

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY
EVENING PRAYER - Friday
24 January: SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES
Bishop and Doctor of the Church

INTERCESSIONS

We express before God our longing for unity and our desire to work together with our fellow Christians to hasten the day of unity. In faith we pray:

Response: You, Lord, are our light and our help.

1. For all who work and pray and suffer to bring Christians closer together: in faith we pray: **R.**
2. For a renewal in our own parish of a desire for Christian unity: in faith we pray: **R.**
3. For a new commitment to take seriously to heart all that Christians have shared for centuries: in faith we pray: **R.**
4. For a new commitment to take seriously to heart the new agreements Christians are now able to reach: in faith we pray: **R.**
5. For Christians in our area, that God may keep us faithful to the gospel of our Lord: in faith we pray: **R.**
6. For all who work to bring light and understanding where there have been darkness or discord: in faith we pray: **R.**
7. *Pause for those who wish to add an intercession*
8. Grant to the dead eternal life: in faith we pray: **R.**

We are united in our baptismal consecration as we pray the prayer that Jesus gave us: **OUR FATHER**

CONCLUDING PRAYER

We beseech your mercy, Lord,

As we offer you this evening praise:

Keep our hearts always engaged in meditating on your law,
And grant us the light and reward of eternal life.

We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. **R. Amen.**

BLESSING

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. **R. Amen.**

V. O God, come to our aid

R. O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia.

HYMN: DAY IS DONE

Day is done, but Love unfailing
Dwells ever here;
Shadows fall, but hope, prevailing,
Calms every fear.
Loving Father, none forsaking,
Take our hearts, of Love's own making,
Watch our sleeping, guard our waking,
Be always near!

Dark descends, but Light unending
Shines through our night;
You are with us, ever lending
New strength to sight;
One in love, your truth confessing,
One in hope of heaven's blessing,
May we see, in love's possessing,
Love's endless light!

PSALMODY

Ant. 1: Lord, keep my soul from death, my feet from stumbling.

Thanksgiving

Psalm 114 (116)

We must experience many hardships before we can enter the kingdom of God (Acts 14:22)

I love the Lórd for hé has héard*
the crý of my appéal;
for he túrned his éar to mé*
in the dáy when I cálléd him.

They surróunded me, the snáres of déath, †
with the ánguish of the tómb;*
they cáught me, sórrów and distréss.
I cálléd on the Lórd's name.*
O Lórd my Gód, delíver me!

How grácious is the Lórd, and júst;*
our Gód has compássiön.
The Lórd protécts the simple héarts;*
I was hélpless so he sáved me.

Turn báck, my sóul, to your rést*
for the Lórd has been góod;
he has képt my sóul from déath, †
my éyes from téars*
and my féet from stúmbling.

I will wálk in the présence of the Lórd*
in the lánd of the líving.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Ant: Lord, keep my soul from death, my feet from stumbling.

Ant. 2: My help shall come from the Lord who made heaven and earth.

God, the protector of his people **Psalm 120 (121)**
They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun or scorching wind will ever plague them (Rev 7:16)

I líft up my éyes to the móuntains:*
from whére shall come my hélp?
My hélp shall cóme from the Lórd*
who made héaven and éarth.

May he néver állow you to stúmble!*
Let him sléep not, your guárd.
Nó, he sleeps not nor slúmbers,*
Ísrael's guárd.

The Lórd is your guárd and your sháde;*
at your ríght side he stánds.
By dáy the sún shall not smíte you*
nor the móon in the night.

The Lórd will guárd you from évil,*
he will guárd your sóul.
The Lord will guárd your góing and cóming*
both nów and for éver.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Ant: My help shall come from the Lord who made heaven and earth.

Ant. 3: Your ways are just and true, King of all the ages.

Hymn of adoration

Canticle: Rev 15:3-4

Great and wonderful are your deeds,*
O Lord God the Almighty!
Just and true are your ways,*
O King of the ages!

Who shall not fear and glorify your name, O Lord?*For you alone are holy.
All nations shall come and worship you,*
For your judgements have been revealed.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Ant. Your ways are just and true, King of all the ages.

SCRIPTURE READING

Jas 3:17-18

The wisdom which comes from above is marked chiefly indeed by its purity, but also by its peacefulness; it is courteous and ready to be convinced, always taking the better part; it carries mercy with it, and a harvest of all that is good; it is uncensorious and without affectation. Peace is the seed-ground of holiness, and those who make peace will win its harvest.

SHORT RESPONSORY

R. This man became a teacher in the Church of God. **Repeat R.**

V. The Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding. **R.**
Glory be. **R.**

Magnificat ant. O holy doctor, Saint Francis de Sales, light of the Church, lover of the law of God, pray for us to the Son of God.

My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her lowliness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed.
The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him.
He puts forth his arm in strength and scatters the proud-hearted.
He casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly.
He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy,
The mercy promised to our fathers, to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Give praise to the Father Almighty, to His Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
To the Spirit who dwells in our hearts, both now and forever, Amen.

Magnificat ant. O holy doctor, Saint Francis de Sales, light of the Church, lover of the law of God, pray for us to the Son of God.