

Prayer to Change the Culture (con't)

We repent of the ongoing bloodshed in our land,
And for ever daring to think that we can deprive the
unborn of protection but keep it for ourselves.

We resolve that we will work more generously to
advance your Kingdom.

We resolve that we will advance the cause of
righteous candidates for public office,
And that we will be more afraid of offending you by
our silence than of offending the IRS by our speech.

We resolve that we will declare boldly to our people
that no public official who fails to respect the life of a
little baby can be trusted to respect our lives.

Father, today we rejoice, because we are not simply
working for victory - we are working from victory.
The victory of life, truth, and grace has been won by
your Son's death and Resurrection.

Today we hear his voice again.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and
the End. I hold the keys of death and of hell.

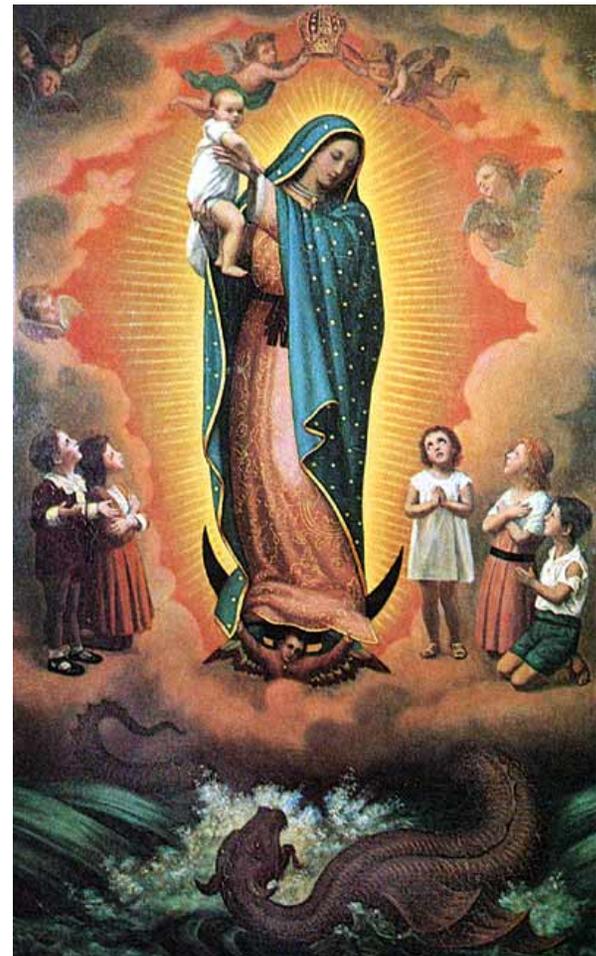
Behold, I make all things new."

Father, we rejoice that we have been made new,
And as we work to renew our culture
We look forward to the great day of his coming,
When every eye will see him,
even of those who pierced him,
And every knee shall bend, and every tongue
confess, to the glory of God the Father,
JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!

In his Blessed Name we pray. Amen!



Memorial Service



Opening Prayer

Father of all Life, our hearts break as we remember our youngest and smallest brothers and sisters, who have died since the abortion holocaust was unleashed.

In a particular way, we remember those children who were slain this week and whose bodies lay within the walls of our community abortion centers in “medical waste” bins.

We commend them to Your mercy.

Our hearts break for their parents for lost joy that these children could have brought to them.

Our hearts break for the abortion workers whose salvation is in jeopardy because of their work here.

We pray for all those who remain silent about this holocaust in our neighborhoods.

We pray that our presence here will serve as a witness to the humanity of our youngest brothers and sisters.

We pray that it will serve as a testimony that we are responsible for them.

We pray that we be witnesses to the dignity of life.

Give us the grace to confront the evil of abortion and eliminate it.

May we see the day when all people who look upon this place will remember abortion only as a thing of the past, and may praise You forever for the victory of life.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Prayer for Changing the Culture

(by Fr. Frank Pavone, M.E.V.)

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we come into your presence in His name.

We have heard the voice of your Son,
And therefore we can make our voices heard.

We have been justified in the blood of your Son,
And therefore we can oppose every form of
injustice.

We have repented of our sins,
And therefore we can lead the sinner to repentance.

We have done battle with the power of evil,
And therefore we can have compassion on those
still within its grip.

We have been freed from the kingdom of darkness,
And therefore we can bear witness to your Kingdom
of Light.

Lord, as we come before you today, we repent, we
resolve, and we rejoice.

We repent of every instance in which fear has made
us silent when we should have spoken.

Modern Coventry Carol

Lullay, you little tiny child,
Bye, bye, lully, lullay.
Lullay, you little tiny child,
Bye, bye, lully, lullay.

O mothers, dear, what caused your fear
that you came here that day?
Here, out of sight, your children's plight
Brutally to be slain.

O Christians, too, what may we do
So we preserve this day?
These poor children, betrayed again,
Bye, bye, lully, lullay.

For you, we send, O poor children,
Blessings and tears today;
At your parting, we'll mourn and sing,
Bye, bye, lully, lullay.

Opening Song

What Wondrous Love (Alexander Means)

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul.
What wondrous love is this, O my soul?
What wondrous love is this,
that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb, who is the Great I AM,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing.
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be.
And through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on!
And through eternity, I'll sing on.

Prayers for a Vigil

(Fr. Terry Gensemer, Charismatic Episcopal Church)

It is appropriate that the Pre-born's Christian family and friends come together for prayers since these innocent children have been deprived of any Christian service, including Baptism or a funeral.

Collect:

Lord God, the days allotted to each of us are in your fatherly care.

Though we are saddened that these brothers and sisters were with us for so short a time, we entrust them to You with confidence. May they live radiant and forever young in the happiness of your Kingdom.

Father of all consolation from Whom nothing is hidden, You know our faith who mourn the deaths of these children. May we find comfort in knowing that they are entrusted to Your loving care.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You, One God, forever and ever.

Amen

O Loving God

Sung to the tune of "Danny Boy", Londonderry Tune

O Loving God, we send your children home to you,
Home to a place of everlasting love,
To join there with the angel choirs and blessed saints,
and to behold your glorious holy face.

Refrain:

Receive their souls and let eternal light shine,
eternal light forever on their souls,
so they may be forever in your dwelling place,
and be at rest in peace until we meet them there.

O Loving God, have mercy and forgive us
Our abandonment of these children
and may your grace and love enfold them evermore
so they may dwell in paradise at last.

Refrain:

Receive their souls and let eternal light shine,
eternal light forever on their souls,
so they may be forever in your dwelling place,
and be at rest in peace until we meet them there.

Prayer of Commendation (con't)

Into your hands, O Lord,
we commend our brothers and sisters.
May angels surround them, and saints welcome
them in peace.

Into your hands, O Lord,
we commend our brothers and sisters.

Almighty God, our Father in heaven,
before whom live all who die in the Lord:
Receive our brothers and sisters into
the courts of your heavenly dwelling place.
Let their hearts and souls now ring out in joy to you,
O Lord, the living God,
and the God of those who live.
This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Repentance

Let us confess our sins unto Almighty God.
Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from your ways
like lost sheep,
we have followed too much the devices
and desires of our own hearts,
we have offended against your holy laws,
we have left undone those things
which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things
which we ought not to have done.
But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
spare those who confess their faults,
restore those who are penitent,
according to your promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesus our Lord;
and grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly,
righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

Old Testament – Jer 1:4-8 God's Call

The word of the Lord came to me, saying,

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
before you were born I set you apart;

I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

“Alas, Sovereign Lord,” I said, “I do not know how to
speak; I am too young.”

But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’
You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever
I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with
you and will rescue you,” declares the Lord.

Intercession:

Aware of our own weakness and God's strength,
let us pray:

Response: Strengthen us, Lord!

Keep us faithful to you in temptation and fear. **R:**

Protect all those whose faith is mocked by unbelievers.

R:

Awaken us from our apathy or timidity. **R:**

Prayer of Commendation

It was our Lord Jesus himself who said,
"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,
and I will give you rest."

Let us pray, then, for our brothers and sisters the
Pre-born, that they may rest from their labors, and
enter into the light of God's eternal Sabbath rest.

Receive, O Lord, your servants,
for they return to you.

Into your hands, O Lord,
we commend our brothers and sisters.
Wash them in the holy font of everlasting life, and
clothe them in their heavenly wedding garments.

Into your hands, O Lord,
we commend our brothers and sisters.
May they hear your words of invitation,
"Come, you blessed of my Father."

Into your hands, O Lord,
we commend our brothers and sisters.
May they gaze upon you, Lord, face to face,
and taste the blessedness of perfect rest.

Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

(Thompson)

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me.
See, on the portals, He's waiting and watching,
watching for you and for me.

Refrain: Come home, come home.
You who are weary, come home.
Earnestly, tenderly Jesus is calling,
Calling for you to come home!

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not His mercies,
mercies for you and for me.

Refrain: Come home, come home.
You who are weary, come home.
Earnestly, tenderly Jesus is calling,
Calling for you to come home!

O, for the wonderful love He has promised,
promised for you and for me!
Though we have sinned, He has mercy and pardon,
pardon for you and for me.

Refrain: Come home, come home.
You who are weary, come home.
Earnestly, tenderly Jesus is calling,
Calling for you to come home!

Psalm 2 God's Promise to His Anointed

Why do the nations conspire,
and the peoples plot in vain?
The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the Lord and his anointed, saying,
"Let us burst their bonds asunder,
and cast their cords from us."

He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the Lord has them in derision.
Then he will speak to them in his wrath,
and terrify them in his fury, saying,
"I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill."
I will tell of the decree of the Lord:
He said to me, "You are my son;
today I have begotten you.

Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,
and the ends of the earth your possession.
You shall break them with a rod of iron,
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.
Serve the Lord with fear,
with trembling kiss his feet,
or he will be angry, and you will perish in the way;
for his wrath is quickly kindled.
Happy are all who take refuge in him.

**New Testament – Phil 4:4-9
Paul’s Exhortation**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Intercession:

With trust in God for His mercy, let us bring our sins before the Lord who gladly forgives.

Response: O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

For words and deeds of impatience and anger, pardon us, O Lord. **R:**

For words and deeds of selfish grasping, pardon us, O Lord **R:**

For those sins of which we are most ashamed, pardon us, O Lord **R:**

**Gospel – Matthew 18:1-5,
True Greatness**

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” He called a child, whom he put among them, and said, “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones; for, I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven.