

Praying “The Our Father” with St. Francis of Assisi

OUR FATHER!

“Our most holy Creator, Redeemer, Consoler and Savior!”

WHO ART IN HEAVEN!

“In the Angels and in the Saints, enlightening them to love, because You, Lord, are Light inflaming them to Love; because You, Lord, are Love, dwelling in them and filling them with happiness; because You, Lord, are The Supreme Good, without Whom there is no good!”

HALLOWED BE THY NAME!

“May our knowledge of You become ever clearer, that we may know the breadth of Your blessings, the length of Your Promises, the height of Your Majesty and the depth of Your Judgments!”

THY KINGDOM COME!

“So that You may rule in us through Your Grace, and enable us to come to Your Kingdom, where there is an unclouded Vision of You, a perfect Love of You, a blessed companionship with You, an eternal enjoyment of You!”

THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN!

“That we may love You with our whole heart by always thinking of You, with our whole soul by always desiring You, with our whole mind by directing all our intentions to You and by seeking Your Glory in everything, and with our whole strength by spending all our energies and affections of soul and body in the service of Your Love...!

And may we love our neighbors as ourselves by drawing them all with our whole strength to Your Love, by rejoicing in the good fortunes of others as well as our own, and by sympathizing with the misfortunes of others, and by giving offense to no one!”

GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD!

“In memory and understanding and reverence of The Love which our Lord has for us, and of those things which He said and did and suffered for us, Your Own Beloved Son, our Lord JESUS CHRIST!”

AND FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESSPASS AGAINST US!

“And whatever we do not forgive perfectly, do You, Lord, enable us to forgive to the full, so that we may truly love our enemies and fervently intercede for them before You, returning no one evil for evil and striving to help everyone in You!”

AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION, BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL!

“Hidden or obvious, sudden or persistent, past, present and to come!” AMEN! ^{1 2}

¹ See MATTHEW 6:9-13; LUKE 11:2-4.

² Adapted from “The Prayer Inspired by The Our Father” by St. Francis of Assisi. Ritual of The Secular Franciscan Order, p 101-102. Franciscan Friars Conference, USA. Anthony Messenger Press, Cincinnati, Ohio, 8th Edition. 1985.