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## PROPER OF TIME



# SUNDAYS, SOLEMNITIES, FEASTS YEAR A

#### SEASON OF ADVENT

#### 1st Sunday of Advent

Isa 2:1-5, Ps 122, Rom 13:11-14, Matt 24:37-44

For the whole church, summoned again to wake from sleep, to throw off the works of darkness and to put on the armor of light, that we may respond joyously to this message

That the Lord's house may be established on the highest peak, and all nations stream toward Him for instruction and counsel

That we may stay awake, ready and watching for the coming of our Lord and Master, that His arrival may not be a disruption of our lives, but the goal of all our desires

For the grace to keep our souls in silence and vigilance, alert to the many small arrivals of the Lord that come through events and circumstances, and through those we love

For those whose Advent is full of pain, illness, loneliness, hunger, and poverty, that we may be willing to reach out to them and assist them in their every need

For our faithful departed, who have set foot within the gates of the heavenly Jerusalem, that they may enjoy everlasting peace

#### 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isa 11:1-10, Ps 72, Rom 15:4-9, Matt 3:1-12

That the spirit of the Lord may rest upon all who are entrusted with authority in the church, giving them wisdom, counsel, and strength

That God may raise up sovereigns in every nation who will judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the oppressed and afflicted

That in keeping with Christ Jesus, we may learn to think in harmony with one another, welcoming one another for the glory of God

That John the Baptist, the thundering preacher of Advent repentance, may cry out again in the desert of our secular world, compelling us to make straight the way of the Lord

That the God of endurance and encouragement may lift up and console those who are weighed down with poverty, disease, or grief, especially those who have asked for our prayers

That Jesus, who has baptized us with the Holy Spirit and with fire, may take our faithful departed like chosen wheat into His barn, to be safe in heaven forever

#### 3rd Sunday in Advent

Isa 35:1-6a, 10, Ps 146, Jas 5:7-10, Matt 11:2-11

That our holy shepherds in the church may prolong in our midst the role of John the Baptist, preparing the way of the Lord in our hearts by their preaching and the witness of their lives

For the prophets of our own day, especially those who suffer for their stance on justice and morality, that they may have the faith in Jesus which will see them through their time of trial

For the grace of patience in our relations with ourselves, with one another, and with our God; for the gift of graceful waiting during the slow process of growth and progress

That we may enlarge our expectations of God, who promises more joy and glory than we know how to imagine, and that our faith may create the space God looks for to fill with His blessing

That Jesus, who gave sight to the blind and cured lepers and made the deaf hear, may also hear us when we intercede for those who are most in need of healing and mercy

That our faithful departed may be among God's ransomed ones who enter Zion singing and crowned with everlasting joy

#### 4th Sunday in Advent

Isa 7:10-14, Ps 24, Rom 1:1-7, Matt 1:18-24

For our holy shepherds, that like St. Joseph they may be righteous and ready to do all that the Lord commands them, thus sheltering and protecting the church

For all the nations, that they may be brought into the obedience of faith in God and the justice of His holy laws

That we may not weary God through resistance and unbelief, but like Mary and Joseph bring Him submissive hearts and trusting spirits, ready to rejoice in the wonders He wishes to work for us

That Mary's flame of virginal love and purity may illuminate and stand guard over our Advent prayers and preparations for the coming of her divine Son

For all who suffer, those who are lonely and hungry, homeless and abandoned, that our love may comfort them and they may receive a blessing of grace from the Lord

That Jesus, established as Son of God in power through His resurrection from death, may purify our faithful departed and bring them to His heavenly home

#### SEASON OF CHRISTMAS

#### Nativity of the Lord, at the Vigil

Isa 62:1-5, Ps 89, Acts 13:16-17, 22-25, Matt 1:18-25

For the church, God's chosen people, His virgin bride, that her rejoicing may be in her bridegroom, who took flesh in Jesus and came to dwell among us

That God's covenant of love may stand firm with all nations as they again seek to know His justice, obey His laws, and experience His peace

That we may imitate St. Joseph's faith and obedience, as He quietly left behind His own doubts and took Mary into His home, giving Jesus His name and the shelter of protecting love

That we may greet the birth of our divine Savior with the humility of John the Baptist, and herald His new coming into our lives with reverent joy

For those who are forsaken and desolate, that they may be called by a new name, and become a glorious crown in the hand of the Lord as He fills them with His joy

For all who have completed their course, who have passed beyond the gates of death, that they may be celebrating this Christmas in the exultation of the heavenly kingdom

#### Nativity of the Lord, Mass at Midnight

Isa 9:1-6, Ps 96, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14

For the whole church, celebrating the birth of Jesus with abundant love and great rejoicing, that all darkness may be illuminated by the great light she now presents to the world

For peace, that in the mastery of the child that is born to us, every unjust yoke may be smashed, every tool of war destroyed, and the deliberations of world leaders be ruled by the Prince of Peace

For the grace of hospitality, that we may see Jesus in the least of His brothers and sisters, and especially that no expectant mother be refused the comfort and shelter she needs to bear her child

That Mary, our mother, may show her Divine Child to everyone that comes in wonder to the manger, and lay Him to rest in our hearts as we approach this Eucharist

For those who keep a lonely watch in the night, those who have no one to care for them, that with the shepherds they may also know of angels who will bring them tidings of great joy in the name of Jesus

For our dear ones who have died, that they may see the final appearance of their blessed hope, the glory of the great God and of Jesus our Savior, in the clear light of heaven

#### Christmas Mass at Dawn

Isa 62:11-12, Ps 97, Titus 3:4-7, Luke 2:15-20

For the shepherds of the church, our bishops and priests, that as they lead us today in glorifying and praising God for the birth of the Savior, they themselves may be renewed in His joy

For the governments and leaders of the world, that the message of the angels may be realized in every effort they make to avoid armed conflict and promote peace

For all who are in pain in body, mind, emotions, or spirit, that this holy day may be a blessing of peace and light on their journey

That Jesus, who in His birth as one of us has made every human joy His own, may be at the heart of our family festivities, our gift giving, and every lovely custom we keep in His honor

That Mary, our Mother, may show her divine child to every wondering heart that approaches the manger, and lay Him to rest in each of us as we approach this Eucharist

For our beloved dead, that they may be celebrating this Christmas amid the joys and splendors of heaven

# Nativity of the Lord, Mass during the day

Isa 52:7-10, Ps 98, Heb 1:1-6, John 1:1-18

For the church on this great feast of Christmas, that her whole soul may be consumed in praise as she sings to the Lord with melodious song for His great mercy in giving us our Savior

That God may be king among the nations, so that the feet of those who bring glad tidings may be beautiful upon the mountains as they bear good news and announce peace

That as the Lord comforts His people and redeems Jerusalem, we too may bring comfort and joy in the name of Jesus to all those whose lives we touch

That with the angels of God we may gladly worship the firstborn Son who has come into the world, and spread the good news of His redemption

For all who are still in the darkness of loneliness, depression, illness, or grief, that the great light who is Jesus may enlighten them and they may know the joy of our love in His name

For our dear ones who have died, that they may be soon brought into heaven, where Jesus has His seat at the right hand of the Majesty on high

#### **Holy Family**

general intentions

For our Holy Father, head of the family that is the Body of Christ, that He may be held in honor within the church

For peace in our families, forgiveness of grievances, harmony of roles, and that our children may be safe and loved within the home, so that our nation and every nation may be built up in peace

That our families may be protected from the special dangers of our age: from abortion and euthanasia, from the inroads of materialism and violence; that faith and prayer and mutual love may keep them together in the Lord

For families in exile, for families that have lost their children, for families of the unemployed and the poor, that the Holy Family, which experienced all these situations, may be their comfort and hope

For the gift of vocations, that the Christian life of our families may flower in young lives consecrated to the Lord, whose ministry will serve in turn to strengthen the families of the future

For our loved ones who have died, for our elders who have gone before us, that they may rest in peace and help their beloved families with their prayers

#### Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

Num 6:22-27, Ps 67, Gal 4:4-7, Luke 2:16-21

For the whole church, that God's wisdom may strike root among us in the person of Jesus, making us a glorious people, the portion of the Lord, and the company of His holy ones

That God, who sends forth His command to the earth, may enable world leaders to keep His word, so that He may grant peace in our borders

For all of us as we celebrate this Christmas season, that the eyes of our hearts may be enlightened, and we may know what is the hope that belongs to our call in Christ Jesus

That the Word who was made flesh may give all those who believe in His name power to become children of God, shedding His light in the world by their lives of faith and good works

For all who are abandoned and forgotten in their need and suffering, that our prayer and our love may encircle them with joy and new beginnings of life

For our faithful departed ones, that God may bless them in Christ with every spiritual blessing in His heavenly home, giving them eternal rest and peace

#### Second Sunday after Christmas, Years ABC

Sir 24:1-2, 8-12, Ps 147, Eph 1:3-6, 15-18, John 1:1-18

For the whole church, that God's wisdom may strike root among us in the person of Jesus, making us a glorious people, the portion of the Lord, and the company of His holy ones

That God, who sends forth His command to the earth, may enable world leaders to keep His word, so that He may grant peace in our borders

For all of us as we celebrate this Christmas season, that the eyes of our hearts may be enlightened, and we may know what is the hope that belongs to our call in Christ Jesus

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For all who are abandoned and forgotten in their need and suffering, that our prayer and our love may encircle them with joy and new beginnings of life

For our faithful departed ones, that God may bless them in Christ with every spiritual blessing in His heavenly home, giving them eternal rest and peace

#### The Epiphany of the Lord, Vigil

general intentions

For our leaders and teachers in the church, that they may be the first to worship at the manger and present their gifts of mind and heart to the Lord

That the Christmas grace of peace may radiate out into the whole world, exercising its gentle influence on the hearts of world leaders and turning their thoughts to the poor and the lowly

For all of us, represented by the foreigners who brought their adoration and their gifts to Jesus, that we may do all we can to spread the Good News and bring the whole world to His manger

That the faith and persevering search of the magi may inspire us during the dark times of our journey, when only the light of a great star leads us on through the night

For all who are suffering and poor and abandoned during this joyful season, that in memory of the Holy Family sheltered in a stable, we may reach out to them in love

For our loved ones who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, that they may now see their Savior, unveiled in all His glory in heaven

#### **Epiphany**

Isa 60:1-6, Ps 72, Eph 3:2-3, 5-6, Matt 2:1-12

For the church, gathered as never before from all nations, that her holiness may shine out as a guiding star to bring to Jesus those who are still in the great darkness

For world leaders, that God may endow them with His judgment, so that they may govern His afflicted ones with justice and respect for the human dignity of each person

That wise men of every country and every religious background may come to understand the truth that Jesus alone is God made flesh and the Savior of the world, and place their gifts gratefully at His feet

That we who live in power and safety like Jerusalem of old may not miss the star rising over our heads, leading those with eyes to see down to humble Bethlehem with its hidden King

For all who travel a dark path through sickness, poverty, oppression, and every form of misery, that they may be overjoyed to find a star of guidance leading them to the mercy of the Lord

For our beloved departed ones, that they may come to rest in the radiant presence of the Savior whom they sought in the shadows of this passing world

#### Baptism of the Lord

Isa 42:1-4, 6-7, Ps 29, Acts 10:34-38, Matt 3:13-17

For our Holy Father, our bishops and priests, that they may be servants whom the Lord upholds and upon whom He puts His Spirit

For the victory of justice in every nation; that the Lord may raise up leaders who will work for life and for sound moral values in our world

That we may have a deeper appreciation of the great grace of our own baptism, and that we may become sons and daughters in whom the Father is well pleased

That Jesus may anoint us with power through the Holy Spirit to go about doing good in His name

For those who are suffering and tempted to lose heart— the bruised reeds and smoldering wicks of our day— that they may not be broken or quenched by the indifference of others, but helped and consoled

For our faithful departed ones, that in Jesus they may be brought out of confinement and darkness into the full light of heaven's joy and glory

#### **SEASON OF LENT**

#### 1st Sunday of Lent

Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7, Ps 51, Rom 5:12-19, Matt 4:1-11

For our holy shepherds in the church, that by their example of obedience and fidelity many may be made righteous in the sight of God

For the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence and for their rulers, that they may come under the Lordship of Jesus and worship the true God

That all Catholics may enter this holy season of repentance and grace by partaking of the sacrament of penance and reconciliation

For all who are in a season of temptation, that with the strength of the Lord they may resist the insidious suggestions of the Evil One and emerge from the trial stronger and more free

For the sick, the poor and the marginalized, the imprisoned and the addicted, that our loving prayer and effective action during this Lenten season may relieve them

For our faithful departed ones, that after their time of testing and trial in the body they may know the ministry of the angels in heaven

#### 2nd Sunday in Lent

Gen 12:1-4a, Ps 33, 2 Tim 1:8b-10, Matt 17:1-9

For the church, through whom all the communities of the earth have found blessing, that like Abraham she may be ready and willing to follow the Lord's bidding wherever He leads

That the Lord who loves justice and righteousness may be the strength and guiding light of world leaders, so that all people may walk in the ways of life and peace

That Jesus, who was transfigured before His disciples to strengthen them for His coming passion, may shine within our souls to help us in the trials of our faith journey

That we may acknowledge Jesus as the Father's beloved Son, in whom He is well pleased, and that we may listen to Him profoundly, learning everything from His example

For all who have asked our prayers in a time of sickness or any kind of suffering, that the Lord's mercy may be upon them as we place all our trust in Him on their behalf

For our faithful departed ones, that Jesus, who destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light, may now bring them into His heavenly kingdom forever

#### 3rd Sunday of Lent

Exod 17:3-7, Ps 95, Rom 5:1-2, 5-8, John 4:5-42

For our leaders in the church, who must respond to the demands of the people, that God may stand with them as He did with Moses, providing the waters of life in the church through their ministry

That the peoples of the earth may not test and tempt God with immorality and injustice, but listen to His voice and respond with reverence and obedience

That we may give Jesus the cool water of our faith and our love, and that we may understand the gift of God, knowing that Jesus is the One who gives us the living water of everlasting life

That our catechumens may be true worshipers who adore the Father in Spirit and in truth and who have no other spiritual food than to do the will of the One who has chosen them

That Jesus, who gently led the Samaritan woman to salvation, may reach out to all the sick and sinful souls who need to come home to His love during this holy season

For our faithful departed ones, that they who were justified by faith may now be at peace with God in heaven through our Lord Jesus Christ

#### 4th Sunday of Lent

1 Sam 16:6-13, Ps 23, Eph 5:8-14, John 9:1-41

For our holy leaders in the church, that like Samuel they may have the grace of discernment to read into our hearts, and the commission to pour out God's anointing in the assembly

That the grace of forgiveness may be active in nations where sin has caused deep wounds, healing and restoring by divine power the peace that man cannot of himself create

For those preparing for baptism, that like the man born blind, they may now be able to see the truth and believe in Jesus who gives them their spiritual sight

That we who are baptized may live as children of the light, producing in our lives every kind of goodness in righteousness and truth

That Jesus may be the good and gentle shepherd of all who suffer and are passing through a dark valley, giving them courage with the anointing of joy and grace

For our faithful departed ones, that Jesus, the light of the world, may raise them up to the realms of light and peace in heaven

#### 5th Sunday of Lent

Ezek 37:12-14, Ps 130, Rom 8:8-11, John 11:1-45

For the church, that she may put her trust in Jesus, the Resurrection and the Life, and believe in Him through all the seasons of life and death on her spiritual journey

For refugees, for the oppressed and abandoned, that God may settle them upon their own land, putting His spirit of life in them again

That we may give Jesus the sacred tribute of our faith, believing in Him even beyond the death of our hopes and of our loved ones

That our spirits may be alive because of righteousness, giving room to the divine Spirit of Jesus to work marvels of grace and peace in our souls

For those who suffer, whose dreams lie in the tomb, that the divine promise to open all graves and raise the dead may be active, bringing them healing and hope

For our beloved dead, that Jesus, who wept at the loss of His friend Lazarus, may raise them up to the abundant life of heaven, and console those they have left behind

#### HOLY WEEK

#### **Palm Sunday**

general intentions

For the whole church, uniting with one heart and voice to escort our Savior with palms and praises to the Holy City as He enters to meet His painful destiny, that we may follow Him faithfully to the end

For individuals, groups, and nations who, like Jesus, have been cruelly betrayed by a false gesture of peace, that the greedy betrayers may come to repentance and that true peace be restored through the Master's redemption

For all who bear the role of prophet in the church, that with the Master they may have a well trained ear and words that can rouse the weary, and never turn back in the face of persecution

That we may allow grace to bring us with Jesus to the loving obedience that empties us out into our own inevitable cross at His side, so that with Him we too may be raised on high by the Father

For the courage to look long and steadily at our crucified God, who is speaking His whole word of redeeming solidarity and humble divine love in the pain-filled silence of His cross

For all the intentions we bring in our hearts to this Holy Sacrifice, for all who have asked for our prayers, and for our beloved departed ones who have passed through the doors of death with Jesus

#### **Holy Thursday**

Exod 12:1-8, 11-14, Ps 116, 1 Cor 11:23-26, John 13:1-15

For our Holy Father, our bishops and priests, whose ordination was instituted at the Last Supper, that their consecrated lives of priestly service may continue to flow from the Eucharist, which they offer in the person of Christ

For peace, that the blood of the divine Lamb may keep the destructive blow of war and oppression from us, and that each of us may partake of the Lamb with staff in hand, ready for the journey that justice will demand of us

For all of us in every capacity of loving service that we give to each other, that our Lord's humility and self-emptying, symbolized in the foot washing, may continue in our mutual reverence and devotion

For our loved ones who are far from the sacraments, for the sick and addicted, the imprisoned and abused, the lonely and the poor, that this night of love and suffering may draw them into communion with Jesus who has the remedy for their wounds

For all of us who share this Eucharist, remembering most vividly that hour when Jesus showed us the very depths of His love, that we might express our gratitude to Him by being faithful in all that He asks of us

For our faithful departed loved ones, who ate the Divine Bread and drank the Holy Cup and proclaimed the death of the Lord while on earth, that they may now share His victory over death in heaven

#### Good, Friday

Solemn Intercessions Only

see general intentions in The Roman Missal, Third Edition

#### **SEASON OF EASTER**

#### Paschal Vigil

general intentions

For the whole Church on this night of the Lord's triumph, that the resurrection fire kindled this night might spread through the darkness of an unbelieving world with irresistible power

That God, who created the order and harmony of the earth out of a formless void may in the renewal of this paschal mystery bring peace out of selfish power struggles and restore reverence for every human being made in His image and likeness

That broken relationships in marriage and friendship may be exposed to God's example of total fidelity and generous forgiveness, and built up again in the precious stones of His grace and peace

For all who are still in the darkness of ignorance, sin, addiction, and unresolved pain, that the Risen One, who calls the light and it obeys Him, may make them shine for joy in His presence with all His holy ones

For all who are reborn tonight and for all of us consecrated to Jesus, washed in the living water from His pierced side, that we may all truly die to sin in Him, trusting also that we will share His triumph

That Jesus, who is our paschal sacrifice, the Lamb upon our altar, may in this Eucharist create in each of us a new heart and a new spirit, perfectly attuned to His own heart, which ever rises to the Father, both in suffering and in glory

#### **Easter Sunday**

Acts 10:37-43, Ps 118, Col 3:1-4, John 20:1-9

For the successors to the apostles in the church today, commissioned to preach to the people, that like Peter, they may boldly proclaim the resurrection of Christ and the forgiveness of sins in His name

That Jesus, the great cornerstone, may not be rejected by the builders of our society, but that the right hand of the Lord may be exalted in Him, building nations with life, justice, morality, and peace

For all of us, that our life may be hidden with Christ in God, and that we may seek what is above, celebrating this feast with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth

That all Christians may offer to the Paschal Victim their thankful praises today, renewing their vows to Him with joy and gratitude for His victory of divine love

For all who suffer, who grieve, who are distressed in mind and heart, that Jesus, who brought unexpected exultation to Mary Magdalene and the apostles on that first Easter Sunday, may give them also a share of His rising to new life

For all our faithful departed ones, who were signed with the cross of Jesus, that the power of His glorious resurrection may bring them rejoicing into the wedding banquet of heaven

#### 2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47, Ps 118, 1 Pet 1:3-9, John 20:19-31

For the church, that we may continue to devote ourselves to the teaching of the apostles, to the breaking of bread, and to the prayers, praising God and earning the favor of all the people

That Jesus, who on the first Easter Sunday met His apostles with the beautiful greeting of peace, may turn the hearts of national leaders to the acts of justice that will lead to peace in the world

That we may obtain the blessing of those who believe without seeing Jesus, as we proclaim Him to be our Lord and our God

That Jesus, who gave His apostles the power to forgive sins, may renew and purify us on this Mercy Sunday with all the cleansing power of His paschal sacrifice

For those who are suffering through various trials, whose faith is being tested in the fire, that through Jesus they may emerge stronger and happier in His service

For our faithful departed ones, that through the resurrection of Jesus they may be brought into the inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading in heaven

#### 3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:22-33, Ps 16, 1 Pet 1:17-21, Luke 24:13-35

For our Holy Father, our bishops and priests, that a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit may give them power to announce the dying and rising of Jesus with St. Peter's bold conviction

That the Lamb who has ransomed us from the futile ways of war and oppression by His own blood may raise up leaders with the wisdom and patience to negotiate for peace

For all of us, guests at the table where Jesus offers and blesses the signs of His sacrifice, that we too may recognize Him in the breaking of the bread, and build up our brothers and sisters with the witness of our joy

That we may conduct ourselves with reverence during the time of our sojourning on earth, placing our faith and hope in God alone

For all who have been sorely tried by pain and loss, particularly the sick and the bereaved, that Jesus may join them on the road and help them interpret what has happened, making their hearts burn again with faith and love

For our faithful departed ones, that God may show them the path to life, and give them abounding joy in His presence and delights at His right hand forever

#### 4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:36-41, Ps 23, 1 Pet 2:20-25, John 10:1-10

For our holy shepherds in the church, that they may keep watch at the gate of the Lord's sheepfold, not allowing thieves and robbers to harm the flock, and welcoming the Lord when He comes to call His own

For those who suffer for doing good and speaking up for the sanctity of life and the balance of justice, that their patient witness may be an effective grace before God in the world today

For all who bear the role of shepherd, especially parents of families and superiors of religious communities, that this day of celebration may bring them our gratitude for all their loving care

For those who have gone astray like sheep, especially our own loved ones, that the shepherd and guardian of their souls, our Lord Jesus Christ, may find them and bring them home

For those who are walking in a dark valley, that the Good Shepherd may give them courage and lead them beside the restful waters of healing and peace

For our faithful departed ones, that Jesus, who came that we may have life, may take them into the abundant and eternal life that is heaven

#### 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 6:1-7, Ps 33, 1 Pet 2:4-9, John 14:1-12

For the church, that we may be a holy nation, a people God can call His own, as we announce the praises of the One who called us out of darkness into His own wonderful light

That the Lord, whose word is upright and whose works are trustworthy, may inspire leaders of nations with justice and right reason in their decisions and plans

For the deacons of the church, that they may be filled with faith and the Holy Spirit as they proclaim the Word of God and work diligently for God's kingdom

That we who have seen the Father in Jesus may do the works that Jesus has done, becoming upright and virtuous and powerful in our love and service

That those who are in distress and pain may not allow their hearts to be troubled, but put their faith in God and in Jesus, who is the way that guides them, the truth that consoles them, and the life that revives them

For our faithful departed ones, that Jesus, who has prepared a place for each of them in the Father's house, may now welcome them home into heavenly joy

#### 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17, Ps 66, Pet 3:15-18, John 14:15-21

For our Holy Father, our bishops and priests, that the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, may be with them in their work of teaching and preaching the gospel

That those who feel paralyzed or hampered in their work for peace and justice may be freed and given the power of the Risen One and His Holy Spirit

That each of us may always be willing and ready to share with others the reason for our hope, speaking gently and with reverence, and witnessing to Jesus by the power of a clear conscience in the sight of all

For all those preparing to marry, to be ordained, to receive First Communion or Confirmation, that the Holy Spirit may fall on them with grace and blessing at the threshold of these great sacraments

For all who have asked us to pray for them, for the sick, the poor, the bereaved, the struggling, that each one may have cause to say: "Blessed be God who refused me not my prayer or His kindness!"

For all our beloved departed ones who kept the commandments of Jesus on earth, that the Lord may now reveal Himself to them in the glory of heaven

#### The Ascension of the Lord, Vigil

general intentions

For the whole church, anticipating the Ascension, that our glorious Lord and Savior may fill her heart with His paschal joy

That leaders of countries that have been evangelized may acknowledge the Lordship of Jesus in their decisions and policies, and that God may grant us His peace

That we who celebrate the bodily Ascension of Jesus into heaven may follow Him in our thoughts and desires, seeing everything on earth from the standpoint of eternity

For all who receive this Eucharist, that we may understand that Jesus will never leave us orphans, and that His presence has passed into the sacraments for our consolation and joy

For all who need the comfort of prayer today in a time of mourning, pain, or weakness, that the power of this Holy Sacrifice will lift them up to new realms of grace and hope

For our dear ones who have died, that they may be where Jesus has gone before us, safe in the place He has prepared for them, rejoicing in His love

#### Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11, Ps 47, Eph 1:17-23, Matt 28:16-20

For the apostles of the church today, that they may stir up within themselves and the whole church the power they received when the Holy Spirit was given to them in the grace of their ordination

That Jesus, who mounted His throne amid shouts of joy, may establish His rule over the hearts of world leaders, leading them into the ways of life, justice, morality, and peace for the exultation of all the peoples

That God may give us all His Spirit of wisdom, so that we may know and understand the hope of our calling and the riches of His glory that we will inherit as His holy ones

For the missionary outreach of the church, that we may all support by our prayers and financial resources the final mandate of Jesus: to make disciples of all nations

For all who are suffering, who think Jesus has left them behind, that they may come to know that He seems to hide himself in heaven only to send the Holy Spirit of grace, healing, and courage upon them

For our faithful departed ones, that Jesus, whom the Father raised from the dead and seated above every authority and power, may use His dominion to bring them to eternal life in heaven

#### 7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:12-14, Ps 27, 1 Pet 4:13-16, John 17:1-11

For the church, that through her teaching and preaching ministry she may bring all her children to eternal life by knowing the true God and the one whom He has sent, our Lord Jesus Christ

That those whom the Father has given Christ out of the world may shine throughout the nations in their witness to a culture of life and a civilization of love

That we may devote ourselves to prayer in faith and hope for the gift of God, His promised Holy Spirit, in the blessed company of Mary, the Mother of Jesus

For all who are made to suffer because they are Christians, that they may have the insight to see how blessed they are, and that the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon them

For the poor, the sick, the grieving, the depressed, and all who have asked our prayers as they share in the sufferings of Jesus, that the Lord may support them and console them by His union with them in their time of trial

For our faithful departed ones, that they may be dwelling in the house of the Lord and contemplating His loveliness in the kingdom of heaven

#### Pentecost Vigil

general intentions

For the whole church, groaning in labor pains as she longs for the coming of the Holy Spirit, that this divine Paraclete may respond to our yearning with the gift of holy fire

That all creatures and all the world may be filled with peace and all good things as the Lord opens His hand and sends out His Spirit

That the Spirit may come to the aid of our weakness, interceding for us in our prayer according to God's loving will

That our faith in Jesus may be strong so that living water may flow from within us, refreshing and renewing everyone we meet

For all who have asked our prayers and all who are in need of loving intercession, that the Spirit may be poured upon them in grace and joy

For our beloved departed ones, who possessed the first fruits of the Spirit in this life of hope and struggle, that they may now be rejoicing in the Spirit amid the bliss of heaven

#### **Pentecost Sunday**

general intentions

For the whole church on this day of Pentecost, as the glorified Christ lets fall His promised Holy Spirit, that the strong wind of His coming may surge through the Upper Room where we have waited, to kindle in each of us His holy fire

For the lay faithful, commissioned by the Spirit to be a ferment in society for the kingdom of God, that the Spirit's gift of fortitude may make them strong friends of Christ, able to stand up for the demands of justice, life, and peace

For all who are experiencing new stirrings in their lives— calls to change and growth, movements of repentance, even earthquakes of divine disturbance—that they may not quench or sadden the loving Spirit who awakens within them

That our Communion with Jesus in this holy sacrifice may intensify the presence of His Spirit in our hearts, and spread all around us the sweet fragrance of His gifts and fruits in our lives

That the Spirit may be an anointing of comfort to the sorrowful, healing to the sick, calm to the anxious, forgiveness to sinners, and refreshment to us all on our pilgrim way

For our faithful departed ones, that the Lord may send forth His Spirit into their souls, so that they may be placed in eternal life as His new creation

#### **ORDINARY TIME**

#### 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isa 49:3, 5-6, Ps 40, 1 Cor 1:1-3, John 1:29-34

That grace and peace from God our Father may rest upon the church, in all her ranks of ministers and in all her faithful

That Jesus, who was raised up to be a light for all the nations, may be glorified by the Lord when national leaders make their decisions according to His wise and lifegiving laws

That God may raise up in the church prophets, who, like John the Baptist, recognize and point out the work of the Spirit and the person of Jesus Christ

That each of us who follow Jesus may, like Him, make it our delight to do God's will freely and fully in the unfolding of our lives

For those who are weary and find life burdensome, who carry a burden of sickness or poverty, that they may find solace in the love of the servants of Jesus and in His interior consolation

That Jesus, anointed Son of God, may raise up our faithful departed loved ones, purifying them of all sin and welcoming them into His heavenly home

#### 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isa 8:23–9:3, Ps 27, 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17, Matt 4:12-23

For all preachers of the Gospel, that they may preach not with human eloquence but with the power of their example and their proclamation of the cross of Christ

For all oppressed people, those who suffer under the yoke of war and civil unrest, that the yoke that burdens them may be smashed by the Lord through national leaders who truly care for justice

That there may be no divisions among the followers of Christ, but that we may all agree in what we say, and be united in the same mind and the same purpose

That Jesus' message of repentance may be heard and heeded in our own day, and that the Lord may call new disciples to become fishers of souls

For all who are suffering and living in a land of darkness, that through prayer and love and the power of God, their anguish may take wing and their gloom may be dispelled

For our faithful departed, who have waited for the Lord with courage, that they may now see His bounty in the land of the living for all the days of eternity

Zeph 2:3, 3:12-13, Ps 146, 1 Cor 1:26-31, Matt 5:1-12

For unity among the disciples of the Lord, that all who are in Christ Jesus may have righteousness, sanctification, and redemption in the fullness of the faith and the sacraments

For the peacemakers, those statesmen who pursue diplomatic relationships to avoid conflict, and the prophets who speak up from among the people for the right to life and justice for all

That we may be among the remnant of the Lord who truly seek justice and humility, who speak no lies, and who take refuge in the name of the Lord

That we may aspire to live the beatitudes with which Jesus inaugurated His great Sermon on the Mount, becoming gentle, merciful, and poor in spirit, and accepting persecution in our path of discipleship

For those who mourn, who are suffering, lonely or ill, for all who are bowed down, that they may be comforted and raised up by the love of God and those who care for them

For our faithful departed, that God who keeps faith forever and sets captives free, may unbind them from all sin and bring them into the promised land of His eternal kingdom

#### 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isa 58:7-10, Ps 112, 1 Cor 2:1-5, Matt 5:13-16

For the shepherds of the church, that their proclamation may be given with a demonstration of the Spirit and power, supported by the holiness of their own lives

That the powerful of the earth may remove oppression and turn to satisfy the afflicted, so that the glory of the Lord may be over the nations and His blessing upon the peoples

That our good and loving deeds may shine before the world like a light and lift up peoples' vision like a city on a mountain, so that our heavenly Father may be glorified for His grace

That all Christians may be gracious and merciful and just, sharing their goods with the poor and trusting with firm hearts in the Lord

For those who live in weakness and fear and trembling, who understand Jesus crucified through their own sufferings, that Jesus may lift them up with Himself in the power of His resurrection

For our faithful departed, that the wounds of their sins may quickly be healed, and the Lord's vindication may go before them into His kingdom of light and joy

Sir 15:15-20, Ps 119, 1 Cor 2:6-10, Matt 5:17-37

That the Holy Spirit, who scrutinizes everything, may fill the church with holy wisdom, leading our shepherds to act upon and teach the commandments of God with respect and joy

For leaders of nations, that God who understands their every deed may inspire and enable them to make the choice for life, obedience, and justice for all

For the grace to control anger, that we may never be insulting or rude to one another, but instead may learn to live at peace, reconciling with our opponents before offering any gifts to God

For purity of life, that we may be the first to cut off from our lives whatever causes us to sin, reverencing our marriage partners and keeping our speech honest and true

For all who need our special prayers today: the sick, the poor, the imprisoned and addicted, the grieving and depressed, that joy and grace and healing may return to them through the power of this Holy Sacrifice

For our faithful departed, that they may soon possess as their portion "what eye has not seen nor ear heard, that portion which God has prepared for those who love Him."

#### 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lev 19:1-2, 17-18, Ps 103, 1 Cor 3:16-23, Matt 5:38-48

For the church, the temple of God, that her holiness may shine out in the world, especially the witness of her universal love

For those who are wise in this age, the powerful and the influential, that they may be given the grace to understand God's wisdom, and turn their efforts to justice, life, and peace

For our enemies, for our persecutors, for those who press us into service and take what is ours, that we may have the grace to return more good to them than the evil they have done to us

That Jesus, who has taken us far beyond the provisions of the Old Law, may have the joy of seeing us become perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect

For all who are suffering and heavily burdened, that the Lord may heal all their ills, redeeming their life from destruction, crowning them with kindness and compassion

For our faithful departed, that the Lord, who has compassion on His children and puts our sins as far from us as the east is from the west, may make them pure and ready for life in His heavenly kingdom

Isa 49:14-15, Ps 62, 1 Cor 4:1-5, Matt 6:24-34

For the servants of Christ: our bishops and priests, that in their role as stewards of the mysteries of God, they may be found trustworthy and faithful

For the judges of human tribunals, that in their decisions they may remember that they themselves will be judged by the Lord, and so uphold life and justice in our land

That we may live without anxiety as followers of Jesus, knowing that we have a Father who clothes the wild flowers in splendor and feeds the smallest birds, and who will not fail to take care of our needs

For mothers who have had no tenderness for the children within their wombs, that God who is faithful even if a mother should forget her infant, may enlighten, forgive, and heal them

For all who are in a period of tribulation at this time, who are sick or grieving, that they may have the joy of experiencing that God is their safety and glory, the rock of their strength

For our faithful departed, that they may be at rest in God, undisturbed in the protection of His heavenly kingdom

#### 9th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deut 11:18, 26-28, Ps 31, Rom 3:21-25, Matt 7:21-27

For the church, that she may ever come to understand anew that by herself she cannot please God, but that everything depends on faith in Him

That there may be no consequence of a curse on the disobedient actions of those in power among the nations, but that all world leaders may be careful to observe the statutes and decrees of the Lord

That we may be wise builders in our spiritual lives, setting our houses solidly on the rock of putting the words of the Lord into practice in our daily lives

For those who call upon the name of the Lord without doing the will of the Father, that they may see the division in their lives and return to a full and free obedience

For all who are discouraged, sick, poor, imprisoned, or addicted, and all who need our prayer today, that they may take courage and be stouthearted, hoping in the mercies of the Lord which are coming to meet them

For our faithful departed ones, who obeyed the law of the Lord while on earth, that they may now be reaping the rewards of their faithfulness in heaven

Hos 6:3-6, Ps 50, Rom 4:18-25, Matt 9:9-13

For the church and her holy shepherds, that they may never fail to reach out to those the world considers lost and hopeless, imitating the mercy of the Lord

That God, who shows His saving power to the upright, may raise up men and women in our day who will speak out for the oppressed, restoring the balance of justice in our world

That Jesus, who did not come to call the righteous but sinners, may cast His divine glance on our fallen away brothers and sisters, inviting them with power and tenderness to a change of heart

For the elderly, that like Abraham they may be strengthened by faith, giving glory to God whose promises never fail and whose love never falters

For those who are sick or suffering in any way, that this Holy Sacrifice may bring the light of God's coming into their lives and the spring rain of divine grace into their hearts

That Jesus, who was handed over for our transgressions and raised for our justification, may free our faithful departed ones from all sin and bring them rejoicing into heaven

#### 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exod 19:2-6, Ps 100, Rom 5:6-11, Matt 9:36–10:8

For the church, the special possession of God, a kingdom of priests, a holy nation, that she may always hearken to His voice and keep the covenant He has made with her in a spirit of grateful love

For the shepherds of the nations, that God who claims all the earth as His own may direct them in the paths of justice, life, and peace

For the apostles of our own day, sent by the compassion of Christ into the harvest, that God may raise up many new laborers to help them and keep them strong in their ministry

That we who have received the love of God without cost, being justified by the blood of Christ, may give without cost and without stint to all who are troubled and abandoned in life

For those who feel enslaved to suffering and far from God, that the Lord, who released the Israelites from the slavery of Egypt, may bear these little ones up on eagles' wings and bring them to Himself in joy and grace

For our faithful departed ones, that as they have been reconciled to God by the death of His Son, they may now be saved by His life and brought into the joys of paradise

*Jer 20:10-13, Ps 69, Rom 5:12-15, Matt 10:26-33* 

For the whole church, that we may go out to meet the inevitable reality of persecution on earth for the name of Jesus, because we have seen in advance the reward that our loyalty will bring us

That those who work and suffer for life and for peace may refuse to be intimidated, but speak the truth with justice in the name of God

For those who are feeling the pressure of divine testing in their lives as God probes their motives and their actions, that they may let themselves be converted

That we may have the courage to acknowledge Jesus before others, so that He will recognize us before the face of His heavenly Father

For those who are caught in abuse, neglect, illness; for the forgotten lowly ones who fall to the ground unnoticed like the sparrows, that they may be comforted by those who realize how precious they are in God's sight

For our faithful departed ones, that the grace of God and the gracious gift of Jesus Christ may overflow for them, purifying them and bringing them rejoicing into heaven

#### 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Kgs 4, Ps 89, Rom 6:3-4, 8-11, Matt 10:37-42

For the church and her holy leaders, that we may all think of ourselves as dead to sin, and living for God alone in Christ Jesus

That rulers of the nations may walk in the light of God's countenance and be exalted through His justice as they obey His command to uphold life and create justice

For the prophets of our own day, that they may be honored and received with obedience so that God's blessings may descend on those who hear them

That we may be worthy of Jesus, loving Him more than father and mother, more than son or daughter, more than our own life, taking up our cross and following Him faithfully

For those who long for children, for the sick, the oppressed and the grieving, that God, whose kindness and faithfulness are confirmed in the heavens, may grant them the blessings they desire on the earth

For our faithful departed ones, that Jesus, over whom death no longer has power, may raise them up to live for God in the heavenly kingdom

Zech 9:9-10, Ps 145, Rom 8:11-13, Matt 11:25-30

For the church, that those among us who are wise and learned and prudent in the ways of the world may be converted and take their place among the little ones who understand the heavenly Father

That Jesus, who holds all power hidden in His peacefulness, may calm and pacify the hearts of the powerful, inclining them to thoughts of justice and reverence before the gift of human life

That we who follow the just savior, who is gentle and humble, yet whose dominion shall be from sea to sea, may imitate His lowliness and rejoice in His salvation

For our dear ones who are far from the grace of God and His holy sacraments, that our prayers and love may bring them back to the Lord who willingly lifts up those who are falling

That the Lord, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness, may come to the aid of those who need Him most in their time of illness and distress

For our dear departed ones, in whom the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead once dwelt by their baptism, that through the same Spirit they may enter into new life in the kingdom of heaven

#### 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isa 55:10-11, Ps 65, Rom 8:18-23, Matt 13:1-23

For the members of the church, that they may endure the suffering of the present time with fortitude, waiting in hope for their sure revelation as children of God

That God may visit the lands and peoples of the world and water them with truth and wisdom, making every soul reverent before His gift of life and the demands of His justice

That we may respond fully to the Master's work, receiving the seed of His word in hearts that understand it, and bearing fruit with love and gratitude

For creation, our beautiful world, which is yet enslaved to futility, that we may respect it as God's gift and redeem it by our holy lives

For all who are groaning in the labor pains of anxiety, illness, financial setbacks, unemployment, and all the troubles of life, that redemption may come in a lifting of their burdens

For those who have preceded us beyond the horizon of death, that their eyes may be blessed with the sight of God and their souls filled with His beatitude in heaven

Wis 12:13, 16-19, Ps 86, Rom 8:26-27, Matt 13:24-43

For the church, the precious yeast in the dough of all humanity, that we may lighten and leaven the world by the witness of our love and fidelity to the Lord

That God, whose might is the source of justice, may show His mastery over all things by raising up world leaders obedient to His just and perfect laws

That we, who have grown up from good seed, yet have the enemy's sowing growing up alongside us, may patiently persevere in our good deeds until the harvest

That the kingdom of heaven, which on earth looks small and unimportant like a tiny mustard seed, may shelter many souls in its branches of truth and peace

For all who are living through a period of distress and suffering, that the Holy Spirit might come to the aid of their weakness, interceding for them according to God's will, obtaining grace and strength

For our faithful departed ones, that God, who is merciful and gracious, abounding in kindness and fidelity, may forgive their sins and lift them up to the joy of His heavenly kingdom

#### 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 3:7-12, Ps 119, Rom 8:28-30, Matt 13:44-52

For our teachers in the church, instructed in the kingdom of heaven, that they may bring from the storerooms of their wisdom both the old and the new for the edification of God's people

For the nations, that God may grant them leaders who wish to possess an understanding heart, that they may judge their people rightly and distinguish right from wrong

That we may understand the joy we have in our hidden treasure, our precious pearl of the kingdom of God, gladly selling all we have to possess it fully

That we may love the commands of God, making it our part to keep His words and observe His decrees, allowing His law to be our delight

For all who are in a season of suffering who have asked for our prayers, that all things may work for their good through God's tender and powerful providence

For our faithful departed ones, predestined and called to be conformed to the image of Jesus, that they may now be justified in Him and glorified with Him in heaven

Isa 55:1-3, Ps 145, Rom 8:35, 37-39, Matt 14:13-21

For the church, that neither death nor life, nor anguish, nor distress may keep us from conquering evil overwhelmingly because of the love of Christ Jesus our Lord

That the Lord, who is just in all His ways and holy in all His deeds, may lift the minds and hearts of world leaders to the ways of integrity, life, and peace

For all who feel powerless to help their brothers and sisters in need, that they may have the courage to bring to Jesus what little is available, so that His power to multiply may bless their efforts

For all of us sharing this Eucharist, who come without paying to a divine banquet, that no fragment of this feast be lost, but shared freely with all who are in need of God

For all who have asked for our prayers in a time of suffering, that our eyes may look hopefully to the Father on their behalf, and that He may open His hand and satisfy their desire for healing and strength

For our beloved departed ones, that they may be brought into the banqueting hall of heaven and delight in the rich fare of the face to face vision of God

#### 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:11-13, Ps 85, Rom 9:1-5, Matt 14:22-23

For the church, that we may learn to discern the voice of God, not in wind and earthquake and fire, but in the gentle whisper that announces His passing by

That God's proclamation of peace may be a reality for the nations, that kindness and truth may meet and justice look down from heaven on obedient hearts

That we may not faint and fail in our faith when we see how strong the wind is during the storms of life, but keep our eyes on Jesus, confident that in His power we also can walk on the waters

For the children of Israel, who can claim the covenants and the giving of the law, the worship and the promises, that they may also come to recognize their Messiah in Jesus Christ the Lord

For all who are fearful, anxious, depressed, or grieving, that they may hear the firm and kind voice of Jesus saying to them: "Take courage, it is I, do not be afraid"

For our faithful departed ones, that they may be with God on the mountain of His glory, pure and peaceful in His sight

Isa 56:1, 6-7, Ps 67, Rom 11:13-15, 29-32, Matt 15:21-28

For the church, God's miracle of mercy, gathered from all nations and made acceptable at His altar, that she may be the faithful sacrament of mercy to all

That we, as citizens of a free land, may take seriously our duty to speak out for our moral principles, doing our part to preserve the order that supports the gift of peace

For vocations to the priestly and religious life, that willing men and women may be brought to God's holy mountain and made joyful with us in His house of prayer

For our dear young people who sometimes seem demon-troubled in their lonely desperation, that loving parental hands may reach out to Jesus in earnest intercession for them

That our faith may be great as we pray for all who are in need of the healing and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ

For our faithful departed ones, that God may have pity on them and bless them, and let His face shed its light upon them in the kingdom of heaven

#### 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isa 22:19-23, Ps 138, Rom 11:33-36, Matt 16:13-20

For our Holy Father, successor to St. Peter and keeper of the keys of the kingdom, that His faith and the inner support of the heavenly Father may be His strength

That the depths of the riches and the wisdom and the knowledge of God may influence and judge the thoughts of the powerful, moving them to decisions based on justice and respect for life

That we may be challenged by the direct question of Jesus: "Who do you say that I am?" and that our answer may determine our thoughts, words, and actions before His face

For our bishops and priests and deacons, that they may be fathers over the new Jerusalem, holding a place of honor in the church with integrity and devotion

For the weak and the lowly, those who are sick or impoverished and lacking in resources, that through our calling upon the Lord for them He may build up their strength

For our faithful departed ones, that they may be quickly purified to sing the praises of the Lord in the presence of the angels

*Jer 20:7-9, Ps 63, Rom 12:1-2, Matt 16:21-27* 

For our holy leaders and teachers in the church, that they may think as God does, showing us the path to life in truth, even when it means the road of suffering

For the prophets of our own day, who receive derision and reproach from the powerful ones, that they may be strong and persevering, relying on God's power within

That we may be transformed by the renewal of our minds, discerning what is good and pleasing and perfect before God, and acting upon what we see

That we may take our place among the disciples of Jesus, willing to deny ourselves, to take up our cross and follow Him, knowing that the Father will repay us according to our faithfulness

For those who are in distress, that they may come to see that they are under the shadow of God's wings, upheld by His right hand, and take courage to cling fast to Him

For our faithful departed ones, that they may soon be in God's sanctuary, satisfied with the riches of heaven's banquet

#### 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ezek 33:7-9, Ps 95, Rom 13:8-10, Matt 18:15-20

For our Holy Father, our bishops and priests, who have been entrusted with a prophetic role, that they may speak out bravely against any evil that destroys and wounds Christ's followers

For the conversion of the powerful who have wandered far from God's law of love, especially when that law demands respect for life and the justice due to all

For all of us at the delicate times when we need to speak the truth honestly to those closest to us, that we may do it as Jesus told us: discreetly and respectfully, with the good of the other as our goal

That Jesus may not encounter in us hard and resistant hearts, but only our reverence before Him and our willingness to let Him be Master as well as Friend

For those who have asked for our prayers in a time of distress, that we may unite together lovingly to intercede for them, knowing that our united prayer is irresistible to our Heavenly Father

For our faithful departed ones, that they may soon be purified to sing joyfully to the Lord, coming into His divine presence with thanksgiving in the kingdom of heaven

Sir 27:30–28:7, Ps 103, Rom 14:7-9, Matt 18:21-35

For the church, for forgiveness and mercy within her ranks, that anger may be put aside and love for one another may prevail

For the forgiveness of national debts, especially those of poverty stricken countries who have no way of paying them back

For all of us, debtors to our Lord and Master and owing Him everything, that we may see the little debts that are owed us in their true proportion, and forgive as we have been forgiven

That we may no longer live for ourselves but for our Master Jesus, who died and came to life in order to be Lord of the dead and of the living

For the suffering little ones who endure sickness and poverty, that God may redeem their life from destruction and crown them with kindness and compassion

For our faithful departed, that God may put their transgressions from them as far as the East is from the West, and welcome them, purified and holy, into His kingdom

#### 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isa 55:6-9, Ps 145, Phil 1:20-27, Matt 20:1-16

For our shepherds in the church, that for them Christ may be magnified in all things, as they give Him their fruitful labor for the benefit of the faithful

That God, whose thoughts are far above our thoughts, may direct the minds of world leaders to decisions for life, justice, morality, and as a result, peace

For the conversion of those who have wandered far from God, especially those among our loved ones, that they may turn to the Lord for mercy, and to God, who is generous in forgiving

That we may not begrudge God His generous mercy with the latecomers to His vineyard, but rejoice together with them that we have found such a good Master

For all who need our prayers in a time of sickness, poverty, hardship, or bereavement, that our gracious and merciful Lord may show them His compassion in healing and strength

For our faithful ones who have departed this life, that they may be with Christ in the kingdom of love and joy that is heaven

Ezek 18:25-28, Ps 25, Phil 2:1-11, Matt 21:28-32

That we may complete the joy of our holy leaders in the church by our unity of mind, doing nothing out of selfishness, and looking out for the interests of one another

For the powerful of the world, that they may turn from the practices of a civilization of death to do what is right and just before the God of life

That we may be doers of the Father's will, matching our actions with our words when we agree to obey Him, or if we have at first refused, changing our minds in the end

For the conversion of sinners, that they may turn from wickedness to righteousness in the sight of God, that they may live without shame in His presence

For all who have asked for our prayers in a time of distress, that they may know solace in our love, encouragement in Christ, and God's compassion and mercy in their troubles

For our faithful departed, that they may be among the blessed ones who joyously proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord in the kingdom of His Father

#### 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isa 5:1-7, Ps 80, Phil 4:6-9, Matt 21:33-43

For the whole church, God's vineyard, tended faithfully by our Holy Father, our bishops and priests, that it may bear an abundant harvest of grace and holiness

For world leaders, that they may follow what is true, honorable, just, and worthy of praise, especially in the area of human life and dignity, so that there may be peace

For the conversion of all who return God no yield for His gracious cultivation, before the arrival of the hour of judgment between the Lord and His vineyard

For all who are suffering, that the church may help them with her prayers and relieve them of anxiety with her love, so that God's peace may stand guard over their hearts in Christ Jesus

That this Eucharist may be a sign and pledge of the harvest God expects of each of us, as we are united with the divine first fruits in our Lord Jesus

For our faithful departed ones, that through this Holy Sacrifice their purification may be quickly accomplished, and they may be welcomed into the kingdom of heaven

Isa 25:6-10a, Ps 23, Eph 1:17-18, Matt 22:1-14

For the church, for her leaders and teachers, servants of the great king who are sent to summon all to the banquet of His mercy, for their holiness and their courage

For a more just distribution of the goods of the earth, that everyone will have a share of life's banquet

That we may learn the secret of being content in abundance as well as in need, in humble circumstances as well as in wealth, doing everything peacefully in the One who strengthens us

That all Christians, clothed in the shining garment of their baptism, may one day be united at the wedding table of the Lord

For those who have asked us to remember them in God's presence, that in answer to our earnest prayer, the Father will wipe away the tears of their struggles

That the Lord who will destroy death forever may bring our faithful departed to the feast of eternal life

#### 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isa 45:1-6, Ps 96, 1 Thess 1:1-5, Matt 22:15-21

For the church, that the Gospel may be preached in her assemblies with power and in the Holy Spirit and with much conviction

For the nations, that God may raise up leaders like Cyrus, grasping their right hand, giving them light and power to make decisions for life, justice, morality, and peace

That we may live justly, giving to Caesar what is Ceasar's, but that we may remember that there is no other God than the Father of Jesus, and give Him the glory of lives in which He is truly the Lord

For our school children, that their teachers may be truthful models of God's integrity who have their best interest at heart

For the sick, the elderly, the unborn, the handicapped, and all who give us the chance to be compassionate because of their weakness, that we may not lose hearts that are sensitive and respectful of all life

For our faithful departed, who labored in love and showed endurance in the hope of our Lord Jesus Christ, that they may now be rejoicing with Him in heaven

Exod 22:20-26, Ps 18, 1 Thess 1:5-10, Matt 22:34-40

For the church, that we may be imitators of the Lord, receiving the word faithfully even in the midst of affliction, and experiencing the joy that comes from the Holy Spirit

For the nations of the world, that they may not molest or oppress aliens, wrong widows, or kill unborn children, thus risking the wrath of the Holy One

That the greatest commandment in the law may be the first priority of our lives, as we strive to love the Lord our God with our whole heart, soul, mind, and strength

For the grace to understand the importance of the second commandment, treating our neighbors as we would want to be treated, with justice and compassion

For all who have asked our prayers in a season of distress and suffering, that the Lord may be for them a rock of refuge, a shield and a stronghold of help and powerful kindness

For our faithful departed, that Jesus, whom God raised from the dead, may deliver them from all evil and bring them into His glorious heaven

#### 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mal 1:14-2:8-10, Ps 131, 1 Thess 2:7-13, Matt 23:1-12

For all who carry on the work of the first apostles, that they may be gentle in their personal relations with those to whom they minister, so that the Word they preach may be recognized and received as God's

For leaders of nations, that they may not break faith with one another and with their people, but keep the covenant of loyalty that is written in every human heart

That we may all come to acknowledge Christ as our one Master and God as our Father, humbling ourselves to become servants to one another as Jesus commanded

That this Eucharist may envelop us in the peace of God's little children, stilled and quieted in the arms of the One who shares with us His very self

That those who have been brought low by illness or misfortune may have the faith and the courage to rely on the divine law that exalts the lowly and fills the sorrowful with joy

For our faithful departed ones who have been humbled by death and judgment, that they may be purified quickly and exalted with Jesus in the blessed kingdom of heaven

Wis 6:12-16, Ps 63, 1 Thess 4:13-18, Matt 25:1-13

For the church, that she may be ready to go into the wedding feast at any time, with her lamp shining and glowing before the Bridegroom

That those who rule the nations may learn to seek Wisdom, keeping vigil in their desire for prudent understanding, rejoicing in her resplendent and unfading light

That we may not be foolish in our preparations to meet our Savior but have our supply of faith and love ready to withstand the long vigil of waiting for His joyful appearance

For all who have become confused and disoriented in the changing currents of life, that the trumpet of God may resound in their ears, calling them from death to the unchanging and eternal life of heaven

For all whose lives have become parched, lifeless and without water, that God may cover them with the shadow of His wings and satisfy them with the riches of His grace and healing

For those who have fallen asleep and those who grieve them, that the Word of the Lord may be their hope and the promise of the risen Christ be their joy

#### 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prov 31, Ps 128, 1 Thess 5:1-6, Matt 25:14-30

For the church, that she may be like the worthy wife of today's reading, active and watchful, diligent and compassionate, fruitful in every good work

For world leaders, that they may not count on the appearance of peace and security, but build their nations on the rock foundation of a culture of life, morality, and justice

For all of us, the children of the light and of the day, that we may be alert and sober, ready for the day of the Lord which, we know, will come unexpectedly, like a thief in the night

For those who have received only one talent, who are tempted to bury the Master's money and coast through life without effort, that they may realize that their modest gifts are not their own, and that God expects them to work their resources with diligence and care

For all who are in need of compassionate intercession and loving care, especially the sick, those in financial difficulty, the oppressed and imprisoned, the lonely and grief-stricken

For our faithful departed ones, who were trustworthy with the talents they had received in this life, that they may now share the Master's joy in heaven

# 34th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Christ the King

Ezek 34, Ps 23, 1 Cor 15:20-28, Matt 25:31-46

For our shepherds in the church, that they may diligently look after and tend God's sheep, bringing back the strayed, binding up the injured, healing the sick, shepherding us rightly

That all sovereignties, authorities, and powers that are in opposition to God may be brought under subjection to Christ the King, that God may be all in all

That we who know in what the final judgment of God will consist may be the first to treat Christ in the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the sick, and the imprisoned with compassion and reverence

That we who have the Lord as our shepherd, who want for nothing under His care, may reach out to those who do not yet know God as Savior and Friend, leading them to Jesus

That those who are going through a dark valley of sickness, poverty, oppression, or grief may feel the guiding press of the divine Shepherd's staff, leading them to restful waters and the anointing of joy and grace

For our faithful departed ones, that Christ, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep, may bring all who belong to Him rejoicing into His Father's kingdom

# SOLEMNITIES OF THE LORD DURING ORDINARY TIME

#### **Holy Trinity**

Exod 34:4-9, Dan 3, 2 Cor 13:11-13, John 3:16-18

For our holy leaders in the church, that like Moses they may be ever ready to ascend God's holy mountain with the commandments of God's law in their hands and in their hearts

That the witness of Christians to the communion that has its origin in the Holy Trinity may be an inspiration to the nations to do everything they can to live in peace

That we may come to understand the Holy Trinity as a mystery of mercy and graciousness, a God who is slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity to us, His children

For unity among the followers of Jesus, that we may learn to live in agreement, mending the ways of arrogance and pride, greeting one another with respect in a spirit of fellowship

For those who are perishing, who are sick, hungry, poor, imprisoned, or grieving, that God, who loved the world and sent His Son so that we might not perish, may show them His tender mercy

For our faithful departed ones, who believed in the name of Jesus, that they may be caught up in the embrace of the three Divine Persons in the bliss of heaven's joy

#### Corpus Christi

Deut 8, Ps 147, 1 Cor 10:16-17, John 6:51-58

For the whole church, keeping this solemnity in honor of the Body and Blood of Jesus, that we may renew our gratitude to our Heavenly Father, who provides for our journey with the bread that is His own Son

For peace, for the justice that undergirds peace; that we may share our bread with our hungry brothers and sisters in the same generous spirit that Jesus shares Himself as Bread with us

That we may come to a renewed awareness of who it is who feeds our souls in such self-effacing silence, and begin to show the same love in our relations with one another

For unity in the church, that all who partake of the one loaf may be truly one body, healed and whole in a communion of truth and love

For all who are suffering, that the broken Body and spilled Blood of Jesus may be a cup of blessing for them as it brings them the companionship of the Lord

For our faithful departed ones, who ate the Bread of Life in faithful obedience, that the Master's repeated assurance that He will raise them to new life may become for them a living reality in heaven

#### Sacred Heart

Deut 7:6-11, Ps 103, 1 John 4:7-16, Matt 11:25-30

For the church, that we, the people sacred to the Lord in His merciful fidelity, may be faithful to the covenant of love that binds us to Him

For peace, that peace may be the result of the sincere love toward one another that shows respect and works for justice

That this feast consecrated to the divine and human love of our Savior may bring us before Him rejoicing in His mercy and never forgetting the personal price He paid to be the expiation for our sins

For all of us sharing the banquet of love in this eucharistic sacrifice, that we may come to an ever deeper knowledge of God's love through the love we offer one another in His name

For those who labor and are burdened, who are bereaved or in any distress, that they may be among the meek and humble of heart whom God comforts by revealing the secrets of His love

For our beloved dead, that our merciful God may redeem them from destruction and crown them with kindness and compassion in His heavenly kingdom