

## **The Solemn Intercessions**

*(The introductions to prayers by Sr Norbert and Sr Lucy)*

### **1) For Holy Church**

Let us pray, dearly beloved, for the holy Church of God, that our God and Lord be pleased to give her peace, to guard her and to unite her throughout the whole world and grant that, leading our life in tranquillity and quiet, we may glorify God the Father almighty.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
who in Christ revealed your glory to all the nations,  
watch over the works of your mercy,  
that your Church, spread throughout all the world,  
may persevere with steadfast faith in confessing your name.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **2) For the Pope**

Let us pray also for our most Holy Father Pope **N.**, that our God and Lord, who chose him for the Order of Bishops, may keep him safe and unharmed for the Lord's holy Church, to govern the holy People of God.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
by whose decree all things are founded,  
look with favour on our prayers  
and in your kindness protect the Pope chosen for us,  
that, under him, the Christian people,  
governed by you their maker,  
may grow in merit by reason of their faith.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **3) For all orders and degrees of the faithful**

Let us pray also for our Bishop **N.**,  
for all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons of the Church  
and for the whole of the faithful people.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church  
is sanctified and governed,  
hear our humble prayer for your ministers,  
that, by the gift of your grace,  
all may serve you faithfully.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **4) For catechumens**

Let us pray also for (our) catechumens,  
that our God and Lord  
may open wide the ears of their inmost hearts  
and unlock the gates of his mercy,  
that, having received forgiveness of all their sins  
through the waters of rebirth,  
they, too, may be one with Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
who make your Church ever fruitful with new offspring,  
increase the faith and understanding of (our) catechumens,  
that, reborn in the font of Baptism,  
they may be added to the number of your adopted children.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **5) For the unity of Christians**

Let us pray also for all our brothers and sisters who believe in Christ,  
that our God and Lord may be pleased,  
as they live the truth,  
to gather them together and keep them in his one Church.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
who gather what is scattered  
and keep together what you have gathered,  
look kindly on the flock of your Son,  
that those whom one Baptism has consecrated  
may be joined together by integrity of faith  
and united in the bond of charity.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **6) For the Jewish people**

Let us pray also for the Jewish people,  
to whom the Lord our God spoke first,  
that he may grant them to advance in love of his name  
and in faithfulness to his covenant.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
who bestowed your promises on Abraham and his descendants,  
graciously hear the prayers of your Church,  
that the people you first made your own  
may attain the fullness of redemption.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **7) For those who do not believe in Christ**

Let us pray also for those who do not believe in Christ,  
that, enlightened by the Holy Spirit,  
they, too, may enter on the way of salvation.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
grant to those who do not confess Christ  
that, by walking before you with a sincere heart,  
they may find the truth  
and that we ourselves, being constant in mutual love  
and striving to understand more fully the mystery of your life,  
may be made more perfect witnesses to your love in the world.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **8) For those who do not believe in God**

Let us pray also for those who do not acknowledge God,  
that, following what is right in sincerity of heart,  
they may find the way to God himself.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
who created all people  
to seek you always by desiring you  
and, by finding you, come to rest,  
grant, we pray,  
that, despite every harmful obstacle,  
all may recognize the signs of your fatherly love  
and the witness of the good works  
done by those who believe in you,  
and so in gladness confess you,  
the one true God and Father of our human race.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **9) For those in public office**

Let us pray also for those in public office,  
that our God and Lord  
may direct their minds and hearts according to his will  
for the true peace and freedom of all.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
in whose hand lies every human heart  
and the rights of peoples,  
look with favour, we pray,  
on those who govern with authority over us,  
that throughout the whole world,  
the prosperity of peoples,  
the assurance of peace,  
and freedom of religion  
may through your gift be made secure.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **10) For those in tribulation**

Let us pray, dearly beloved,  
to God the Father almighty,  
that he may cleanse the world of all errors,  
banish disease, drive out hunger,  
unlock prisons, loosen fetters,  
granting to travellers safety, to pilgrims return,  
health to the sick, and salvation to the dying.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
comfort of mourners, strength of all who toil,  
may the prayers of those who cry out in any tribulation  
come before you,  
that all may rejoice,  
because in their hour of need  
your mercy was at hand.

**Amen.**

*Additional intention decreed by the bishops of England and Wales*

**11) For the afflicted in time of Pandemic**

Let us pray also for all those who suffer  
the consequences of the current pandemic,  
that God the Father may grant health to the sick,  
strength to those who care for them,  
comfort to families and salvation to all the victims who have died.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
only support of our human weakness,  
look with compassion upon the sorrowful condition of your children  
who suffer because of this pandemic;  
relieve the pain of the sick,  
give strength to those who care for them,  
welcome into your peace those who have died  
and, throughout this time of tribulation,  
grant that we may all find comfort in your merciful love.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**