

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: LENT, YEAR A

The Prayers of the People provided for the Season of Lent have been composed to echo or complement words and images from the scripture passages assigned for Year A of the Revised Common Lectionary. Congregations engaging in "Becoming the Story We Tell" will find them of particular support. These prayers may be used "as is," or adapted according to local need.

The response suggested for the prayers remains the same for each Sunday, with the exception of Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion. It is hoped that the words will be readily committed to memory, whether said or sung.

For congregations wanting to use a sung refrain, #769 in Common Praise (1998) is recommended. It is an accessible refrain that uses the congregational response suggested in the prayers below.

It is recommended that only the response for the Prayers of the People be printed in the worship leaflet or provided in PowerPoint slides.

Intercessors should prepare for The Prayers of the People well before the Liturgy to ensure any particular names or places to be included are identified.

Even if no one in the congregation is a candidate for baptism at the Paschal Triduum (The Three Days of Christian Passover, which extends from the evening of Maundy Thursday to Easter Sunday in the evening) or during the Season of Easter, prayers for those preparing for baptism should be included throughout Lent. The same holds true for petitions offered for those making an intentional journey of baptismal renewal over this Lenten season.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

First Sunday of Lent, Year A

March 5, 2017

That we might become the story we tell,
trusting in God's steadfast love,
and guiding home to God's side those who have wandered,
let us pray to the Lord as we sing/say,
"Remember, O Lord, your faithfulness and love."
"Remember, O Lord, your faithfulness and love."

For all followers of Christ throughout the world,
praying especially for The Church in Marathwada, North India,
and its bishop, Madhukar Arama.

(allow time for silent prayer)

That we may be nourished by the Word of God each day
and strengthened for life's journey by the Bread of Life,
let us pray to the Lord. */R/*

For this congregation and parish,
and for the other parishes of this Diocese,
especially the Parish of St. Joseph and St. George,
its Incumbent, Mr. Pat Brown,
and The Rev. Rosalie Goos, Honorary Assistant.

(allow time for silent prayer)

That the prayer, fasting, and almsgiving of Lent
may bring forth a new springtime of faith in our lives,
let us pray to the Lord: */R/*

For the nations and peoples of the earth, especially *N.*
and for all who struggle with attractions to wealth, power, and control.

(allow time for silent prayer)

And that we may be led by the Spirit
to worship God alone, and serve only him,
let us pray to the Lord: */R/*

For all who have been chosen for the Easter sacraments,
and for those making an intentional journey of baptismal renewal,
especially N.,

(allow time for silent prayer)

That God will draw them closer
and help them turn toward all that is holy and good,
let us pray to the Lord: */R/*

For all who have no choice but to fast every day,
for homeless children, refugees, and victims of war and natural disasters.
For the sick and suffering known to the members of this congregation,
especially N.,

(allow time for silent prayer)

That our Lenten fasting may make our thoughts more aware of them,
our hearts and hands more generous toward them,
let us pray to the Lord: */R/*

Let us remember the dead, *especially N.,*

(allow time for silent prayer)

and that God's Spirit will bear up all who mourn,
let us pray to the Lord: */R/*

The Presiding Celebrant or Intercessor concludes the Prayers of the People with the following Collect:

God of mercy,
your word was the sure defense of Jesus in his time of testing.
Minister to us in the wilderness of our temptation,
that we who have been set free from sin by Christ
may serve you well into life everlasting.
We ask this in his name.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Second Sunday of Lent, Year A

March 12, 2017

God is able to do all that God has promised.

Therefore, let us offer ourselves in Christ through prayer as we sing/say,
“Remember, O Lord, your faithfulness and love.”

“Remember, O Lord, your faithfulness and love.”

Faithful God, in whom our future rests secure,
we pray for the church throughout the world.

We pray especially for the witness and work of the Kenyan Dioceses of
Maseno South, under the leadership of Bishop Francis Abiero,
and Maseno West, under the leadership of Bishop Joseph Wasonga.

We pray, too, for the congregations of Manitoulin Island,
under the leadership of their Incumbent, The Rev. Aidan Armstrong,
and supported by The Rev. Canon Bain Peever, Honorary Assistant.

(allow time for silent prayer)

That your people may be a blessing to all nations,
we offer ourselves in Christ: **/R/**

God who gives life to the dead
and calls into existence things that do not exist,

We pray for all those preparing to be born of water and the Spirit
at this year’s Easter celebration, *especially N.*,

We pray, too, for those making an intentional journey of baptismal renewal,
especially N.

(allow time for silent prayer)

That their eyes may behold the Kingdom of God,
we offer ourselves in Christ: **/R/**

God our promised land, in whom all peoples may find a home,
we pray for refugees,

and for all who journey in the hope of security and freedom.

(silent prayer)

That the citizens of earth, especially those entrusted with power and wealth,
may render the mercy you desire, we offer ourselves in Christ: **/R/**

God our hope, source of blessing for every nation,
we pray for all who name themselves children of Abraham:
the people of Judaism, Islam, and Christianity.

(silent prayer)

And that all people may yearn for, and seek your peace,
we offer ourselves in Christ: **/R/**

All-seeing God, whose embrace is as wide as the universe,
direct your compassionate gaze
upon the marginalized, the sick, and all who suffer, especially *N*.

(silent prayer)

That all in need may know you as their guard and their shade,
we offer ourselves in Christ: **/R/**

God our keeper, we remember before you those who have died, especially *N*.

(silent prayer)

And as we give thanks that you watch over
our going out and our coming in, now and always,
we offer ourselves in Christ: **/R/**

The Presiding Celebrant or Intercessor concludes the Prayers of the People with the following Collect:

God of Sarah and Abraham,
long ago you embraced your people in covenant
and promised them your blessing.
Strengthen us in faith so that,
with those who journey with you in every age,
we may proclaim your deliverance
to generations yet unborn.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
our hope and our home.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Third Sunday of Lent, Year A

March 19, 2017

Jesus Christ is the living water that quenches all thirst.
Therefore, let us pray in confidence to the Lord as we sing/say,
“Remember, O Lord, your faithfulness and love.”
“Remember, O Lord, your faithfulness and love.”

For the Church of Christ throughout the world,
especially the Diocese of Mbale in Uganda,
and its bishop, The Right Rev. Patrick Gidudu.

(silent prayer)

That by the church’s testimony in word and deed,
the world may “Come and See” the One we confess as God’s Messiah,
let us pray to the Lord: **/R/**

For this Diocese of Algoma,
and for our Bishop, The Right Rev. Anne Germond;
for St. Thomas’ Church, Bracebridge, St. Peter’s, Rocksborough,
and St. Stephen’s, Vankoughnet,
and their clergy, The Rev. Kelly Baetz, The Rev. Barbara Graham,
and The Rev. Barbara Nangle.

(silent prayer)

That, more and more, we may desire what God desires,
and serve as Christ serves,
let us pray to the Lord: **/R/**

For all drawing near the living waters of baptism,
those making an intentional journey of baptismal renewal,
and for their sponsors,

(silent prayer)

that they be awakened to their real thirst for a share in your eternal life,
let us pray to the Lord: **/R/**

For all whom we seek to avoid, those we consider ungodly,
and all we esteem to be our enemies;

(silent prayer)

and that we may be healed of our hardness of heart,
let us pray to the Lord: */R/*

For all who yearn for health or wholeness, especially *N.*,

(silent prayer)

that they may be delivered from their afflictions,
let us pray to the Lord: */R/*

Remembering those who have died, especially *N.*,
we pray for all who mourn.

(silent prayer)

And that we may rejoice forever
in the fellowship of Blessed Joseph of Nazareth and all the Saints,
let us pray to the Lord: */R/*

The Presiding Celebrant or Intercessor concludes the Prayers of the People with the following Collect:

God of mercy, through Jesus your Messiah
you revealed your tender care for the woman of Samaria.
Draw all for whom we pray to drink freely of your mercy,
and through your great love, satisfy our hunger
by leading us to do the will of Him in whose name we pray,
Jesus Christ the Lord.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year A

March 26, 2017

Christ Jesus came among us as one of us to lead all peoples out of darkness into the light of faith. That his light may be known among and through us, let us offer ourselves in Christ through prayer as we sing/say,

“Remember, O Lord, your faithfulness and love.”

“Remember, O Lord, your faithfulness and love.”

“Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light.”

Let us pray for the church throughout the world,
especially the Diocese of Mexico
and its bishop, The Right Rev. Carlos Touche-Porter.

Let us pray, too, for this Diocese of Algoma,
especially St. Brice’s Church, North Bay,
The Rev. Dr. Peter Armstrong, its Incumbent,
and The Rev. John Stennett, Honorary Assistant.

(silent prayer)

That Christ's people may live as children of light,
discerning and acting upon what is pleasing in God’s sight,
we offer ourselves in Christ: **/R/**

“I will show you what you shall do;
and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.”

Let us pray for those preparing for baptism, *especially N.*

(silent prayer)

That the Spirit of God may come mightily
upon those anointed with baptism’s fragrant oil
we offer ourselves in Christ: **/R/**

“Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.”
Let us pray for our divided and restless world, especially *N.*,
and for the wellbeing of the whole creation.

(silent prayer)

That those with wealth and power who act out of greed or domination
may be troubled and transformed by the demands of peace and justice,
we offer ourselves in Christ: **/R/**

“The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.”

Let us pray for the sick and the suffering, *especially N.*
Let us also pray for victims of poverty and violence,
and for those who are relegated to the margins of society.

(silent prayer)

That all who await deliverance or justice
may be extravagantly anointed with the balm of divine compassion,
we offer ourselves in Christ: **/R/**

“Surely...I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.”

Let us remember the dead, *especially N.*

(silent prayer)

And that we will continually recall the eternal faithfulness
of the One who anoints us as children of God,
we offer ourselves in Christ: **/R/**

The Presiding Celebrant or Intercessor concludes the Prayers of the People with the following Collect:

O God, in baptism you anoint us
and seal us as your own forever.
Give us grace to see the world as it is seen by you,
that we may walk in the light of your love,
extending your healing touch to every race and nation.
We ask this through your anointed One, Jesus the Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year A

April 2, 2017

Through the death and resurrection of Christ Jesus, death no longer has dominion. Therefore, let us exercise our priestly call with boldness, praying for the church, interceding for the world, and lifting our hearts to God as we sing/say:

“Remember, O Lord, your faithfulness and love.”

“Remember, O Lord, your faithfulness and love.”

God who sets divine hand upon us,
we pray for your church in this Diocese,
especially the Parish of Wawa and White River, and for Anne, our Bishop.
We pray, too, for your church throughout the world, especially
the Diocese of Mityana in Uganda, and its bishop, Stephen Kaziimba.
Set our minds on the Spirit.
Give strength to resist all that is sin and death.
Awaken our prophetic voice
and make us a compelling sign of the Resurrection to the world.
We lift our hearts in prayer: **/R/**

God of plenteous redemption, powerful to set free,
we pray for those who are preparing for baptismal death and resurrection,
especially N.
We pray, too, for those making an intentional journey of baptismal renewal,
especially N.
Summon them by name.
Bestow your Spirit.
Cause many to believe
because of the new life you call forth from the font.
We lift our hearts in prayer: **/R/**

God for whom we wait and whose word is our hope,
we pray for all in exile,
and for those whose homes and sacred places lay in ruins,
especially N.
Speak your life-giving word, O God.
Rebuild lives and communities.
Breathe resurrection life into those suffocated by the powers of death.
We lift our hearts in prayer: **/R/**

God who considers well the voice of our supplication,
we pray for the sick and those who suffer any need, *especially N.*
Hear the cry that issues forth from the depths.
Break all bondage to hopelessness.
Make us to know that you, the Lord, have spoken and will act.
We lift our hearts in prayer: **/R/**

God whose Christ wept at the grave of Lazarus, his friend,
yet felt indignation at a People surrendering to death,
we remember those who sleep in Christ, *especially N.*,
and pray for the mourning who yearn for resurrection hope.
Open graves.
Rouse us to support those wounded by grief.
Give life to our mortal bodies through the Spirit that dwells within.
We lift our hearts in prayer: **/R/**

The Presiding Celebrant or Intercessor concludes the Prayers of the People with the following Collect:

O God, Jesus Christ is the life that is greater than death.
Hear the prayer we offer before you,
that we may confess him as the Messiah, the Son of God,
the One coming into the world.
We ask this in his name and for his sake.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sunday of the Passion, Year A

April 9, 2017

While a number of congregational responses are possible, the following litany is structured for use with a sung response which adapts a prayer by Archbishop Desmond Tutu: "Goodness is Stronger than Evil" (music by John Bell, GIA Publications). This response follows each petition. The words and music are available at:

http://www.hymnary.org/text/goodness_is_stronger_than_evil

On this day, the church hears again the Passion of our Lord, into which we are baptized. That the victory of the cross may be claimed and savored by all people, let us join our voices in prayer and confess the power of God's love as we sing/say: **[Response]**

We pray for goodness to reign in our world.

(allow time for silent prayer)

That the governments and citizens of this nation
will demonstrate concern for the most vulnerable in society,
and that business leaders will not seek profit
at the expense of Creation's wellbeing,
let us confess the power of God's love: **/R/**

We pray for love to reign in our world.

(allow time for silent prayer)

That we will notice and reach out to those
who endure loneliness, persecution, or injustice,
and that families divided by hostility may know reconciliation,
let us confess the power of God's love: **/R/**

We pray for God's light to reign in our world.

(allow time for silent prayer)

That nations and tribes, ethnic groups, and individuals alike
will turn from the futility of prejudice and violence,
and that those preparing for baptism may shine
as examples of God's power to change lives,
let us confess the power of God's love: **/R/**

We pray for life to reign in our world.

(allow time for silent prayer)

That the sick and suffering, *especially N.*, may know healing and wholeness,
and that, remembering *N. and* all who have died,
those who mourn may find hope in the promise of Resurrection,
let us confess the power of God's love: */R/*

As we join with Anglicans around the world in prayer
for Bishop Suheil Dawani and the Church in Jerusalem and Middle East,
we pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

As we join in prayer with Anglicans across this Diocese
for Anne, our Bishop,

and for North Muskoka Pioneer Parish and its congregations:
St John the Baptist, Ravenscliffe, served by The Rev. Judie Cooper,
St. Mary's Church in Aspden, St. Paul's Church, Grassmere,
and Christ Church, Ilfracombe,

we pray that the story we proclaim and celebrate this week
may take flesh in the life and witness of our congregation,
and we confess the power of God's love: */R/*

The Presider or Intercessor concludes the Prayers of the People with the following Collect:

God of the covenant, through baptism we pass
from the darkness of sin and death to the light of resurrection life.
May we, walking in the way of the cross,
arrive at our Passover celebration
with a deeper awareness of the life we share in the Risen Saviour,
Jesus Christ our Lord.