and to know myself. Show me my wretchedness and your mercy; my sin and your grace; my poverty and your riches; my weakness and your strength; my foolishness and your wisdom; my darkness and your light. Amen.

Morning Prayer

As I begin this day, become flesh in me, Father. Let your timeless and everlasting love live out this sunrise to sunset within the possibilities, and the impossibilities of my own very human life. Help me to become Christ to my neighbor, food to the hungry, health to the sick, friend to the lonely, freedom to the enslaved, this day. Grant that I may waste none of its hours; soil none of its moments, neglect none of its opportunities; fail in none of its duties. And bring me to the evening time undefeated by any temptation, at peace with myself and with you. This I ask for your love's sake. Amen.

Evening Prayer

Heavenly Father, at this hour which marks the end of the day, I come before you again in thankfulness to glorify your name. You have watched over me through the day and now I seek your protection throughout the night. Send me calm rest to restore my body and my soul, and strengthen my faith in you. When I arise in the morning, render me worthy to pray again to you and glorify your holy name. Amen.

