

All wisdom is from the Lord.
Ecclesiasticus 1:1

God of all knowledge,
whose wisdom unfolds for us
the meaning of the world
in which we live,
be the inspiration
and the end of all our efforts
to know, learn and teach.
Through the seeds of inquiry
and wonder
which you have implanted,
may we continue to grow in
your wisdom.

*If you are willing, my child,
you can be taught,
and if you apply yourself
you will become clever.*

*If you love to listen
you will gain knowledge,
and if you pay attention
you will become wise.*
Ecclesiasticus 6:32–33

Jesus presented himself to the
disciples as the only teacher
and, at the same time, a patient
and faithful friend. He exercised
real teaching by means of his
whole life.

General Directory for Catechesis 139

THE UNEMPLOYED

There is a growing awareness
of the exalted dignity of the
human person, whose rights
and duties are universal and
inviolable. There must be made
available to men and women
all that they have need of to live
a truly human life... The social
order must develop the good of
persons...

Gaudium et Spes 26

*O God,
the giver of every good thing,
through our labour you give us a
share in your creative work.*

*Support all who suffer anxiety
and deprivation
through lack of work.*

*Guide the people of this land
so to use its wealth and resources,
that those who seek employment
may find it
and receive just payment
for their work.*

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The leaflet is one a series of resources
produced to support the Cycle of Prayer.
They can be downloaded from www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Calendar/Cycle.

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**Liturgy
Office**
ENGLAND
& WALES

BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF
ENGLAND AND WALES

Ordinary Time Winter

Because the joy and hope, the
struggle and anguish of the
people of this age and especially
of the poor and those suffering in
any way are the joy and hope, the
struggle and anguish of Christ's
disciples, the Church prays not
just for its own needs but for the
salvation of the world.



*The Bishops of England and Wales invite you to join in the **Cycle of Prayer**.*

Please pray for the current intentions, both with your parish community and in your own personal prayers. On some days these intentions will be included in the Prayer of the Faithful at Mass. Also it is hoped that vigils and other prayer services will be held.

This leaflet is one of a series which offers a selection of prayers and texts on the intentions of the Cycle of Prayer which may be used in private or public worship.

Throughout Ordinary Time: Winter we are asked to pray for these intentions:

ORDINARY TIME: WINTER

Peace on Earth
especially on the Day of Prayer for Peace (2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Christian Unity
especially during the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity (18-25 January)

The Sick and Those Who Care for Them
especially on the World Day for the Sick (11 February)

Students and Teachers
especially on the ecumenical Education Day (February)

The Unemployed
especially on the Sunday before the First Sunday of Lent

PEACE ON EARTH

*Blessed are the peacemakers:
for they will be called
children of God.*

Matt 5:9

Respect for and development of human life require peace. Peace is not merely the absence of war, and it is not limited to maintaining a balance of powers between adversaries. Peace cannot be attained on earth without safeguarding the goods of persons, free communication among men, respect for the dignity of persons and peoples, and the assiduous practice of fraternity. Peace is 'the tranquillity of order.' Peace is the work of justice and the effect of charity.

Catechism of the Catholic Church 2305

*God of perfect peace,
violence and cruelty
can have no part with you.
May those who are at peace
with one another
hold fast to the good will
that unites them;
may those who are enemies
forget their hatred
and be healed.*

Roman Missal (825)

CHRISTIAN UNITY

Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, over all, through all and within all.
Ephesians 4:3-6

Heal all divisions among Christians that we may rejoice in the perfect unity of your Church and move together as one to eternal life in your kingdom.
RM 812

May your people study and work together for perfect unity among Christians.
cf RM 813

THE SICK AND THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM

Accept the prayers we offer for our sick brothers and sisters; restore them to health and turn our anxiety into joy.
cf RM 839

Be with those whose special care is the health of mind and body. Fill their hearts with awe for the life which is your gift and sustain them in your service, that their hands may bring to others the comfort of your healing touch.