



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN UNITED KINGDOM

Prayers for Advent 2021





Week 1: General Prayers for the week

**Only if people change will the world change;
and in order to change, people need the light
that comes from God,
the light
which so unexpectedly
[on the night of Christmas]
entered into our night.**

(Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI – Homily at Mass on 25th December 2008)

O Christ Jesus, when all is darkness
and we feel our weakness and helplessness,
give us the sense of your presence,
your love and your strength.

Help us to have perfect trust in your protecting love and
strengthening power,
so that nothing may frighten or worry us,
for, living close to you,
we shall see your hand,
your purpose,
your will through all things. .

A prayer of Saint Ignatius of Loyola

Try to say it today at least once and through the rest of Advent.

**JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU**

Remember:

1. Prayers for the world
2. Prayers for an end to COVID-19
3. Prayers for ACN projects
4. Prayers for my family and friends
5. Prayers for me

Monday 29th November: Prayers for the world

We pray that the Church may faithfully proclaim
the message of freedom to a troubled world,
and that by your grace and the work of the Holy Spirit,
the Church will continue to transform, heal
and make new the hearts of all who hear her message.
Pope Francis tells us, "the key players in the Christmas story prove that history is not
made by the powerful,
but by God together with his little ones,
those small and simple people whom we find around Jesus,
who is about to be born: Zachariah and Elizabeth, who are old;
Mary, the young virgin engaged to Joseph;
the shepherds, who were despised and counted for nothing.
They had hope, and they turned the dark and twisted paths of life around them into a
highway on which to walk toward the glory of the Lord."
We pray for peace that we, the people of God, may work for peace and justice and that
the world will be changed through us, the little ones.

**JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU**

Tuesday 30th November: Prayers for an end to COVID-19

Let us pray for all those who help to care for people
suffering with or who are struggling to cope with the effects of COVID-19.
We pray especially for refugee and displaced communities around the world,
who are not only recovering from the damaging effects of being forced to leave their
homes to escape from war or from being attacked
but also now they must face the threat of COVID-19 too.
Lord we pray that you will send your Holy Spirit to console, comfort and strengthen
both the suffering patients and their carers
so that filled with your grace
they may reflect the faith, hope, peace and joy of Christ.

**JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU**

Wednesday 1st December: Prayers for ACN projects

Let us pray for the work of ACN and all charities
who work to alleviate suffering in the world.
We pray that there will always be men and women of faith and charity
to care for the needs of the sick, the vulnerable and the lonely.
We ask our Father to envelop in his love all
who have been mistreated, exploited or pushed
from the centre to the edges of society.

**JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU**

Thursday 2nd December: Prayers for my family and friends

We praise you and bless you for the gift of our families.
In the silence of our hearts we bring to you, Lord, each one of them.
As we think about each person we lift their name to you Lord.
We thank you for their gifts and talents and
for the time we able to spend together as a family.
Any problems, bickering, anger, discontent, hurt, concerns or anxiety
we give them to you, Lord, by placing them at the foot of the cross.
Amen.

**JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU**

Friday 3rd December: Prayers for me

Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with
thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which
passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 4: 6-7 RSVCE

**Cast all your anxieties on him, for he cares about you.
1 Peter 5: 7 RSVCE**

**JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU**



Week 2: General Prayers for the week

**God the Father of all creation:
give us faith.**

**God the Father who loves unconditionally:
give us peace.**

**God the Father who knew me before I was born:
give us faith.**

**Jesus who conquered death:
give us peace.**

**Jesus who calmed the storm:
give us faith.**

**Jesus who takes our burdens:
give us peace.**

**Holy Spirit, who transformed the disciples' fear into
courage:
give us faith.**

**Holy Spirit, the Comforter:
give us peace.**

**Holy Spirit, alive in your people:
give us faith.**

Try to say it today at least once and through the rest of Advent.

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU

Monday 6th December: Prayers for the world

Prayer of Pope Francis:

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross, you participated in Jesus's pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the People of God, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us; He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas - we who are put to the test - and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU

Tuesday 7th December: Prayers for an end to COVID-19

We pray
that through your infinite mercy and compassion,
O Lord,
you will soften the hearts
of European politicians
and their political advisers
to ensure COVID-19 vaccines are sent
to the governments of poorer states safely and speedily.
We pray that governments around the world will set aside their differences and
cooperate to end the COVID-19 pandemic.

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU

Wednesday 8th December: Prayers for ACN projects
(Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception)

Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with Thee.
Blessed art Thou among women
And Blessed is the fruit of Thy womb, Jesus,
Holy Mary, Mother of God
Pray for us sinners now
and at the hour of our death.
Amen.

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU

Thursday 9th December: Prayers for my family and friends

God our Father we know that you love a cheerful giver, who is ready and willing to commit to serving his family and community to build your kingdom here on earth. Lead us to those opportunities and tasks both here in our local community and in the wider world where we may serve you and glorify your holy name by helping those in need. Guide us to understand that a simple smile, a word of thanks, a kind word of encouragement can transmit the light of your love, peace and joy.

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU

Friday 10th December: Prayers for me

fear not, for I am with you,
be not dismayed, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.
Isaiah 41: 10 RSVCE

but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me
2 Corinthians 12: 9 RSVCE

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU



Week 3: General Prayers for the week

**Dear Lord, today is a day like so many others with one
deadline after another.**

**Everyone wants something from me,
and there is no time left for me,
even to draw breath.**

But now is the time, it has to be now time for you!

How good it is that you know and love me

Even when I find it hard to love myself.

How good that you do not forget me,

Even when I almost forget you,

in the troubles of my life.

**How good that you always walk beside me, even when I
leave you standing there, somewhere along the way.**

**How good that you show me a way to walk,
even when I find it so hard to decide myself.**

**How good that you wish to be my goal,
even when I completely lose my bearings.**

The madhouse can wait at the door for a moment

for a moment the world can hold its breath...

I turn back to you and say: Thanks be to God!

Dörte Schrömges

(A prayer under pressure taken from YOUCAT English, eds. Fr Georg von Lengerke and Dörte Schrömges, translated by Frank Davidson, Catholic Truth Society/Ignatius Press, 2013, p121)

Try to say it today at least once and through the rest of Advent.

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU

Monday 13th December: Prayers for the world

We ask for governments and leaders
to bring an end to ideologies which suppress belief in God.
We pray for the whole world, that there may be an end to the coronavirus.
We pray for all people, for peace between nations,
for an end to poverty and
for governments to prioritise people, not weapons;
moral laws, not wealth;
care for the vulnerable, not power; and
cooperation rather than mistrust.
May every heart discover you, Lord, and may your kingdom come...
Amen.

**JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU**

Tuesday 14th December: Prayers for an end to COVID-19

Lord we pray
that you will bless
all who work in public health,
medical and healthcare support roles
as well as all
frontline workers.
Refresh, reinvigorate and keep them and their families' safe
so they may continue
to serve their communities.
Amen.

**JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU**

Wednesday 15th December: Prayers for ACN projects

We pray for the displaced Christian families in: Syria, Nigeria, Mozambique, Burkina Faso, in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Iraq. The light of Christ has kept their faith alive despite their immense suffering and hardships. In Syria Christians held onto their Christian traditions throughout the years of war. They continued to celebrate the Mass, the Sacraments, Advent and Christmas. ACN will be bringing them the joy of Christ's birth by providing Christmas parcels for displaced children who have been traumatised by the war. Lord, we ask you to be with all refugees, but especially in Syria and bring an end to their suffering.

..

**JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU**

Thursday 16th December: Prayers for my family and friends

Almighty Father, you have given us a spirit of power and love
and not a spirit of timidity.

You are the true vine and we are your branches.

Help us to love as you love.

Help us to empathise with, advocate for and support in prayer and in deed
families who have suffered unjustly
- discrimination and intimidation -
because of their faith.

Father, in the name of Christ Jesus your Son,
we place them all into your protective care.

Amen.

**JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU**

Friday 17th December: Prayers for me

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them
Ephesians 2:10

I can do all things in him who strengthens me.

Philippians 4:13

**JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU**