

St. Xavier Parent Prayer Group

December 8, 2023

God of Mothers

Praise: Luke 1:46-50 (from the The Cantic of Mary)

And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord, And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy is his name. And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation.

Repentance: Deuteronomy 4: 9

However, be on your guard and be very careful not to forget the things your own eyes have seen, nor let them slip from your heart as long as you live but make them known to your children and to your children's children. (silent reflection)

Thanksgiving: Luke 2:16-19

So, they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

Litany of Thanks: Today I give thanks for . . . [personal intention of thanksgiving]

Intercession: Isaiah 49:15 and 66:13

Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you.

As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you. (personal intentions)

*Almighty God, you have done great things for us and blessed us fully. We recall your goodness and pray:
Lord, hear our prayer.*

We pray for all mothers. May we love and cherish the special women who gave birth to us, nurtured us, and prayed for our well-being. We pray for comfort to those who have lost their mother. We pray for those who hope to become a mother and for expectant mothers. We pray to the Lord. Response: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We ask the Lord to give courage and hope to mothers as we face uncertainty with our children's future. Help us to put our trust in You and Your perfect plan for our children. Guide us as we work to provide our children with a foundation of faith in You. We pray to the Lord. Response: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray that the young men of St. X grow in wisdom and stature like Your Son. Surround them with a hedge of protection. Help them to know they are loved by their families and by You. Give them discernment to make careful choices with You in mind, and to pursue a path that honors and glorifies You. Today we lift up Mr. Mark Wolz's Ethics classes E and G (names attached). We pray to the Lord. Response: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for St. X teachers, faculty, staff, and volunteers. Holy Spirit grant them an abundance of patience and wisdom each day. May their instruction teach the students to be disciples of Jesus. We lift up Amy Sample and Paul Colistra. Give them strength and peace in all circumstances. We pray to the Lord.

Response: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for a successful conclusion to the academic semester. Endow teachers with patience and wisdom as they administer exams. Give students clarity of thought and prompt their minds to remember all the things they have studied. We pray to the Lord. Response: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for the respect and the acknowledged sanctity of life from conception to natural death. We ask the Lord to protect the clients, staff, and volunteers of the Little Way Pregnancy Center.

We pray to the Lord. Response: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We ask you Lord to grant bring peace and comfort to those impacted by the horrors of violence and war. Transform the hearts of the oppressors, so they come to know the forgiveness and repentance only found in Jesus Christ your Son. We pray to the Lord. Response: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for Father Anthony Vinson, our parish priests, and pastors. Set their souls on fire with love for your people. Grant them the wisdom and strength they need to boldly follow in the footsteps of Jesus. We pray to the Lord. Response: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

(personal intentions)

Prayer for Students and Parents

Heavenly Father,

You know the students and parents that are struggling and in crisis.

We ask you to lift their burdens, calm their anxiety and quiet their fears.

Surround them with your healing presence so they may know they are not alone.

Holy Spirit, comfort them in their weakness.

Give them strength when it feels like they cannot take another step.

Reassure them of the unconditional love of the Father.

Inspire their peers and other people to show compassion and support through their challenges. In Jesus' mighty name we pray. Amen

The righteous cry out, the Lord hears, and he rescues them from all their afflictions. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted, saves those whose spirit is crushed. Psalm 34:18-20

Heavenly Father, we lift up to you today all the mothers in our St X community. Bless them with strength to continue to care for their children, with the same bold, selflessness Mary showed Jesus. Help our mothers feel gratitude and truly know their impact. When our mothers are tired, Lord, give them strength. When they feel alone, give them comfort. When they feel overwhelmed with the challenges of parenting, help give them peace and patience. In their darkest moments, Lord be their Light. Walk along side them and grant them joy in the journey of motherhood. In Jesus' mighty name we pray. Amen