



MEETING PRAYERS

Begin and end every meeting with prayer. You may pray a spontaneous prayer, one that is supplied in this manual, or any other prepared prayer or reflection you desire. Begin by first taking a moment of silence to remind all of the presence of God. If time allows, you might offer those present the opportunity to voice any special intentions they may like to offer in the prayer.

PRAYER TO ASK FOR GUIDANCE

Heavenly Father, we come to you today asking for your guidance, wisdom, and support as we begin this meeting. Help us to engage in meaningful discussion; allow us to grow closer as a group and nurture the bonds of community. Fill us with your grace, Lord God, as we make decisions that might affect those we serve. And continue to remind us that all that we do here today, all that we accomplish, is for the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of You, and for the service of humanity. We ask these things in your name, Amen.

- adapted from Ignatianspirituality.com

PRAYER FOR COMMUNITY

Embracing Father, You grace each of us with equal measure in your love.
Let us learn to love our neighbors more deeply,
so that we can create peaceful and just communities.
Inspire us to use our creative energies to build the structures we need
to overcome the obstacles of intolerance and indifference.
May Jesus provide us the example needed
and send the Spirit to warm our hearts for the journey. Amen.

- from Being Neighbor: The Catechism and Social Justice

LITANY OF THE WAY, PRAYER FOR THE JOURNEY

As Jesus sought the quiet of the desert, teach us to pray.
As Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, teach us to love.
As Jesus promised paradise to the thief on the cross, teach us to hope.
As Jesus called Peter to walk to him across the water, teach us to believe.
As the child Jesus sat among the elders in the temple, teach us to seek answers.
As Jesus in the garden opened his mind and heart to God's will, teach us to listen.
As Jesus reflected on the Law and the prophets, teach us to learn.
As Jesus used parables to reveal the mysteries of the Kingdom, teach us to teach.

- from Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers

PRAYER FOR UNITY

May God, the source of all patience and encouragement,
enable us to live in perfect harmony with one another in the spirit of Christ Jesus.
With one heart and one voice may we glorify God, now and forever. Amen.

- from Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers



MEETING PRAYERS

GUIDE OUR HEARTS AND MINDS

Lord, we are meeting today to conduct matters of business. Guide our hearts and our minds in the spirit of fairness, right thought and speech. Impart Your supreme wisdom upon our activities so that our affairs may reach a successful conclusion. Thank You for being our source of guidance today. Amen. - <http://www.immaculata.edu>

OUR FATHER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

HAIL MARY

Hail Mary, full of grace! The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

GLORY BE

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

MEMORARE

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,
that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection,
implored your help or sought your intercession, was left unaided.
Inspired with this confidence, I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother;
to you do I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful.
O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions,
but in your mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

HAIL HOLY QUEEN

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy, hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve: to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus, O merciful, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary! Amen.



MEETING PRAYERS

SERENITY PRAYER

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change;
Courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference.
Living one day at a time; Enjoying one moment at a time;
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;
Taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it;
Trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His Will;
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with Him
forever and ever in the next. Amen.

PEACE PRAYER OF SAINT FRANCIS

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.
O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.
And kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And you will renew the face of the earth.
Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit you have taught the hearts of your faithful.
In the same Spirit help us to relish what is right and always rejoice in your consolation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts,
by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits,
who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



MEETING PRAYERS

PRAYER OF ST. BENEDICT

Gracious and Holy Father, grant us the intellect to understand you, reason to discern you, diligence to seek you, wisdom to find you, a spirit to know you, a heart to meditate upon you. May our ears hear you, may our eyes behold you, and may our tongues proclaim you. Give us grace that our way of life may be pleasing to you, that we may have the patience to wait for you and the perseverance to look for you. Grant us a perfect end--your holy presence, a blessed resurrection and life everlasting. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.
Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy.
Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy.
Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy.
Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy. Amen.

PRAYER FOR GENEROSITY

Eternal Word, only begotten Son of God, Teach me true generosity.
Teach me to serve you as you deserve.
To give without counting the cost, To fight heedless of wounds,
To labor without seeking rest, To sacrifice myself without thought of any reward
Save the knowledge that I have done your will. Amen. - St. Ignatius of Loyola

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Lord, help me to recognize all the gifts you have given me, those seen and unseen.
Help me to understand that I am accountable for these gifts and to share them joyfully just as generations before me have done.
Help me to be more generous with all my gifts without expecting anything in return.
Through prayer, help me to listen to Your will and to not ask for my own desires.
Help me to open my heart, to be more grateful, forgiving and loving.
Help me to have the courage to be your hands, feet and voice to continue your work.
Lord, help me to be all you've called me to be and to always love as you love. Amen