



## **For the Conversion of Sinners**

O Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we adore You!

We thank You for inviting us into Your Kingdom and for calling us out of darkness into Your marvelous light. Soften the hardened of heart; melt those indifferent to Your goodness; and enflame those who are without love.

Together with Jesus, we offer our prayers, sufferings and sacrifices this day for their conversion.

Through Christ Our Lord.

Amen

*Favourite of:  
Annette Norton, St. Mark the Evangelist, Prescott*

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## **God Counts on Us**

Only God creates, but we are called to enhance that creation.

Only God gives life, but we are called to cherish life.

Only God makes us grow, but we are called to be signs of God for each other.

Only God gives love, but we are called to care for each other.

Only God gives hope, but we are called to give each other reason to hope.

Only God gives power, but we are called to get things going.

Only God can bring peace, but we are called to build bridges.

Only God can bring happiness, but we are invited to be joyful.

Only God is the way, but we are called to show the way to others.

Only God is light, but we are called to make light shine in the world.

Only God makes miracles happen, but we must offer our loaves and fishes.

Only God can do the impossible, but it is up to us to do what is possible.

*Favourite of:  
Helen Purdy, St. Francis De Sales / Blessed Sacrament,  
Smiths Falls / Lombardy*

## **The Romero Prayer**

*Bishop Kenneth Untener (1937-2004)*

*Drafted for a homily by Cardinal John Dearden in November 1979 for a celebration of departed priests.*

It helps, now and then, to step back and take the long view. The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts; it is even beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.

Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us. No statement says all that could be said. No prayer fully expresses our faith. No confession brings perfection. No pastoral visit brings wholeness. No program accomplishes the church's mission. No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about.

We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water the seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something and to do it well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest. We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own.

*Favourite of:  
Karen Shannon, Holy Name of Mary, Marysville*

## **In Paradisum**

May the Angels lead you into Paradise,  
May the Martyrs receive you at your coming, and take  
you to the holy city, Jerusalem.  
May the choirs of the Angels receive you, and may you  
with the once poor Lazarus, have rest everlasting.  
Amen

*Favourite of:  
Jo-Anne McReynolds, St. John the Evangelist /  
St. Philomena, Gananoque / Howe Island*



## **A Season of Kindness**

*Helen Steiner Rice (1900-1981)*

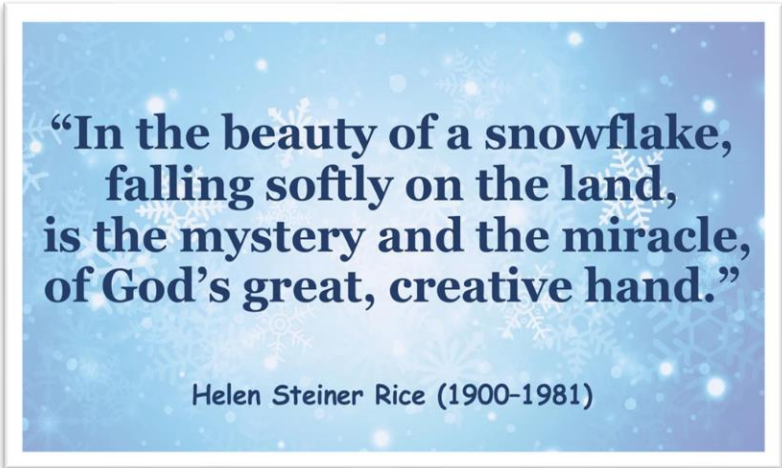
May the kindly spirit of Christmas spread its radiance  
far and wide,  
So all the world may feel the glow of this holy  
Christmastide.  
Then may every heart and home continue through the  
year,  
To feel the warmth and wonder of this season of good  
cheer. And may it bring us closer to God and to others,  
Till every stranger is a friend and every man a brother.

*Favourite of:  
Julia Murphy, Holy Name of Mary, Marysville*

## Thanksgiving

Tiny flames upon the altar  
Tiny flames that never falter  
Paying homage that is due –  
Put there by a loving few,  
One for some departed soul  
One for some desired goal  
Here's a mother's prayer retold  
There's a young man's wish for gold  
Petition's for the dead and living –  
Is there none in just Thanksgiving?

*Favourite of:  
Rosita MacDonald, St. Mark the Evangelist, Prescott*



**“In the beauty of a snowflake,  
falling softly on the land,  
is the mystery and the miracle,  
of God’s great, creative hand.”**

Helen Steiner Rice (1900-1981)

*Favourite of:  
Julia Murphy, Holy Name of Mary, Marysville*

## **Prayer to Jesus for a Special Favour**

Divine Jesus, You have said, "Ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you."

I am kneeling at Your feet now filled with a lively faith and confidence in the promises You have made.

I come to ask this favour: (*Here mention your favour.*)

To whom can I turn if not to You, whose heart is the source of all graces and merits?

Where should I seek, if not in the treasure which contains all the riches of Your kindness and mercy?

Where must I knock, if not at the door through which God gives Himself to us and through which we go to God?

I have recourse to You, Heart of Jesus.

In You I find consolation when afflicted, protection when persecuted, strength when burdened with trials and light in doubt and darkness.

O Sacred Heart, whatever be Your decision with regard to my request, I will never stop adoring, praising and serving You.

My Jesus, be pleased to accept this as my act of perfect resignation to the decrees of Your adorable heart which I sincerely desire may be fulfilled in me forever.

Amen.

*Favourite of:  
Gloria McLaren, St. Joseph, Kingston*

## **Prayer for Missionaries in Canada**

All-powerful God,  
You always show mercy towards those who are  
dedicated to you,  
and are never far from our Canadian missionaries.  
Remain close to them in their service,  
and guide their work according to Your will.  
Shelter them with Your protection,  
And give them the light of Your grace,  
and, as their companion on their journeys lead them in  
wisdom always.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Favourite of:*  
*Betty Ann Brown-Davidson, Honourary Life Member,*  
*St. Gregory the Great, Picton*

## **Prayer for Our Canadian Troops Serving Overseas**

Almighty and eternal God, those who take refuge in You  
will be glad and forever will shout for joy.  
Protect these soldiers as they discharge their duties.  
Protect them with the shield of Your strength and keep  
them safe from all evil and harm.  
May the power of Your love enable them to return home  
in safety, that with all who love them, they may ever  
praise You for Your loving care.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

*Favourite of:*  
*Elizabeth Warren, St. Mark the Evangelist, Prescott*

## **Spiritual Adoption Prayer for the Unborn**

*Reverend Fulton J. Sheen (1895-1979)*

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love You very much. Jesus, I beg You, spare the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted, who is in danger of abortion.

*Favourite of:  
Mary Manion, St. Patrick's, Napanee*

## **A Family Prayer**

*Most Rev. William E. Lori, Archbishop of Baltimore*

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of our family.  
Enlighten our hearts and minds  
that we may live more fully this vocation to love.  
In our daily life and work,  
may we reflect the self-giving love which You, O Father,  
eternally show with Your Son and the Holy Spirit.  
Let Your love be evident  
in the peace that reigns in our home  
and in the faith we profess and live.  
May our family always be a place of generosity,  
understanding, forgiveness, and joy.  
Kindly give us the wisdom and courage  
to be witnesses to Your eternal design for the family;  
and grant that the Holy Family of Nazareth  
may always guide our path to holiness as a family.  
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,  
who lives and reigns with You  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God forever and ever. Amen.

*Favourite of:  
Betty Doherty, St. Paul the Apostle, Kingston*



## **A Prayer for Families**

Loving and Merciful God, we pray for the many needs of families: for abundant love, for forgiveness and reconciliation, for a living faith to face the challenges of each day.

Jesus, You were born into a human family and became our brother. You know well what families need to nourish both children and parents in long-lasting bonds of love and respect. Help families of all shapes and sizes turn to You as their source of life.

May Your Spirit encourage husbands and wives, mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters.

Give us all the eyes to appreciate one another and to be grateful for the gift of families.

Amen

*Favourite of:  
Maureen Way, St. Patrick's, Napanee*

## **Prayer for the Family**

Loving and merciful God, I humbly ask Your blessings for my family. Keep each of us in Your tender care and protect us from every evil. Grant that no matter how separated we may be by distance or circumstance, we shall always be close to one another and to You, in the Sacred Heart of Your Son, Jesus.

May we continue to grow in love and peace, ever seeking to do Your will and receive Your blessings until we are united with You forever in heaven. Amen.

*Favourite of:  
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary council,  
Erinsville*

## **A Wife's Prayer**

Gracious Lord, You have blessed me with my dear husband \_\_\_\_\_.

I thank You and ask You to keep him in Your constant care.

Help him in his trials, comfort him in his worries.

Grant me the grace to be a loving partner, to share his sorrows and joys.

Keep me faithful to him with love and respect.

And, dear Lord, grant that our life together on earth will lead us to heaven,

there to enjoy Your holy company forever.

Amen.

*Favourite of:*

*Carol McAuley, St. Mark the Evangelist, Prescott*

## **A Husband's Prayer**

Dear Lord, thank You for giving me, in holy marriage, my beloved wife \_\_\_\_\_.

Grant me the grace to be a good husband.

May I always be kind and gentle, loving and considerate.

Help me to lead a good life that will be an inspiration and help to her.

May we always live together in Your favour, ever doing Your will on earth,

and so merit to enjoy, together with You, the bliss of eternal happiness.

Amen.

*Favourite of:*

*Carol McAuley, St. Mark the Evangelist, Prescott*

## **Prayer for Couples**

Lord Jesus, grant that (*your spouse*) and I may have a true and understanding love for each other. Grant that we may grow with each other in faith and trust. Give us the grace to live with each other in peace and harmony. May we bear with one another's weaknesses and grow from each other's strengths. Help us to forgive one another's failings and grant us patience, kindness, cheerfulness and the spirit of placing the well-being of one another ahead of self. May the love which brought us together grow and mature with each passing year. Bring us ever closer to you through our love for each other. Amen.

*Favourite of:  
Mary Tudin, St. Joseph, Kingston*

## **Parent's Prayer**

Almighty God, we thank You for the children You have given us, that You have shared with us the power to bring new life into the world. We gladly accept the responsibility as parents, but at times we are frightened and unsure about our ability to guide them, to help them grow into fully mature persons. Father, we need Your help. Fill our hearts with faith and love and our minds with wisdom, so that we may lead our children to truth and to eternal life. Help us to make our home a centre of faith and love, an example of sharing and caring for each other, so that our children may grow in wisdom, age and grace before God and men. We ask this through Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Amen.

*Favourite of:  
Michelle Niefer, St. Mary's, Carleton Place*

## **Prayer for Homeless People**

*Carol Penner ([www.leadinginworship.com](http://www.leadinginworship.com))*

Hear our prayer today for all women and men, boys and girls who are homeless this day.

For those sleeping under bridges, on park benches, in doorways or bus stations.

For those who can only find shelter for the night but must wander in the daytime.

For families broken because they could not afford to pay the rent.

For those who have no relatives or friends who can take them in.

For those who have no place to keep possessions that remind them who they are.

For those who are afraid and hopeless.

For those who have been betrayed by our social safety net.

For all these people, we pray that You will provide shelter, security and hope.

We pray for those of us with warm houses and comfortable beds

that we not be lulled into complacency and forgetfulness.

Jesus, help us to see Your face in the eyes of every homeless person we meet.

Empower us to work for justice and peace through words and deeds,

and through the political means we have.

Give us open hearts to greet and meet the homeless people in our neighbourhoods.

In Your name we pray. Amen.

*Favourite of:  
Cathy Putman, St Mark, Prescott*

## **Prayer for those Living Alone**

*Franciscan Missions*

I live alone, dear Lord, stay by my side,  
In all my daily needs, please be my guide.  
Grant me good health, for that I pray  
To carry on my work from day to day  
Keep pure my thoughts, my every deed  
Let me be aware of my neighbours' need  
With loving heart and joyful mind.  
May I always be gentle, thoughtful and kind  
If sickness or accident should someday befall,  
Then humbly, Lord, hear my call.  
And when I'm feeling low or in despair.  
Lift up my heart and help me in prayer,  
I live alone, dear Lord, yet have no fear  
For I feel Your presence, ever near. Amen

*Favourite of:*

*Alice Laushway, St. Mark the Evangelist, Prescott  
Veronica Wemp, St. Anthony of Padua, Centreville  
St. Patrick / St. Mary council, Railton / Odessa*

## **A Prayer for Friends**

Guardian Angel watch over those whose names you  
read in my heart.  
Guard over them with every care and make their way  
easy and their labours fruitful.  
Dry their tears if they weep; sanctify their joys; raise  
their courage if they weaken; rest their hope if they lose  
heart, their health if they be ill, truth if they err,  
repentance if they fall. Amen.

*Favourite of:*

*St. Patrick / St. Mary council, Railton / Odessa*

## **Prayer for Those Who Feel Alone**

Dear Lord, I know that there are many people who feel they are alone.

A young mother, busy caring for her children, may often feel alone.

A teenager, surrounded by family and friends, may still feel alienated and alone.

There are others whose aloneness is more obvious- the widowed, the divorced or separated, those who have never married, the children who have recently moved away from their friends, or the college students, away from home for the first time.

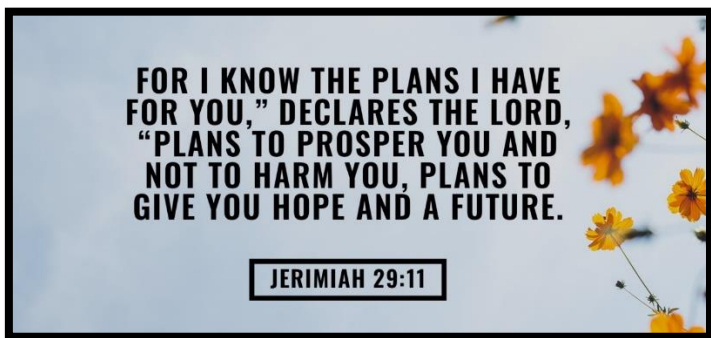
Ease the feelings of loneliness of these and all people, Lord. Be their companion, and strengthen them against feelings of insecurity or despair.

I ask You too, Lord, that I might become more aware of those around me who are feeling alone.

Help me to make that extra effort with a smile, or a kind word or gesture to help ease someone else's lonely times as so often others have reached out to me. Amen.

*Favourite of:*

*Jean Vroorman, St. Patrick's, Napanee*



*Favourite of: Lyne Tuepah, St. Mary's, Carleton Place*

## **Prayer for Our Members**

*Please say the prayer below, for each Member of our CWL Council on the specified day of the month. We know how powerful prayer is when directed with love.*

- 1. insert name of member on specified day of the month*
- 2. please pray DAILY for our Spiritual Advisor, Fr. (insert name)*

Almighty and eternal God, source of all unity, who desires to be with us. I come to You in humble petition. I ask that You keep my beloved Sister-in-the-League \_\_\_\_\_ in Your loving arms. May You bestow on her Your gifts of love and mercy and keep her close to You. Keep her safe, strengthen her faith and at the end of her journey on earth, bring her to eternal life with You.

As each of us strives to fulfill our CWL Mission - *to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service* – accompany her on this mission and bring it to fruition through her, for the good of our Church and our country.

We ask this through the intercession of our Patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel.

Amen.

*Author:  
Colleen Hill, St. Gregory the Great, Picton*

## **Farmer's Prayer of Thanksgiving**

I am a farmer and I know You well, Lord.  
I've seen Your miracles many times.  
Perhaps more than anyone else, I realize how much  
help You give to those of us who work Your soil,  
replenish Your earth, feed Your people.  
I know Your justice too. And Your mercy and Your  
forgiveness. And I am grateful.  
Thank you Lord for all You've done, and all You've  
helped me do.  
I am proud to be a farmer, and I am proudest of all to  
be a child of God.  
So bless us all, and keep us in Your service.

*Favourite of:  
Carol McAuley, St. Mark the Evangelist, Prescott*

## **Care for Our Common Home**

*Mary Ryan, CWL Past President,  
St. Dunstan Parish, Fredericton, New Brunswick*

Lord, season after season, You continue to renew the  
face of the earth, “For from the greatness and beauty of  
created things comes a corresponding perception of  
their Creator.” Teach us, Lord, as members of The  
Catholic Women’s League of Canada, to become  
attuned to our need to protect the beauty of our  
common home.

May our efforts lead us to sustain its natural order, so  
that, in the words of Pope Francis,  
Our heritage is never “deprived of physical contact with  
nature.”

*Favourite of:  
St. Joseph CWL Executive, St. Joseph, Kingston*



## **The Beautiful Hands of a Priest**

We need them in life's early morning,  
We need them again at its close,  
We feel their warm clasp of true friendship,  
We seek them when tasting life's woes,

At the altar, each day we behold them,  
And the hands of a king on his throne  
Are not equal to them in their greatness.  
Their dignity stands all alone:  
And when we are tempted and wander,  
To pathways of shame and of sin,  
It's the hand of a priest that will absolve us,  
Not once, but again and again.

And when we are taking life's partner,  
Other hands may prepare us a feast,  
But the hand that will bless and unite us  
Is the beautiful hand of a priest.

God bless them and keep them all holy,  
For the Host which fingers caress.  
When can a poor sinner do better  
Than to ask Him to guide thee and bless!

When the hour of death comes upon us,  
May our courage and strength be increased,  
By seeing raised over us in a blessing  
The beautiful hands of a priest.

*Favourite of:  
Wilma Turcotte, St. John the Evangelist /  
St. Philomena, Gananoque / Howe Island*

## **Prayer for Priests**

*Cardinal Dougherty, Archbishop of Philadelphia  
(1865-1951)*

Keep them, I pray Thee, dearest Lord,  
keep them, for they are Thine  
Thy priests whose lives burn out  
before Thy consecrated shrine.

Keep them, for they are in the world,  
though from the world apart;  
when earthly pleasures tempt, allure  
shelter them in Thy heart.

Keep them, and comfort them  
in hours of loneliness and pain,  
when all their lives of sacrifice  
for souls seems but in van.

Keep them, and O remember, Lord,  
they have no one but Thee,  
yet they have only human hearts,  
with human frailty.

Keep them as spotless as the Host,  
that daily they caress;  
their every thoughts and word and deed,  
Deign, dearest Lord, to bless.

*Favourite of:  
Anna Shane, St. Francis De Sales / Blessed Sacrament,  
Smiths Falls / Lombardy*