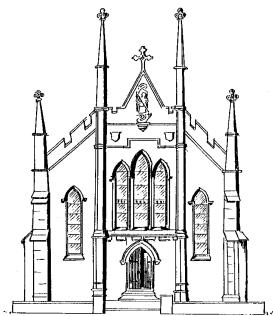


DAILY PRAYERS

THE HOLY FAMILY



**HOLY TRINITY & ST GEORGE
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
Serving Kendal and Sedbergh

www.kendalcatholicchurch.uk

Sunday – The Holy Family (Year A)

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: Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

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 – St Thomas of Canterbury

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:

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!

Tuesday – The 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!

Wednesday – The Seventh Day of the Christmas Octave

Pope St Sylvester

patron saint of the Sylvestrine Benedictines and the so very popular chivalric order of the Militia Aurata, or Militia of the Golden Spur – it seems!

Collect:

Almighty ever-living God,
who in the Nativity of Your Son
established the beginning and fulfilment 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, a successor of 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.

Thursday – 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:

Father, source of light in every age,
the virgin conceived and bore Your Son
Who is called Wonderful God,
Prince of Peace.
May her prayer,
the gift of a mother's love,
be Your people's joy through all ages.
May her response,
born of a humble heart,
draw Your Spirit to rest on Your people.
Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary: And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.
Hail Mary...

Behold the handmaid of the Lord: Be it done unto me according to Thy word.
Hail Mary...

And the Word was made Flesh: And dwelt among us.
Hail Mary...

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God,
that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech You, O Lord, Your grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, Your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection, through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen

Friday – St Basil the Great & St Gregory Nazianzan

Together, they are honoured as patrons of various groups:

St Basil of hospital administrators, those seeking guidance in monastic life,

St Gregory of scholars and students of theology

Collect:

Cast Your kindly light upon Your faithful, Lord, we pray,
and with the splendour of Your glory
set their hearts ever aflame,
that they may never cease to acknowledge their Savior
and may truly hold fast to him.

Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: John 1:19-28

Today's prayer:

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,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

St Basil the Great, Pray for us

St Gregory Nazianzan, Pray for us

Saturday – before the Epiphany

Collect:

Almighty ever-living God,
who were pleased to shine forth with new light
through the coming of your Only Begotten Son,
grant, we pray,
that, just as he was pleased to share our bodily form
through the childbearing of the Virgin Mary,
so we, too, may one day merit
to become companions in his kingdom of grace.
Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: Jn 1: 29-34

Today's prayer:

Glory to You Lord God,
almighty God and Father,
we give You thanks and praise You for Your glory
and rejoice in the birth of Your incarnate Son.
Cradled in a manger He sustains the world with His love
and nourishes us with the gift of Himself,
for He is the Bread of Life, who has come down from Heaven
to live in the midst of His people.
Open our hearts to His presence in our lives
and send us out to share the good news of salvation He brings.
We ask this through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.