

Prayers for the Year of Faith

"If you declare with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and if you believe with your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. It is by believing with the heart that you are justified, and by making the declaration with your lips that you are saved." Romans 10:9-10

May the year of faith lead all believers to learn by heart the creed and to say it every day as a prayer, so that the breathing agrees with the faith. *(From the Pastoral Aid for the Year of Faith)*

Pope Benedict's

Prayer in preparation for the Year of Faith

Spirit of Life, who in the beginning hovered over the abyss,
help humanity of our time to understand
that the exclusion of God
leads to being lost in the desert of the world,
and that only where faith enters,
do dignity and liberty flourish
and the whole of society is built on justice.
Spirit of Pentecost, who makes the Church one Body,
restore in the baptized an authentic
experience of communion;
make us living signs of the presence of the
Risen One in the world,
a Community of saints that lives in the service of charity.
Holy Spirit, who equips us for the mission,
grant that we may recognize that, also in our time,
so many people are in search of the truth about their
existence and the world.
Make us collaborators of their joy with the proclamation
of the Gospel of Jesus Christ,
grain of the wheat of God,
which renders good the terrain of life
and assures the abundance of the harvest. Amen.

The Profession of Faith (Nicene Creed):

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Parish Prayer for the Year of Faith

Begin with the Sign of the Cross.

Oh Christ, you are present with us in this moment
as we gather in your name.

Momentary pause. Turn your heart to Christ.

You open for us the door of faith
and you usher us into communion with God
and participation in your church.

When we proclaim your Word with our lives,
your transforming power and grace
send us out on a lifelong journey of faith.

Grant that each member of this entire parish
may know you, love you, and serve you
with ever-greater passion.

May you be the shepherd of all our souls
as we come to the table of your Word,
the table of your Eucharist,
and the tables of our own homes
to sacrifice ourselves for one another in your name
as you have done for us.

*Pause to offer Christ one way in which you will sacrifice
yourself in this manner.*

May the households of this parish
become beacons of your light
to the people that surround them.

May we work together for peace and justice
in our neighbourhoods and communities.

May we welcome all in your name
and guide each other to ever-greater faith.

And may your grace now guide us,
for we are united in your name forever. Amen.

*Drawn from "Come to the Table" – small group faith
formation for the Year of Faith by PastoralPlanning.com.*

Loving God, you grace us with the gift of faith.

Faith in you opens to us the fullness of love;
love of you, love of our neighbour, love for ourselves.
In love we know the reason for all our hope.

Increase us, Lord, in faith, in love and in hope. Amen

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Westminster Diocese Prayer for the Year of Faith:

Lord, Let me see our face, know your heart
and experience your love in my life.

Strengthen in me the precious gift of faith.

I believe Lord; Help my unbelief. Amen.

Prayers for the Year of Faith

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary
Under Pontius Pilate He was crucified,
died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Portsmouth Diocese Prayer

Loving Lord, you are always there,
waiting graciously at the door
to welcome each one of us,
waiting for each one of us
to dare to knock at that door
so that you may open that door ever more widely
and welcome us home to you.

Loving Lord, you are always there
with a welcoming look,
with warm enfolding hands,
with open-hearted hospitality.
You are constant in your desire
to welcome the returner,
to pardon the sinner,
to bandage the wounded,
to give fresh home and hope to the stray.

Loving Lord, your door is always open
to enable us to re-discover a taste for you,
to encounter you afresh,
to provide us with renewed enthusiasm,
to show us the power and beauty of the faith.

Loving Lord, you are always there
to take us to your heart,
to confirm our understanding,
to challenge us to further exploration,
to enable us to grow in our witness of you,
to radiate our joy in believing.

Loving Lord, you hold out the precious gift
of a more conscious and profound adherence
to your Gospel of life.
You grace us with the ability
to profess, celebrate and witness to your Gospel
at the level of the heart,
that authentic sacred space within each one of us.

Loving Lord, as we enter into this Year of Faith,
we would not be seeking you
had you not already set out to seek and meet us.
Keep on reminding us that our faith is no theory,
but our faith is first and last
a live encounter with You, Jesus,
who live within the Church.

Loving Lord, keep on reminding us
that our faith is a conscious decision
to stand with You so as to live with You
and with the values you bring.
Keep on reminding us
that our profession of faith
is both personal and communitarian.
Keep on reminding us
that we are called to be credible witnesses,
individuals and a community
who show their conviction
by daily lives lived with
something of the Spirit of Jesus.

Loving Lord, then this Year of Faith
will blossom out into something beautiful for you,
and others will notice and be attracted by
such clear witness, and long to belong
more closely to Jesus and to his family, the Church.
Amen.

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Arundel & Brighton Prayer for the Jubilee

We stand before you, Holy Spirit,
conscious of our sinfulness,
but aware that we gather in your name.
Come to us, remain with us, and enlighten our hearts.
Give us light and strength to know your will,
to make it our own, and to live it in our lives.
Guide us by your wisdom, support us by your power,
for you are God,
sharing the glory of Father and Son.
You desire justice for all;
enable us to uphold the rights of others;
do not allow us to be misled by ignorance
or corrupted by fear or favour.
Unite us to yourself in the bond of love
and keep us faithful to all that is true.
As we gather in your name,
may we temper justice with love,
so that all our decisions may be pleasing to you,
and earn the reward
promised to good and faithful servants.
Amen.

(Prayer used at each session of the Second Vatican Council)

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Prayers for the Year of Faith

Family Prayer for Year of Faith

O God our Father,
in Jesus you call all Christian families and homes
to be signs of living faith.
By the light of the Holy Spirit,
lead us to be thankful for the gift of faith,
and by that gift
may we grow in our relationship with Jesus, your Son,
and be confident witnesses to Christian hope and joy
to all we meet.
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayer for the New Evangelisation

*“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’
But how can they call on him in whom they have not
believed? And how can they believe in him of whom they
have not heard? And how can they hear without someone
to preach? And how can people preach unless they are
sent?” –Romans 10: 13-15*

Heavenly Father,
Pour forth your Holy Spirit to inspire me with these words
from Holy Scripture.

Stir in my soul the desire to renew my faith
and deepen my relationship with your Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ
so that I might truly believe in and live the Good News.

Open my heart to hear the Gospel and grant me the
confidence to proclaim the Good News to others.

Pour out your Spirit,
so that I might be strengthened to go forth
and witness to the Gospel in my everyday life
through my words and actions.

In moments of hesitation, remind me:
If not me, then who will proclaim the Gospel?
If not now, then when will the Gospel be proclaimed?
If not the truth of the Gospel, then what shall I proclaim?

God, our Father, I pray that through the Holy Spirit
I might hear the call of the New Evangelization
to deepen my faith, grow in confidence
to proclaim the Gospel and boldly witness
to the saving grace of your Son, Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Year of Faith Intercessions

For the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, and for all bishops,
that God will give them the grace and wisdom to touch the
lives and hearts of many during this Year of Faith.

For the Church throughout the world, that this Year of Faith
may be a time of spiritual renewal and personal encounter
with Christ for people everywhere.

For the sick and the suffering, that this Year of Faith may be
a time for them to experience Christ even in the midst of
their illnesses and needs.

May this Year of Faith be a time to renew our love for Christ
and the Church and to enter into a deeper devotion to the
Virgin Mary.

May our deepening of faith during this Year of Faith help us
to long for justice and peace in the world.

Through reading and studying the Catechism of the Catholic
Church and the documents of the Second Vatican Council,
may all Catholics come to know and love the doctrines of
the faith and grow in a desire to share the saving truths of
Jesus Christ in our homes, places of work and community.

May this Year of Faith fill our parish community with an
outpouring of virtue.

May God the Father watch over and bless all families during
the Year of Faith, that it may be a time for families to grow
closer to one another and to Christ.

May the Year of Faith be an opportunity for Catholics to
renew their baptismal vocation and grow in zeal to share
the gospel with others.

May this Year of Faith be a time of an outpouring of the
Holy Spirit on all parents, catechists, clergy and lay faithful
who share the gift of the faith with others.

May the Year of Faith enrich us with a greater love for God
the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, in such a way that others
ask God the reason for our hope.

May the Year of Faith be a time for all Catholics to renew
their desire and zeal for the Eucharist and to avail
themselves regularly of the Sacrament of Reconciliation
and Penance.

During this Year of Faith, may all Catholics publicly proclaim
their love for Christ and his Church.

May this Year of Faith remind us of ways to serve those in
our midst who are overlooked, ignored or rejected, so that
all may experience the peace and healing of Christ’s love.

May the Holy Spirit guide the Church during the Year of
Faith so that all Catholics may experience a deepened
renewal of faith, hope and love.

May young people be inspired by this Year of Faith to listen
attentively and respond to God’s call to priesthood and
religious life.

May the faithful grow in understanding and love of the calls
to marriage and the single life, realizing the vital role these
vocations play in the work.

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