

Prayers

These prayers and intercessions are intended to bring sisters to light throughout the liturgical year.

Advent

Schools

Heavenly Father,

This is a season for waiting and wondering. Help us to prepare our hearts for Jesus' birth by praying and serving others. Show us the example of those who have dedicated their lives to our Church, especially the Catholic sisters who are such kind, gentle role models. Help us to be more kind and gentle to our friends, our teachers, our parents and our brothers and sisters. Show us the way of the Lord both now and forever. Amen.

Gracious God,

In this season of Advent, quiet our minds and open our hearts. Show us how to wait and wonder, to pray and hope, and to put others before ourselves. May we learn from those who serve you fully, the consecrated religious, so that we too may offer ourselves in service. Show us the way, and deepen our trust in you, we pray this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Heavenly Father,

In a world of instant gratification, teach us how to wait. Give us the spirit of Advent. Show us the power of silence. Make us peace keepers and bridge builders, like the Catholic sisters who knit together fractured communities. Create room in our hearts for the coming Savior. Help us to prepare the way! We ask this in the name of Jesus our brother and the power of the Spirit, both now and forever. Amen.

Hospitals

Loving and Healing God,

We call upon you this season to grant us the spirit of Advent. Fill our hearts with patience and serenity. Teach us to be unhurried, to wait and hope and trust. Show us the power of silence and the promise of the coming Savior. Fill us with the hope and healing that comes from your love for us. We pray in the name of Jesus, Your Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Parishes

Heavenly Father,

As we gather in your name, grant us the quiet spirit of Advent, of waiting and wondering, of hoping and trusting. Teach us to how to serve this church. Embolden us to echo Mary's "yes" to respond to your call to serve others, especially through the call to religious life. Strengthen us as the body of Christ and remake us with your birth. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Lord, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Christmas

Schools

Heavenly Father,

We rejoice this Christmas season in the birth of the Jesus Christ! Our savior lives among us! Help us to treat everyone we encounter as Jesus would, with kindness and dignity. Bless those who follow His example every day, especially the Catholic sisters and brothers who serve our community so humbly. They have a special role in our Church and deserve a special place in our prayers! We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, and with the Holy Spirit, both now and forever. Amen.

Heavenly Father,

At Christmas we celebrate your incredible gift: You have come to live among us! May we treat everyone we encounter – from siblings to strangers – as bearers of Jesus. Show us the way of the Catholic sisters whose life mission is to serve their neighbors in need. Embolden us to follow their lead! We pray through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Heavenly Father,

You sent your son – the King of Kings – in the most surprising fashion, an infant born to a teenaged peasant in a lowly manger. His birth rewrote the history books and redeemed the world.

Teach us to believe in miracles, both big and small. Deepen our trust in you, the God of Surprises. Thank you for the model of religious women and men who have born the love of God in their hearts to all those in need. Inspire us to answer your call to discipleship as religious sisters and brothers for those in need today. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hospitals

Heavenly Father,

The Christmas miracle is the radical gift of Emanuel, God among us. Open our eyes to see the face of God in every patient we serve. Fill our hearts with your light and love, so that we reflect the joy of the season, the knowledge that whatever happens to us, You are with us and our families every moment of our lives. We pray in the name of Jesus, Your Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Parishes

Heavenly Father,

The heavenly hosts rejoice in Christ's birth, and we lift up our hearts too. Open our eyes this Christmas season to our rich Catholic legacy: Mary's brave fiat; the early apostles' tireless efforts; the teachers and scholars, parents and nuns who knit together our Church. We thank you for those who have gone before us and ask you to guide our work today, that it may bless those who will follow. Bless your church during this year for consecrated year to share the stories of religious men and women with all in our parish community so that those whom God is calling will find support and encouragement among our parish community. We pray in the name of Jesus the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Year Round

Schools

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for giving us Catholic sisters, who help our schools and churches and neighborhoods. They teach us how to pray and how to serve those in need. During this year dedicated to religious vocations, called the Year of Consecrated Life, we ask for your blessing on all Catholic sisters. Inspired by these women, help us to grow deeper in our faith so we each of us can answer your special call. We pray this in the name of Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, both now and forever. Amen.

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for giving us Catholic sisters, who have built schools and hospitals and shelters upon the strength of their convictions. We celebrate their good work this Year of Consecrated Life and ask for your grace to strengthen and sustain all women religious. Bless their hands that fold in prayer and sow seeds to build the Kingdom of God. Please open our minds and hearts to learn all we can from Catholic sisters. Help us to follow their example, dedicating our lives more fully to You. We ask this in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, both now and forever. Amen.

Hospitals

Compassionate and Merciful God,

We pause from our work today to thank you for the gift of Catholic sisters, who breathed life into so many hospitals across the nation. The clarity of their vision, the power of their prayer and the force of their will built life-saving healthcare networks. Guide us to serve in their spirit. May we exercise the virtues embodied by women religious: gentle, sensitive, strong, patient, persistent, intuitive and compassionate. May we approach our work as a ministry, inspired by the Catholic sisters who are angels of healing, of hospitality, and of hope. Open our eyes so that we may see every patient as a whole person, with physical, mental, emotional and spiritual needs. Bless our hands and each person they touch. We pray this in the name of Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Parishes

Loving and Gracious God,

You express your love by putting special people in our lives – and today we thank you for a very special group, the Catholic sisters you have given to the church. They fulfill a unique role, devoting their lives to building the Kingdom of God here on Earth. We ask you to bless all women religious during this Year of Consecrated Life. Guide them, strengthen them, sustain them. Shower them with your grace. And we ask that you may open our eyes to the beauty of their work, so that we too may draw close to you in prayer and reach out, in turn, to help neighbors in need. Give us the courage to answer the unique call you have for each of our lives. It is the path to great joy. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Christ and the Holy Spirit, both now and forever. Amen.