

Father,
 you have given all peoples
 one common origin,
 and your will is to gather them
 as one family in yourself.
 Fill the hearts of all women
 with the fire of your love
 and the desire to ensure
 justice for all.

Hear the prayers offered to you
 by women throughout the world
 for an end to all division
 and a human society
 built on love and peace.

RM 822 (adapted)

*Father
 since your mercy has been revealed
 in the tenderness of your Son Jesus Christ,
 who said to his disciples:
 'Suffer the little children to come unto me',
 we pray that your Church
 may be a secure home
 where all children and vulnerable adults
 are brought closer to your Beloved Son.*

*May all those who have been abused
 physically, emotionally and sexually
 by your ministers,
 be respected and accompanied by
 tangible gestures of justice and reparation
 so that they may feel healed
 with the balm of your compassion.*

*We ask this through Jesus Christ our
 Lord. Amen.*

Pontifical Commission

PENITENTS AND WANDERERS

*Come to me, all who labour
 and are heavy laden,
 and I will give you rest.*

Matthew 11:28

Lord,
 hear the prayers of those
 who call on you,
 forgive the sins of those
 who confess to you,
 and in your merciful love
 give us your pardon
 and your peace.

RM 846

*Father of mercies
 and God of all consolation,
 you do not wish the sinner to die
 but to be converted and live.*

Bring back the wanderer,
 strengthen the penitent.
 Bless your people,
 that they may turn from their sins
 and live for you alone.

cf Rite of Penance 117

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The leaflet is one a series of resources produced to support the Cycle of Prayer. They can be downloaded from www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Calendar/Cycle.

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**Liturgy
 Office**
 ENGLAND
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BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF
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Lent

Because the joy and hope, the struggle and anguish of the people of this age and especially of the poor and those suffering in any way are the joy and hope, the struggle and anguish of Christ's disciples, the Church prays not just for its own needs but for the salvation of the world.



The Bishops of England and Wales invite you to join in the Cycle of Prayer

Please pray for the current intentions, both with your parish community and in your own personal prayers. On some days these intentions will be included in the Prayer of the Faithful at Mass. Also it is hoped that vigils and other prayer services will be held.

This leaflet is one of a series which offers a selection of prayers and texts on the intentions of the Cycle of Prayer which may be used in private or public worship.

Throughout Lent we are asked to pray for these intentions

LENT

Candidates for the Sacraments
especially on the Sundays of Lent

The Needy and Hungry of the World
*especially on Lent Fast Day
(Friday of the first week in Lent)*

Women's World Day of Prayer
(first Friday in March)

Survivors of Sexual Abuse
(Friday of the fifth week of Lent)

Penitents and Wanderers

CANDIDATES FOR THE SACRAMENTS

*They are happy,
whose God is the Lord,
the people he has chosen as his own.*
Ps 32:12

God saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Titus 3:5-7

Lord enlighten your chosen ones with the word of life.

Give them a new birth in the waters of baptism, and make them living members of the Church.

RM 755

Lord, may the example of our faith and love help your chosen ones on their way to salvation.

RM 754

In the liturgy and liturgical catechesis of Lent the reminder of baptism already received or the preparation for its reception, as well as the theme of repentance, renew the entire community along with those being prepared to celebrate the paschal mystery in which each of the elect will share through the sacraments of initiation.

RCIA 125

'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

Matthew 25:38-39

*Lord,
may we see you in the hungry and the needy.
Keep us aware of
our Christian duty
to give our sisters and brothers
a just share of what is ours.*

cf RM 834

All powerful Father,
God of goodness,
you provide for all
your creation.
Give us an effective love
for our sisters and brothers
who suffer from lack of food
or other necessities.
Help us to do all we can
to relieve their hunger
and supply their needs,
that they may serve you
with carefree hearts.

RM 834 (adapted)

THE NEEDY AND HUNGRY OF THE WORLD