

Father,  
you have given all peoples  
one common origin,  
and your will is to gather them  
as one family in yourself.  
Fill the hearts of all women  
with the fire of your love  
and the desire to ensure  
justice for all.

Hear the prayers offered to you  
by women throughout the world  
for an end to all division  
and a human society  
built on love and peace.

R.M. 822 (adapted)

*Father  
since your mercy has been revealed  
in the tenderness of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who said to his disciples:  
'Suffer the little children to come unto me',  
we pray that your Church  
may be a secure home  
where all children and vulnerable adults  
are brought closer to your Beloved Son.*

*May all those who have been abused  
physically, emotionally and sexually  
by your ministers,  
be respected and accompanied by  
tangible gestures of justice and reparation  
so that they may feel healed  
with the balm of your compassion.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*

Pontifical Commission

*Come to me, all you who labour  
and are overburdened,  
and I will give you rest.*

Matthew 11:28

Lord,  
hear the prayers of those  
who call on you,  
forgive the sins of those  
who confess to you,  
and in your merciful love  
give us your pardon  
and your peace.

R.M. 846

*Father of mercies  
and God of all consolation,  
you do not wish the sinner to die  
but to be converted and live.*

*Bring back the wanderer,  
strengthen the penitent.  
Bless your people,  
that they may turn from their sins  
and live for you alone.*

cf Rite of Penance 117

## PENITENTS AND WANDERERS

Excerpts from *The Roman Missal* ©1973, 1998; from the *Book of Blessings* ©1984 International Commission on English in the Liturgy, Inc. The quotation on the front is taken from *Celebrating the Mass* © 2005 Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

The New Revised Standard Version, copyright 1989, 1995 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

The leaflet is one a series of resources produced to support the Cycle of Prayer. They can be downloaded from [www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Calendar/Cycle](http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Calendar/Cycle).

© 1997, 2006 Bishops' Conference of England & Wales

**Liturgy  
Office**  
**ENGLAND  
& WALES**

BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF  
ENGLAND AND WALES

# Lent

**B**ecause the joy and hope, the struggle and anguish of the people of this age and especially of the poor and those suffering in any way are the joy and hope, the struggle and anguish of Christ's disciples, the Church prays not just for its own needs but for the salvation of the world.



*The Bishops of England and Wales invite you to join in the Cycle of Prayer*

Please pray for the current intentions, both with your parish community and in your own personal prayers. On some days these intentions will be included in the Prayer of the Faithful at Mass. Also it is hoped that vigils and other prayer services will be held.

This leaflet is one of a series which offers a selection of prayers and texts on the intentions of the Cycle of Prayer which may be used in private or public worship.

Throughout Lent we are asked to pray for these intentions

LENT

Candidates for the Sacraments

*especially on the Sundays of Lent*

The Needy and Hungry of the World

*especially on Lent Fast Day  
(Friday of the first week in Lent)*

Women's World Day of Prayer

*(first Friday in March)*

Survivors of Sexual Abuse

*(Friday of the fifth week of Lent)*

Penitents and Wanderers

CANDIDATES FOR THE SACRAMENTS

*They are happy,  
whose God is the Lord,  
the people he has chosen as his own.*  
Ps 32:12

God has saved us by living water which gives our lives a fresh beginning and he put his Spirit in us, so that healed by his grace, we may share his life and hope to live for ever.  
Titus 3:5-7

Lord enlighten your chosen ones with the word of life. Give them a new birth in the waters of baptism, and make them living members of the Church.  
RM 755

*Lord, may the example of our faith and love help your chosen ones on their way to salvation.*  
RM 754

In the liturgy and liturgical catechesis of Lent the reminder of baptism already received or the preparation for its reception, as well as the theme of repentance, renew the entire community along with those being prepared to celebrate the paschal mystery in which each of the elect will share through the sacraments of initiation.  
RCIA 125

Lord,  
when did we see you hungry  
and feed you;  
or thirsty and give you drink?  
When did we see you a stranger  
and made you welcome;  
naked and clothe you?  
Matthew 25:38-39

*Lord,  
may we see you in the hungry  
and the needy.  
Keep us aware of  
our Christian duty  
to give our sisters and brothers  
a just share of what is ours.*  
cf RM 834

All powerful Father,  
God of goodness,  
you provide for all  
your creation.  
Give us an effective love  
for our sisters and brothers  
who suffer from lack of food  
or other necessities.  
Help us to do all we can  
to relieve their hunger  
and supply their needs,  
that they may serve you  
with carefree hearts.  
RM 834 (adapted)

THE NEEDY AND HUNGRY OF THE WORLD