

June Prayers

Week of June 15-19, 2020

MONDAY, JUNE 15

Prayer:

Yesterday, the Church celebrated the *Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)*. Corpus Christi (Body and Blood of Christ) is a Eucharistic solemnity, or better, the solemn commemoration of the institution of that sacrament. It is, moreover, the Church's official act of homage and gratitude to Christ, who by instituting the Holy Eucharist gave to the Church her greatest treasure.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Oh Jesus, present in the Sacrament of the Altar, teach all nations to serve you with a willing heart, knowing that to serve God is to reign. May your Sacrament, O Jesus, be light to the mind, strength to the will, joy to the heart. May it be the support for the weak, the comfort for the suffering, the wayfaring bread of salvation for the dying, and, for all, the pledge of future glory. Amen.

St. Robert Bellarmine, pray for us.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

Prayer:

In the month of June, we reflect on the virtues of integrity and honesty. Honesty is about speaking the truth that is in our hearts. It involves being truthful in our thoughts, words and actions.

We also reflect on the Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectation that we be effective communicators. This means that we must speak the truth, listen to the truth and stand for the truth wherever it may be found .^{OCGE7}

And so we pray,

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Lord God,

teach me to be sincere

and trustworthy.

Give me courage to tell the truth even when I know it is difficult.

Most of all, Lord,

help me to be honest with myself.

Help me to live my truth and not hide who I am from the world.

Give me the integrity to live in truth this day.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

St. Robert Bellarmine, pray for us.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

Prayer:

This coming Saturday (June 20) is World Refugee Day. A refugee is someone who fled his or her home and country owing to “a well-founded fear of persecution because of his/her race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion”. Many refugees are in exile to escape the effects of natural or human-made disasters. Every minute 20 people leave everything behind to escape war, persecution or terror. With this in our minds, we pray this prayer written by Pope Francis:

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Merciful God, we pray to you for all the men, women and children who have died after leaving their homelands in search of a better life.

Though many of their graves bear no name, to you each one is known, loved and cherished.

May we never forget them, but honour their sacrifice with deeds more than words. We entrust to you all those who have made this journey, enduring fear, uncertainty and humiliation, in order to reach a place of safety and hope.

Just as you never abandoned your Son as he was brought to a safe place by Mary and Joseph, so now be close to these, your sons and daughters, through our tenderness and protection.

In caring for them may we seek a world where none are forced to leave their home and where all can live in freedom, dignity and peace.

Merciful God and Father of all, wake us from the slumber of indifference, open our eyes to their suffering, and free us from the insensitivity born of worldly comfort and self-centredness.

Inspire us, as nations, communities and individuals, to see that those who come to our shores are our brothers and sisters.

May we share with them the blessings we have received from your hand, and recognize that together, as one human family, we are all migrants, journeying in hope to you, our true home, where every tear will be wiped away, where we will be at peace and safe in your embrace. Amen.

St. Robert Bellarmine, pray for us.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THURSDAY, JUNE 18

Prayer:

This coming Saturday (**June 20**) is the memorial of the **Immaculate Heart of Mary**. In the midst of the second world war Pope Pius XII put the whole world under the special protection of our Savior's Mother by consecrating it to her Immaculate Heart, and in 1944 he decreed that in the future the whole Church should celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Pius XII instituted this Saturday's feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary for the whole Church, so as to obtain by her intercession "peace among nations, freedom for the Church, the conversion of sinners, the love of purity and the practice of virtue" (*catholicculture.org*).

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O Most Blessed Mother, heart of love, heart of mercy, ever listening, caring, consoling, hear our prayer. As your children, we implore your intercession with Jesus your Son. Receive with understanding and compassion all of our needs and requests that we place before you today.

We are comforted in knowing your heart is ever open to those who ask for your prayer. We trust to your gentle care and intercession, those whom we love and who are sick or lonely or hurting. Help all of us, Holy Mother, to bear our burdens in this life until we may share eternal life and peace with God forever. Amen.

St. Robert Bellarmine, pray for us.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

FRIDAY, JUNE 19

Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

The devotion to the Sacred Heart is one of the most widely practiced and well known Catholic devotions, taking Jesus Christ's physical heart as the representation of his divine love for humanity. The Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI speaking of the solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus some years ago said: *"In biblical language, "heart" indicates the centre of the person where his sentiments and intentions dwell. In the Heart of the Redeemer we adore God's love for humanity, his will for universal salvation, his infinite mercy. Practising devotion to the Sacred Heart of Christ therefore means adoring that Heart which, after having loved us to the end, was pierced by a spear and from high on the Cross poured out blood and water, an inexhaustible source of new life"* (Benedict XVI, Angelus 5 June 2005).

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O most holy heart of Jesus, fountain of every blessing, I adore you, I love you, and with lively sorrow for my sins I offer you this poor heart of mine. Make me humble, patient, pure and wholly obedient to your will. Grant, Good Jesus, that I may live in you and for you. Protect me in the midst of danger. Comfort me in my afflictions. Give me health of body, assistance in my temporal needs, your blessing on all that I do, and the grace of a holy death. Amen.

St. Robert Bellarmine, pray for us.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.