

Prayers of the People

The response to each petition is **"God of the Universe, hear us."**

John in his mother's womb rejoiced at the presence of Jesus in vitro,

Help us not to miss your gentle presence hidden among us, we pray, ...

John acknowledged his call and remained true to it,

Grant us the wisdom to know who we are and who we are not, we pray,

John the Baptist prepared for his mission in prayer and in solitude,

Give us a hunger for prayer and the persistence to persevere in it, we pray ...

John the Baptist, freely sent his own disciples to Jesus,

Teach us how to decrease our over-powering egos so that the power of your gentle spirit may increase in our world, we pray

The greed and jealousy of the powerful destroyed your great prophet,

Help us to use our power for your glory and the welfare of all, we pray ...

Let us remember our leaders of church and state

may they be gifted with wisdom and courage and remain grounded and faithful to the values of truth and justice in all their decision-making and setting of policies, we pray..

Bless with hope and fortitude all those suffering in our world **today for their prophetic witness, we pray ...**

Let us pray for a new environmental paradigm

with more balanced levels of production, a better distribution of wealth, an active concern for climate change and the rights of future generation of our shared inheritance, we pray...

For all your own personal concerns and intentions deep within your hearts,.....

We pray

Let us conclude our intentions with the prayer that Jesus taught us, Our Father.....