



SUNDAY, 26 JULY 2015

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

The psalmist sings praise for the providence of God who gives us food in due season and who grants our desires. Confident that he hears our prayers, let us turn to him for our needs and the needs of all of us created in his image and likeness.

For the Church, the Body of Christ. That through our words and deeds, and by a 'preferential love for the sick'ⁱ, we may proclaim the compassion of God, who is always close to those who suffer. Lord in your mercy...

For those who are exiled by conflict or by poverty. That they may be restored to a homeland and that we, who ourselves have no abiding city, may recognise them as our brothers and sisters.ⁱⁱ Lord in your mercy...

For the healing of those who are sick in mind or in body. That they might be restored to health and give God thanks in the midst of his people.ⁱⁱⁱ Lord in your mercy...

For those who care for our brothers and sisters who are dying. That they may alleviate their pain and strengthen them in hope, and so enable them to both cherish life and to accept death. Lord in your mercy...

For the faithful departed. That, having laid down their burdens and washed clean in the blood of the lamb, they may be led by Christ the Good Shepherd into pastures eternal. Lord in your mercy...

Lord God,
whose days are without end
and whose mercies beyond counting,
keep us mindful that life is short and the hour of death unknown.
Let your Spirit guide our days on earth
in the ways of holiness and justice,
that we may serve you
in union with the whole Church,
sure in faith, strong in hope, perfected in love.
And when our earthly journey is ended,
lead us rejoicing into your kingdom,
where you live for ever and ever.^{iv}

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i CCC1503

ii cf Mass for Refugees and Exiles, *RM1364*

iii cf. Collect, Mass for the Sick, *RM1378*

iv Concluding Prayer for Committal at a Crematorium, *Order of Christian Funerals*