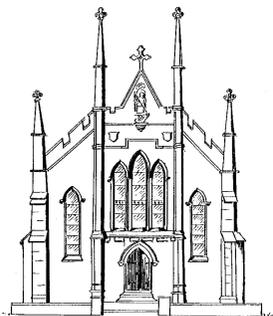


DAILY PRAYERS CHRISTMAS OCTAVE YEAR B



HOLY TRINITY & ST GEORGE
CATHOLIC CHURCH
Serving Kendal and Sedbergh

www.kendalcatholicchurch.uk

Sunday – The Holy Family (Year B)

Collect:

O God, who were pleased to give us
the shining example of the Holy Family,
graciously grant that we may imitate them
in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity,
and so, in the joy of Your house,
delight one day in eternal rewards.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: Luke 2:22-40

Today's prayer:

O Holy Family of Nazareth,
make our family one with you.
Help us to be instruments of peace.
Grant that love, strengthened by grace,
may prove mightier
than all the weaknesses and trials
through which our families sometimes pass.
May we always have God at the centre of our hearts and homes
until we are all one family,
happy and at peace
in our true home with you. Amen.

Holy Family of Nazareth, bless, guide and protect our family

Monday – The Holy Innocents

Collect:

O God, whom the Holy Innocents confessed
and proclaimed on this day,
not by speaking but by dying,
grant, we pray,
that the faith in You which we confess with our lips
may also speak through our manner of life.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: Matthew 2:13-18

Today's prayer:

O God, we remember today,
the slaughter of the holy innocents of Bethlehem by King Herod.
Receive, we pray,
into the arms of Your mercy all innocent victims;
and by Your great might
frustrate the designs of evil tyrants
and establish Your rule of justice, love, and peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

All you Holy Innocents, Pray for us

Tuesday – St Thomas Becket

Martyr, Patron of parish clergy

Collect:

O God, who gave the Martyr Saint Thomas Becket
the courage to give up his life for the sake of justice,
grant, through his intercession,
that, renouncing our life
for the sake of Christ in this world,
we may find it in heaven.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: Matthew 16:24-27

Today's prayer:

Great Saint Thomas, Bishop, Priest, Martyr,
and sacrificial lamb for the Faith, pray for us.
You who were a fearless Shepherd of the people of God,
pray for us to have courage in all the circumstances of our lives,
to living according to the light that your example gives to our consciences.
May we be faithful unto death, as you were.
May we always seek God's Holy will in our lives.
Saint Thomas, many were brought to you for healing
both in your lifetime and especially after your martyrdom,
please hear and accept my prayers for my loved ones.
St Thomas pray for us that in Him, and with Him,
we may live and move and have our being. Amen.

St Thomas of Canterbury, Pray for us

Wednesday – Sixth Day of the Christmas Octave

Collect:

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that the newness of the Nativity in the flesh
of Your Only Begotten Son may set us free,
for ancient servitude holds us bound
beneath the yoke of sin.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: Luke 2:36-40

Today's prayer:

Praise to You, Lord God!
You have become one of us.
You have become a human being,
while still retaining all Your power and holiness as God!
You, O Lord, made the journey of the unborn child.
You joined all unborn and newborn children to You!
From the beginning of history, O Lord,
You were the Creator of every human life.
Now, with Christmas,
You join Yourself in an unthinkable way with the life You created.
Let this Christmas, O God,
fill all of us with awe and wonder
at how close human life is to You.
Cleanse the world of all that tarnishes
and rejects this gift.
Purify our hearts of all that fears this gift.
Let our Christmas joy be the joy of welcoming every human life! Amen!

Thursday – Seventh Day of the Christmas Octave

Pope St Sylvester

Collect:

Almighty ever-living God,
who in the Nativity of Your Son
established the beginning and fulfillment of all religion,
grant, we pray, that we may be numbered
among those who belong to Him,
in whom is the fullness of human salvation.
Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel: John 1:1-18

Today's prayer:

Saint Sylvester, as a St Peter,
you gained the liberty of Christians
after three centuries of persecution and shared with them
the happiness of being able to publicly profess their faith in Jesus Christ.
You proclaimed His divinity in the face of powerful opposition
and worked tirelessly to preserve the unity of all who acknowledge
Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.
Grant your protection especially
to those who are unjustly deprived of their freedom,
to those who are victims of oppression and torture,
to those whose human and civil rights are trampled upon.
Intercede for them, that God may be
their refuge and strength in all their trials.
Help us, after your example, to have the courage of our convictions
and never betray our faith.
Be mindful of us and inspire us to imitate your holiness of life.

Saint Sylvester, pray for us.

Friday – Mary, Mother of God

Collect:

O God, who through the fruitful virginity of Blessed Mary bestowed on the human race the grace of eternal salvation, grant, we pray, that we may experience the intercession of her, through whom we were found worthy to receive the author of life, our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son. Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: Luke 2:16-21

Today's prayer:

Mary, Virgin and Mother, you who, moved by the Holy Spirit, welcomed the Word of Life in the depths of your humble Faith: As you gave yourself completely to the Eternal One, help us to say our own "Yes" to the urgent call, as pressing as ever, to proclaim the Good News of Jesus. Filled with Christ's presence, you brought joy to John the Baptist, making him exult in the womb of his mother. Brimming over with joy, you sang of the great things done by God. Standing at the foot of the cross with unyielding Faith, you received the joyful comfort of the Resurrection and joined the disciples in awaiting the Spirit, so that the evangelizing Church might be born. Obtain for us now a new ardour born of the Resurrection that we may bring to all the Gospel of life, which triumphs over death. Give us a holy courage to seek new paths, that the gift of unfading beauty may reach every man and woman. Virgin of listening and contemplation, Mother of love, Bride of the eternal wedding feast, pray for the Church, whose pure icon you are, that she may never be closed in on herself or lose her passion for establishing God's Kingdom. Star of the New Evangelization, help us to bear radiant witness to communion, service, ardent and generous Faith, Justice and love of the poor, that the joy of the Gospel may reach to the ends of the earth, illuminating even the fringes of our world. Mother of the living Gospel, wellspring of happiness for God's little ones, pray for us.

Pope Francis

Saturday – St Basil the Great and St Gregory Nazianzen

Bishops and Doctors of the Church

Collect:

O God, who were pleased to give light to Your Church by the example and teaching of the Bishops Saints Basil and Gregory, grant, we pray, that in humility we may learn Your truth and practice it faithfully in charity. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: Matthew 23:8-12

Today's prayer:

Lord, You make all things new
You bring hope alive in our hearts
And cause our Spirits to be born again.
Thank You for this New Year
For all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us
A mighty flame
So that in our time, many will see the wonders of God
And live forever to praise Your glorious Name. Amen.

St Basil and St Gregory, Pray for us