

in one communion and fellowship
in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord:
grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints
in all virtuous and godly living
that we may come to those inexpressible joys
that you have prepared for those who truly love you;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FORMS OF INTERCESSION AND COLLECTS

A very wide range of resources are available for those involved in preparing and leading the worship of Christian communities. What follows here are some general and seasonal forms of intercession drawn from the official provision.

Introduce the prayers carefully. Make sure everyone knows whether to sit, stand or kneel. Introduce the response to the prayers at the beginning, so that everyone is familiar with it. Speak clearly and audibly, and at a steady pace. If you use a sound amplification system in your church, make sure that it is on and that the person leading the prayers knows how to use it.

Some communities find the use of music in the intercessions helpful. You will find resources for sung intercessions in the books from Taize. If you are going to ask people to sing a response, make sure they know what it is and have practised it.

Think carefully about the use of silence in the intercessions.

The following responses may be used:

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Lord, hear us
Lord, graciously hear us.

The places for the response to be used are indicated by the letter 'R' in the text.

The Collect of the Day should normally be used when the Service of the Word is used as the Principal Service on a Sunday. However, the following Collects drawn from the official provision may also be useful. The Lord's Prayer follows the Collect.

8. All Saints' Day until Advent

Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,
let us make our prayer in the power of the Spirit,
looking to Jesus the pioneer of our faith.

That with the noble fellowship of the prophets
we may discern the signs of your kingdom in our midst,
we pray to you, O Lord: **R**

That with the glorious company of the apostles
we may proclaim your gospel throughout the world,
we pray to you, O Lord: **R**

That with the white-robed army of martyrs
we may be ready to suffer for the truth's sake,
we pray to you, O Lord: **R**

That with all who are anointed by your Spirit
we may bring good news to the poor and freedom to the oppressed,
we pray to you, O Lord: **R**

That with the saints in light
we may bind up the brokenhearted and comfort all who mourn,
we pray to you, O Lord: **R**

That within the whole company of Christ's pilgrim people
we may come to the inheritance of the saints in glory,
we pray to you, O Lord: **R**

Free prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

In communion with all the saints,
let us commend the world to the mercy and protection of God.

The Collect for the Day is said, or the following Collect may be used.

Almighty God,
you have knit together your elect

7. Ascension until Pentecost

Through Christ, who ever lives to make intercession for us,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lift up our hearts to the heavenly places
and inspire us to serve you as a royal priesthood: **R**

Let all peoples acknowledge your kingdom
and grant on earth the blessing of peace: **R**

Send down upon us the gift of the Spirit
and renew your Church with power from on high: **R**

May peace abound and righteousness flourish,
that we may vanquish injustice and wrong: **R**

Help us to proclaim the good news of salvation,
and grant us the needful gifts of your grace: **R**

Free prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

Let us commend the world, for which Christ prays,
to the mercy and protection of God.

The Collect for the Day is said, or the following Collect may be used.

O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FORMS OF INTERCESSION GENERAL

1.

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you promised through your Son
Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith.

Strengthen *N* our bishop and all your Church in the service of Christ
that those who confess your name may be united in your truth,
live together in your love and reveal your glory in the world. **R**

Bless and guide *Elizabeth our Queen*: give wisdom to all in authority
and direct this and every nation in the ways of justice and peace;
that we may honour one another, and seek the common good. **R**

Give grace to us, our families and friends, and to all our neighbours,
that we may serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us. **R**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit ;
give them courage and hope in their troubles;
and bring them the joy of your salvation. **R**

Hear us as we remember those who have died in the faith of Christ....;
according to your promises,
grant us with them a share in your eternal kingdom. **R**

Free prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of [*N and of*] all your saints, we commend
ourselves and the whole creation to your unfailing love.

The Collect for the Day is said, or the following Collect may be used.

Gladden our hearts, O God,
with the remembrance of the glorious resurrection
of your Son Jesus Christ;

give us this day such blessing
through our worship of you,
that the week to come
may be spent in awareness of your grave;
through Jesus Christ our lord. **Amen.**

2.
In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

O God, the creator and preserver of all, we pray for people in every kind
of need; make your ways known on earth, your saving health among all
nations (*especially*) **R**

We pray for the good estate of the catholic Church; guide and govern us
by your good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians
may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in
the bond of peace and in righteousness of life (*especially*) **R**

We commend to your fatherly goodness all those who are any ways
afflicted or distressed, in mind, body or estate; comfort and relieve them
in their need, give them patience in their sufferings, and bring good out
of their afflictions (*especially*) **R**

We remember those who have gone before us in the peace of Christ, and
we give you praise for all your faithful ones, with whom we rejoice in the
communion of saints (*especially*) **R**

Free prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

Let us commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to the mercy and protection of God.

The Collect for the Day is said, or the following Collect may be used.

Gladden our hearts, O God,
with the remembrance of the glorious resurrection
of your Son Jesus Christ;

grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

6. Easter

On this day that the Lord has made,
let us pray for the people he has redeemed.

That we may live as those who believe in the triumph of the cross: **R**

That all people may receive the good news of his victory: **R**

That those born to new life in the waters of baptism
may know the power of his resurrection: **R**

That those who suffer pain and anguish
may find healing and peace in the wounds of Christ: **R**

That in the undying love of Christ
we may be united with all who have died in the faith of Christ: **R**

Free prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

Let us commend the world, in which Christ rose from the dead,
to the mercy and protection of God.

The Collect for the Day is said, or the following Collect may be used.

God of Life,
who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son
to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
have delivered us from the power of our enemy:
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Have mercy on your people,
for whom your Son laid down his life: **R**

Bring healing and wholeness to people and nations,
and have pity on those torn apart by division: **R**

Strengthen all who are persecuted for your name's sake,
and deliver them from evil: **R**

Look in mercy upon all who suffer,
and hear those who cry out in pain and desolation: **R**

Bring comfort to the dying,
and gladden their hearts with the vision of your glory: **R**

Give rest to the departed
and bring them, with your saints, to glory everlasting: **R**

Free prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

Let us commend the world, for which Christ died,
to the mercy and protection of God.

The Collect for the Day is said, or the following Collect may be used.

(from the Fifth Sunday of Lent)

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(or, from Palm Sunday)

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the human race
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:

give us this day such blessing
through our worship of you,
that the week to come
may be spent in awareness of your grave;
through Jesus Christ our lord. **Amen.**

3.

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father, saying 'Lord, have mercy.'
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world,
for the welfare of the Holy Church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For *N* our bishop, for the leaders of our sister Churches,
and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For *Elizabeth our Queen*, for the leaders of the nations
and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For this community, or every city, town and village,
and for the people who live within them, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For good weather, and for abundant harvest for all to share,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For those who travel by land, air or water,
for the sick and the suffering [*for*]
for prisoners and captives, and for their safety, health and salvation,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all affliction, strife and need,
and for the absolution of our sins and offences, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

Remembering [...and] all who have gone before us in faith,
and in communion with [...and] all the saints,
we commit ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ our God;
to you, O Lord.

Free prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

Let us commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to the mercy and protection of God.

The Collect for the Day is said, or the following Collect may be used.

Gladden our hearts, O God,
with the remembrance of the glorious resurrection
of your Son Jesus Christ;
give us this day such blessing
through our worship of you,
that the week to come
may be spent in awareness of your grave;
through Jesus Christ our lord. **Amen.**

For the needy,
that they may not be forgotten,
nor the hope of the poor be taken away,
we pray to you, O Lord: **R**

For the sick in body, mind and spirit,
that they may know your power to heal,
we pray to you, O Lord: **R**

For the poor in spirit,
that they may inherit the kingdom of heaven
and see you face to face,
we pray to you, O Lord: **R**

Free prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

Let us commend the world, for which Christ suffered,
to the mercy and protection of God.

The Collect for the Day is said, or the following Collect may be used.

Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:
create and make in us new and contrite hearts
that we, worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

5. Passiontide

With faith and love and in union with Christ,
let us offer our prayer before the throne of grace.

That all who with Christ have entered the shadow of death
may rest in peace and rise in glory,
let us pray to the Lord: **R**

Free prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

Let us commend the world, to which Christ showed the way,
to the mercy and protection of God.

The Collect for the Day is said, or the following Collect may be used.

Lord our God,
who anointed your only Son
with the Spirit at the river Jordan,
and so hallowed the waters of new birth
to bring us forth to salvation:
keep us strong in the life of grace,
direct the ways of your people,
and open the door of your kingdom
to all who stand on the threshold of faith;
through Jesus our Messiah and Saviour. **Amen.**

4. Lent

In penitence and faith let us make our prayer to the Father
and ask for his mercy and grace.

For your holy people,
that they may triumph over evil and grow in grace,
we pray to you, O Lord: **R**
For candidates for baptism and confirmation,
that they may live by every word that proceeds from your mouth,
we pray to you, O Lord: **R**

For the leaders of the nations,
that you will guide them in the ways of mercy and truth,
we pray to you, O Lord: **R**

SEASONAL

1. Advent

Watchful at all times,
let us pray for strength to stand with confidence
before our Maker and Redeemer.

That God may bring in his kingdom with justice and mercy,
let us pray to the Lord: **R**

That God may establish among the nations
his sceptre of righteousness,
let us pray to the Lord: **R**

That we may seek Christ in the scriptures
and recognize him in the breaking of the bread,
let us pray to the Lord: **R**

That God may bind up the brokenhearted,
restore the sick
and raise up all who have fallen,
let us pray to the Lord: **R**

That the light of God's coming may dawn
on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death,
let us pray to the Lord: **R**

That, with all the saints in light,
we may shine forth as lights for the world,
let us pray to the Lord: **R**

Free prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

Let us commend the world, which Christ will judge,
to the mercy and protection of God.

The Collect for the Day is said, or the following Collect may be used.

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

2. Christmas

To us a child is born, to us a son is given;
let us pray for the people he came to save.

Wonderful Counsellor,
you order all things with your wisdom:
help the Church to reveal the mystery of your love
and fill her with the Spirit of truth: **R**

Mighty God,
the government is on your shoulders:
guide the leaders of the nations
and bring in your kingdom of justice and righteousness: **R**

Everlasting Father,
you call us to live together in unity:
protect by your mercy all your children,
bless our families and renew our communities: **R**

Prince of Peace,
you bring reconciliation through the cross:
by your healing power give to all who suffer
your gift of wholeness and peace: **R**

Free prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

Let us commend the world, to which Christ came,
to the mercy and protection of God.

The Collect for the Day is said, or the following Collect may be used.

Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in your own image
and yet more wonderfully restored us
through your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share in our humanity,
so we may share the life of his divinity;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

3. Epiphany

From the rising of the sun to its setting, let us pray to the Lord.

That the people of God in all the world
may worship in spirit and in truth,
let us pray to the Lord: **R**

That the Church may discover again that unity which
is the Father's will,
let us pray to the Lord: **R**

That the nations of the earth
may seek after the ways that make for peace,
let us pray to the Lord: **R**

That the whole creation, groaning in travail,
may be set free to enjoy the glorious liberty of the children of God,
let us pray to the Lord: **R**