

# The Gift of a Shepherd

Prayers from the Tradition of the Church for use  
at the time of the Resignation of Pope Benedict XVI  
and in preparation for the Election of his Successor

## Prayers for the Pope

*Ad libitum from the day of announcement of the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI.*

## Ancient Prayer to the Virgin

We turn to you for protection,  
holy Mother of God.  
Listen to our prayers  
and help us in our needs.  
Save us from every danger,  
glorious and blessed Virgin.

*— This prayer, first found in a Greek papyrus, c. 300 is the oldest prayer to the Virgin.*

## The Angelus

℣. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.  
℟. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail, Mary...

℣. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.  
℟. Be it done unto me according to thy word.

Hail Mary...

℣. And the Word was made flesh.  
℟. And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary...

℣. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.  
℟. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray.

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord,  
your grace into our hearts,  
that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son  
was made known by the message of an Angel,  
may by his Passion and Cross  
be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

*— The custom of saying the “Hail Mary” three times when the bell rang in the evening goes back to the thirteenth century, and there are bells of that period inscribed with the angelic salutation. The prayer was formerly the postcommunion for Masses of our Lady in Advent and is now the opening prayer for the Fourth Sunday of Advent.*

## Holy Apostles Peter and Paul

Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, intercede for us.

O Lord, guard your people,  
who rely on the patronage of your apostles Peter and Paul,  
and keep them under your continual protection.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

— *Roman Missal*

## Prayer for the Pope

Let us pray for Benedict, our Pope.

May the Lord protect him  
and grant him length of days.  
Amen.

May the Lord be his shield  
and deliver him from all harm.  
Amen.

May the Lord give him happiness and peace  
all the days of his life.  
Amen.

— *This versicle and its response were formerly sung at the end of the litany of the saints.*

## Collect for the Pope

O God, shepherd and ruler of all the faithful,  
look favourably on your servant Benedict,  
whom you have set at the head of your Church as her shepherd;  
grant, we pray, that by word and example  
he may be of service to those over whom he presides  
so that, together with the flock entrusted to his care,  
he may come to everlasting life.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen

— *Roman Missal*

# Prayer for the Church

*Ad libitum following the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI (28 February 2013) and during the Conclave.*

## The Angelus

℣. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

℟. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail, Mary...

℣. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

℟. Be it done unto me according to thy word.

Hail Mary...

℣. And the Word was made flesh.

℟. And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary...

℣. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

℟. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray.

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord,  
your grace into our hearts,  
that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son  
was made known by the message of an Angel,  
may by his Passion and Cross  
be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

*— The custom of saying the “Hail Mary” three times when the bell rang in the evening goes back to the thirteenth century, and there are bells of that period inscribed with the angelic salutation. The prayer was formerly the postcommunion for Masses of our Lady in Advent and is now the opening prayer for the Fourth Sunday of Advent.*

## Come, Holy Spirit

℣. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.

℟. And kindle in them the fire of your love.

℣. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.

℟. And you will renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray

O God, who have taught the hearts of the faithful  
by the light of the Holy Spirit,  
grant that in the same Spirit we may be truly wise  
and ever rejoice in his consolation.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

*— The first versicle and response adapted from the alleluia verse before the gospel of Pentecost; the second versicle and response from the third antiphon for the Office of Readings on Pentecost; the prayer from the votive Mass of the Holy Spirit in the Roman Missal.*

## Holy Apostles Peter and Paul

Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, intercede for us.

O Lord, guard your people,  
who rely on the patronage of your apostles Peter and Paul,  
and keep them under your continual protection.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

— *Roman Missal*

## Veni Creator Spiritus

Veni, Creator Spiritus,  
mentes tuorum visita:  
imple superna gratia,  
quae tu creasti pectora.

Qui diceris Paraclitus,  
Altissimi donum Dei,  
fons vivus, ignis, charitas,  
et spiritalis unctio.

Tu septiformis munere,  
digitus paternae dexteræ,  
tu rite promissum Patris,  
sermone ditans guttura.

Accende lumen sensibus,  
infunde amorem cordibus,  
infirmi nostri corporis  
virtute firmans perpeti.

Hostem repellas longius,  
pacemque dones protinus:  
ductore sic te praeviso  
vitemos omne noxium.

Per te sciamus da Patrem,  
noscamus atque Filium,  
teque utriusque Spiritum  
credamus omni tempore.

Deo Patri sit gloria,  
et Filio, qui a mortuis  
surrexit, ac Paraclito,  
in saeculorum saecula. Amen.

Come, Holy Spirit, Creator come,  
From your bright heavenly throne!  
Come, take possession of our souls,  
And make them all your own.

You who are called the Paraclete,  
Best gift of God above,  
The living spring, the living fire,  
Sweet unction, and true love!

You who are sevenfold in your grace,  
Finger of God's right hand,  
His promise, teaching little ones  
To speak and understand!

O guide our minds with your blessed light,  
With love our hearts inflame,  
And with your strength which never decays  
Confirm our mortal frame.

Far from us drive our hellish foe  
True peace unto us bring,  
And through all perils guide us safe  
Beneath your sacred wing.

Through you may we the Father know,  
Through you the eternal Son  
And you the Spirit of them both  
Thrice-blessed three in one.

All glory to the Father be,  
And to the risen Son;  
The same to you, O Paraclete,  
While endless ages run. Amen.

## Collect for the Election of a Pope

O God, eternal shepherd,  
who govern your flock with unfailing care,  
grant in your boundless fatherly love  
a pastor for your Church  
who will please you by his holiness  
and to us show watchful care.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

— *Roman Missal*

# Prayer upon the Election of the new Pope

*Ad libitum from the day of the election of the new Pope*

## Prayer for the Pope

Let us pray for N., our Pope.

May the Lord protect him  
and grant him length of days.  
Amen.

May the Lord be his shield  
and deliver him from all harm.  
Amen.

May the Lord give him happiness and peace  
all the days of his life.  
Amen.

*— This versicle and its response were formerly sung at the end of the litany of the saints.*

## Te Deum

We praise you, O God:  
we acclaim you as the Lord.

Everlasting Father,  
all the world bows down before you.

All the angels sing your praise,  
the hosts of heaven and all the angel powers,  
all the cherubim and seraphim  
call out to you in unending song:  
Holy, Holy, Holy,  
is the Lord God of angel hosts!  
The heavens and the earth are filled  
with your majesty and glory.

The glorious band of apostles,  
the noble company of prophets,  
the white-robed army who shed their blood for Christ,  
all sing your praises.

And to the ends of the earth  
your holy Church proclaims her faith in you:  
Father, whose majesty is boundless,  
your true and only Son, who is to be adored,  
the Holy Spirit sent to be our Advocate.

You, O Christ, are the King of glory,  
Son of the eternal Father.

When you took our nature to save mankind  
you did not shrink from birth in the Virgin's womb.

You overcame the power of death  
opening the Father's kingdom to all who believe in you.  
Enthroned at God's right hand in the glory of the Father,  
you will come in judgment according to your promise.

You redeemed your people by your precious blood.  
Come, we implore you, to our aid.  
Grant us with the saints  
a place in glory everlasting.

Lord, save you people  
and bless your inheritance.  
Rule them and uphold them  
for ever and ever.

Day by day we praise you:  
we acclaim you now and to all eternity.  
In your goodness, Lord, keep us free from sin.  
Have mercy on, Lord, have mercy.

May your mercy always be with us, Lord,  
for we have hoped in you.  
In you, Lord, we put our trust:  
we shall not be put to shame.

— *4th century in origin; possibly by St Nicetas of Remesiana*

## Collect for the Pope

O God, who in your providential design  
willed that your Church be built  
upon blessed Peter, whom you set over the other Apostles,  
look with favour, we pray, on N. our Pope  
and grant that he, whom you have made Peter's successor,  
may be for your people a visible source and foundation  
of unity in faith and of communion.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

— *Roman Missal*

## Litanies

*The two litanies may appropriately be used at any time during this period.*

### Litany of the Holy Name

Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy	Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy	Lord, have mercy
God our Father in heaven	have mercy on us
God the Son, Redeemer of the world	have mercy on us
God the Holy Spirit	have mercy on us
Holy Trinity, One God	have mercy on us
Jesus, Son of the living God	have mercy on us
Jesus, splendour of the Father	have mercy on us
Jesus, brightness of everlasting light	have mercy on us
Jesus, king of glory	have mercy on us
Jesus, dawn of justice	have mercy on us
Jesus, Son the Virgin Mary	have mercy on us
Jesus, worthy of our love	have mercy on us
Jesus, worthy of our wonder	have mercy on us
Jesus, mighty God	have mercy on us
Jesus, father of the world to come	have mercy on us
Jesus, prince of peace	have mercy on us
Jesus, all-powerful	have mercy on us
Jesus, pattern of patience	have mercy on us
Jesus, model of obedience	have mercy on us
Jesus, gentle and humble of heart	have mercy on us
Jesus, lover of chastity	have mercy on us
Jesus, lover of us all	have mercy on us
Jesus, God of peace	have mercy on us
Jesus, author of life	have mercy on us
Jesus, model of goodness	have mercy on us
Jesus, seeker of souls	have mercy on us
Jesus, our God	have mercy on us
Jesus, our refuge	have mercy on us
Jesus, father of the poor	have mercy on us
Jesus, treasure of the faithful	have mercy on us
Jesus, Good Shepherd	have mercy on us
Jesus, the true light	have mercy on us
Jesus, eternal wisdom	have mercy on us
Jesus, infinite goodness	have mercy on us
Jesus, our way and our life	have mercy on us
Jesus, joy of angels	have mercy on us
Jesus, king of patriarchs	have mercy on us
Jesus, teacher of apostles	have mercy on us
Jesus, master of evangelists	have mercy on us
Jesus, courage of martyrs	have mercy on us
Jesus, light of confessors	have mercy on us
Jesus, purity of virgins	have mercy on us
Jesus, crown of all saints	have mercy on us

Lord, be merciful  
From all evil  
From every sin  
From the snares of the devil  
From your anger  
From the spirit of infidelity  
From everlasting death  
From neglect of your Holy Spirit

By the mystery of your incarnation  
By your birth  
By your childhood  
By your hidden life  
By your public ministry  
By your agony  
By your agony and crucifixion  
By your abandonment  
By your grief and sorrow  
By your death and burial  
By your rising to new life  
By your return in glory to the Father  
By your gift of the holy eucharist  
By your joy and glory

Christ hear us  
Lord Jesus, hear our prayer

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world

Let us pray.

As we venerate the most holy Name of Jesus,  
mercifully grant us, Lord,  
that, savouring its sweetness in this life,  
we may be filled with everlasting joy  
in our heavenly homeland.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

*— The origins of this litany, a commentary on Philippians 2:9-11, can be traced back to the fifteenth century, and some of the invocations, in a more elaborate form, are in the Litany of our Blessed Saviour found in seventeenth century manuals. In its present form it was approved by Leo XIII(1810-1903) for use throughout the world.*

Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people

Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people  
Jesus, save your people

Christ, hear us  
Lord Jesus, hear our prayer

have mercy on us  
have mercy on us  
have mercy on us



## Litany of the Sacred Heart

Lord, have mercy	Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy	Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy	Lord, have mercy
God our Father in heaven	have mercy on us
God the Son, Redeemer of the world	have mercy on us
God the Holy Spirit	have mercy on us
Holy Trinity, one God	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, Son of the eternal Father	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, formed by the Holy Spirit	have mercy on us
in the womb of the Virgin Mother	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, one with the eternal Word	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, infinite in majesty	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, holy temple of God	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, tabernacle of the Most High	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, house of God and gate of heaven	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, aflame with love for us	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, source of justice and love	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, full of goodness and love	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, well-spring of all virtue	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, worthy of all praise	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, king and centre of all hearts	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, treasure-house of wisdom	have mercy on us
and knowledge	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, in whom there dwells	have mercy on us
the fullness of God	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, in whom the Father is well pleased	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, from whose fullness	have mercy on us
we have all received	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, desire of the eternal hills	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, patient and full of mercy	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, generous to all who turn to you	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, fountain of life and holiness	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, atonement for our sins	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, overwhelmed with insults	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, broken for our sins	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, obedient even to death	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, pieced by a lance	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, source of all consolation	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, our life and resurrection	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, our peace and reconciliation	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, victim for our sins	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, salvation of all who trust in you	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, hope of all who die in you	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, delight of all the saints	have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world	have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world	have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world	have mercy on us

℣. Jesus, gentle and humble of heart.

℟. Touch our hearts and make them like your own.

Let us pray.

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that we, who glory in the Heart of your beloved Son  
and recall the wonders of his love for us,  
may be made worthy to receive  
an overflowing measure of grace  
from that fount of heavenly gifts.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

*— Many of the invocations in this litany can be traced to the seventeenth century. The litany was approved by Leo XIII (1810-1903).*

This resource was prepared by the Liturgy Office of the Bishops Conference of England and Wales.

[www.liturgyoffice.org.uk](http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk)  
<http://www.catholicnews.org.uk>

---

**Liturgy  
Office**  
ENGLAND  
& WALES