

Magnificat ant. Remember your mercy, O Lord; according to the promise you made to our fathers.

INTERCESSIONS

During this Christian Unity Octave the Church throughout the world is praying for that unity among Christians for which Jesus himself prayed before his departure from us. Let us join with all who are in prayer these days:

R. Lord graciously hear us.

1. That all who believe in Christ may come to realise that lack of unity among them is contrary to the saving plan of God. Lord, hear us. **R.**
2. That all believers in Christ may pray and work for that unity which will make the Church a light for the salvation of all the world. Lord, hear us. **R.**
3. That the ancient divisions among Christians of the East, in Egypt, Syria, Armenia and elsewhere may be healed through God's grace and human understanding. Lord, hear us. **R.**
4. That God may lead the Church of East and West into greater mutual understanding. Lord, hear us. **R.**
5. That God may heal the wounds and divisions of Christians in the West and lead all believers towards greater understanding and cooperation. Lord, hear us. **R.**
6. That while divisions in matters of faith continue, we may all work closely together in the promotion of peace and justice. Lord, hear us. **R.**
7. That we may all be aware that divisions have come through our sins and our pride, and that our prayer for unity may be accompanied by humble confession of our guilt. Lord, hear us. **R.**
8. *Pause for those who wish to add an intercession* **R.**
9. Father, you have promised us a share in your Son's resurrection on the last day: remember those who have gone before us on the path to eternal life. Lord, hear us. **R.**

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life. Teach us to heed them always as we pray today in those words that Jesus taught us: **OUR FATHER...**

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Father,
Look with love on your people
And pour out upon them the gifts of your Spirit.
May they constantly grow in the love of truth.
May they study and work together
For perfect unity among Christians.
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.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY EVENING PRAYER - Friday

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, sórrow 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 compásson.
The Lórd protéct's the simple héarts;*
I was hélpless so he sáved me.

Turn bák, 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 guard.
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 níght.

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

1 Cor 2:7-10a

The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him. These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit.

SHORT RESPONSORY

R. Christ died for our sins, that he might offer us to God. **Repeat R.**

V. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life. **R. Glory be. R.**

Magnificat ant. Remember your mercy, O Lord; according to the promise you made to our fathers.

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.