

Pastoral Prayer May 19, 2013

Eternal God, help us understand what we are doing this moment, here in your house. Thousands of years ago people began to be aware of higher power. They set aside a day for worship. They were called “people of faith”. Today it is our turn to keep the faith. So we come here and pray, just as our fathers and mothers have done for countless years.

When we go back to the ordinary routine of working and planning and playing, we still keep the faith. We show mercy. We promote justice. We remember that you are walking beside us. We realize certain accounts are being kept, even though the books are not always accessible to human eyes.

Bless us, Father, as we make this effort. When we are weary, lift the burdens so that we can go on. When trouble overtakes us in sickness or injury or death, we must have your strong hand to grasp. When people betray or attack us or utter evil accusations, it drains the life and energy from us.....until we hear your voice giving hope and encouragement. Lord God, we recognize how you are the important one. You love and care for us, today and tomorrow and forever. Thank you God, for our blessings. Thank you for giving us faith.

We ask your guidance upon those world figures who make earnest efforts toward peace. Grant the day when our fiery weapons are no longer necessary. Show us how to make it happen right where we are, in home or business or personal relationships. We know instinctively that’s where world peace begins.

Please care for the people we love, and whom we silently name before the altar. Cure afflictions of body and mind. Comfort our homesick soldiers who are longing for familiar scenes and loving families.

Enable us to enjoy life on this lush green earth. Keep giving us the music of birds, the affection of family and friends, the fruitful days and tranquil summer evenings. These are your gifts, together with the Savior you sent, Jesus Christ. In his name we gather, and in his name we lift our prayers. Amen.

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